

SOUTH-CENTRAL SECTION BYLAWS

Established by Council on April 30, 1966

ARTICLE I

Organization and Name

1. This section of The Geological Society of America, Inc., is organized in accordance with Article VIII of the Bylaws of that Society and is governed by the provisions of that article.
2. The name of the section is the South-Central Section of The Geological Society of America, Inc.

ARTICLE II

Membership

1. Members, Fellows, Honorary Fellows, and Affiliates of the Geological Society of America residing within the geographical limits of the section will normally be members of the section and shall have all rights and privileges pertaining thereto including the rights to vote and hold office.
2. Members, Fellows, Honorary Fellows, and Affiliates who reside within the geographical limits of another section may become members of the South-Central Section, with all the rights and privileges pertaining thereto, on written or electronic request to the Society. In doing so, they relinquish their rights and privileges in the section where they reside, except that by paying additional dues as determined by the Geological Society of America, any member can belong to any additional number of sections, with all rights and privileges pertaining thereto.

ARTICLE III

Geographical Limitations

1. For purposes of administration, the geographical extent of the section shall include: in the United States, the states of Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas; and in Mexico, the states of Coahuila, Nuevo León, Tabasco, Tamaulipas, and Veracruz. However, meetings of the section shall be open to all Members, Fellows, Honorary Fellows, and Affiliates of the Society and their guests for attendance at scientific sessions, presentation of papers, and participation in field conferences.

ARTICLE IV Officers and Management Board

1. Officers. The officers of the section shall be a chair, a vice-chair, and a secretary-treasurer, all of whom shall hold membership in the section. Their terms of office except for the secretary-treasurer shall be one year and shall end at the close of the annual meeting. The term of the secretary-treasurer shall be for three years and shall end at the close of the appropriate annual meeting. Only the secretary-treasurer shall be eligible to serve successive terms.

2. Responsibility to the Council of the Society. In accordance with Article VIII, Section 1, of the Bylaws of the Society, the duly elected officers of the South-Central Section shall be responsible to the Council of the Society for the conduct of the affairs of the section. Each year, not later than March 15 and September 15, the secretary-treasurer shall render to the Council a report outlining the activities of the section during the preceding year and scheduled activities in the future. The March report shall include a financial statement of the section.

Immediately after the end of the calendar year, the secretary-treasurer shall submit to the executive director of the Society the financial report of the section for that year, with the supporting documents. The audited financial statement shall be submitted immediately after the annual meeting.

3. Management Board. The management board shall be composed of not less than six voting members, all entitled to vote, including the officers of the section, the officers-elect, and a sufficient number of members-at-large to insure that each state in the section is represented on the board.

The officers-elect shall become members of the management board upon their election, and the retiring officers shall continue as members of the management board until one week after the beginning of the next year's annual meeting. Members-at-large-elect shall become members of the management board upon their election and shall continue until one week after the beginning of the annual meeting, two years after their election.

Members (councilors) of the Council of the Society having their membership in the section are voting members of the section management board. Councilors may elect not to exercise this privilege.

4. Elections. The nominating committee of the section shall submit to the chair-elect, just prior to his election at the annual meeting, the names of candidates for chair, vice-chair, secretary-treasurer, and members-at-large for presentation for election at the annual meeting one year later. All nominees become members of the management board upon their election. The chair, vice-chair, and secretary-treasurer take office at the end of the annual meeting one year after their election. The candidates must indicate their willingness to serve.

These nominations shall constitute the regular ticket and shall be submitted to the membership for election by the voting membership at the annual business meeting. Provision for nominations from the floor of the annual business meeting shall also be made.

The secretary shall notify the candidates as to the results of the election.

5.Any vacancies occurring in any of the elective offices of the section shall be filled by the management board until the next annual meeting.

ARTