

BY-LAWS
of the
FAR WESTERN SECTION
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGY TEACHERS, INC.

Article I. - Name

The name of this organization shall be the National Association of Geology Teachers, Inc., - Far Western Section, hereinafter called the Section.

Article II. - Constitution

The Constitution of the National Association of Geology Teachers, Inc. (Association) shall be the Constitution of the Section.

Article III. - Regional boundaries

Primarily qualified individuals shall hold membership in the Section from the states of California, Nevada, and Hawaii, though residence or activity of qualified individuals outside these geographic limits shall not constitute a bar to membership in the Section.

Article IV. - Membership

Section 1. Active members

a. Active members in the Section shall be persons who are or have been engaged in some aspect of teaching of the Earth Sciences or who have been or are engaged in the gathering and dissemination of geological information.

b. A member of any other Section of the National Association may become a member of this Section by notifying the Secretary-Treasurer of the Section and paying the dues prescribed for the Section.

c. Membership in the Section shall also constitute membership in the Association.

Section 2. Student Members

a. Student members shall be persons whose primary enterprise is studying toward a degree in the Earth Sciences, or those whose primary employment is as a teaching assistant or fellow in a graduate Earth Science program.

Section 3. Honorary Members

The name(s) of a member(s) whom the Section wishes to honor may be submitted to the National Association for consideration as an Honorary Member, after a majority vote of the membership (quorum) of the Section.

Article V. - Officers and Duties

The officers of the Section shall be President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President (Editor), Secretary-Treasurer. The duties, restrictions and obligations, and election of officers shall be analogous to those stated for the equivalent officers in the Constitution of the Association. The President shall appoint a Historian to hold office continuously at the pleasure of the President and Executive Committee. Except as otherwise provided, the President shall have the power to appoint Standing and Special Committees, with the concurrence of the Executive Committee, and shall be the accredited representative of the Section on the Executive Council of the Association.

Section 1. Presidential duties

- a. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Section and shall preside at all business meetings of the Section and of the Executive Committee
- b. S/he shall be an ex officio member of all committees.
- c. The term of the President is two years.
- d. S/he shall appoint, immediately upon assuming office, an Outstanding Earth Science Teacher Award (OESTA) committee consisting of not more than five nor less than three members. The President will serve as an ex officio member of the Committee as will the 2nd vice-President.
- e. S/he shall appoint a Nominating Committee as instructed in Article VI, Section 2).
- f. S/he shall supervise the finances of the Section through the Secretary-Treasurer and shall ascertain that the meetings and conferences have registration fees in sufficient amount to cover all costs of the meetings.
- g. S/he shall form the Robert Wallace Webb Award Committee.
- h. S/he shall appoint the members of the scholarship committee
- i. S/he shall attend the yearly Association executive committee at GSA and report back to the section via the newsletter.

Section 2. First Vice-Presidential duties

- a. The First Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President in his/her absence.
- b. The first Vice-President shall be a member of the Outstanding Earth Science Teacher Award Committee.
- c. The First Vice-President shall serve on the Executive committee and be responsible for taking and distributing the minutes from the Executive Committee meetings via the newsletter.
- d. The First vice president shall maintain the archives of the Section
- e. The term of the First Vice-President is two years

Section 3. Second Vice Presidential duties

- a. The Second Vice-President shall serve as a member of the OESTA awards committee and shall be responsible for continuous publicity regarding the annual award.
- b. The Second Vice-President shall serve as the chair of the OESTA awards committee.

- c. S/he shall act as Section Editor. As editor, the Second Vice-President shall solicit manuscripts of papers presented at the Section meetings, as appropriate, for submission to the Editor of the Journal of Geological Education and the Editor of In The Trenches for possible publication.
- d. The Second Vice-Presidents term is two years.

Section 4. Secretary-Treasurer duties

- a. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep the business and financial records of the Section
- b. S/he shall correspond as necessary with the Secretary-Treasurer of the Association to the end that lists of Section members, payment of dues, and other business of the Section are maintained in current order.
- c. The Secretary-Treasurer shall present a bi-annual budget at the spring and fall meetings.

Section 5. Web Master duties

- a. The Web Master shall the maintain the NAGT-FWS web site.
- b. The Web Master shall update the web site after each meeting.
- c. The Web Master shall send out the Section newsletter (2 times per year).
- d. The Web Master shall send out ballots to Section Members 30 days prior to the election date.
- e. The Web Master shall ensure that the By-Laws of the section are posted on the web site.

Article VI. - Committee

Section 1. - The Executive Committee

- a. The Executive Committee shall be a standing committee of the section and shall be composed of the elected officers of the section; the two most recent past Presidents, the Publications Coordinator and the Webmaster. Its general functions and limitations shall be the same as stated for the 3quivalent committee in the Constitution of the Association.
- b. In the event of a vacancy in an elected office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a member of the Section to fill the position except for the office of President the First Vice-President will assume it by interim appointment, provided that such appointment is made by majority vote.

Section 2.

The President, with the concurrence of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a Nominating Committee at an appropriate time so as to permit such committee to select on to three nominees for each elective office at least 60 days in advance of the Spring Meeting of the section. The Nominating committee Chair shall be the immediate past President. The immediate past President, which shall preferably include the current, section President along with a northern and a southern California representative (when possible). Two regional representatives (when possible) shall serve staggered four-year terms. Ballots for election of officers must be electronically delivered to members at least 30 days prior to the Spring meeting. Spaces for

write in votes for each office must be provided. Except for the Section President, elected officers of the section may not serve on the nominating committee during their term of office. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall announce the results of the election at the Spring Meeting.

Section 3.

Candidates for the Outstanding Earth Science Teacher Award (OESTA) are nominated annually by the Committee for this award for “exceptional contributions to the stimulation of interest in earth science at the secondary school level,” and for excellence in teaching at the secondary level. The committee will select the recipient of the Award for the Section and the President when possible, and the awardee, or a representative shall also be present at the Fall Meeting so the award can be presented by the Award Committee Chair or by a member of the Award Committee.

Section 4.

The Robert Wallace Webb is given from time to time for exceptional service in earth science teaching alone or in conjunction with service to the Far Western Section. The committee is chaired by the immediate past award winner (when possible), and composed of past award winners (when possible) and members appointed to the committee by the Section President.

Section 5.

The Executive Committee shall appoint a Scholarship committee composed of three to five members in good standing. It is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to set the number of scholarships to be awarded annually. The Committee Chair shall receive and disseminate all applications and recommendations to the other committee members. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Each application will be scored on a 1 through 10 scale with 10 being excellent. The applicant receiving the highest total score will be the first recipient. Successively lower scorers will be recipients provide additional scholarships are available.

Section 6.

Ad Hoc committees consider any matters relevant to the functions of the Section may be:

- a. Appointed by the President, or
- b. Elected by the membership at a meeting of the Section. The functions of such committees shall terminate at the close of the meeting following their appointment, unless discharged sooner.

Article VII. Meetings

Section 1. Section Meetings

a. There shall be two meetings of the Section each year (when possible). It is at these meetings that the business of the Section is transacted, reports of committees heard, election of officers announced and proposed changes in the Section By-laws voted on.

b. The Section Meetings shall be held at a locality within the regional boundaries of the Section to be designated by the Executive Committee, except that the same general locality shall not serve as a meeting places more that once in three consecutive years.

Article VIII. Amendments

Section 1.

Amendments to these bylaws may be proposed to the Executive Committee in writing by at least five active members of the Section, or may be initiated by the Executive Committee.

Section 2.

Active members of the Section shall b e notified in writing of proposed amendments at least 30 days before a vote on the changes can be taken.

Section 3.

An amendment shall be declared in force upon affirmative vote of either:

- a. A majority of active members voting by electronic ballot, provided such majority constitutes at least 1/3 of the entire active membership of the Section, or
- b. A 2.3 vote of active members present at a Fall or Spring Meeting.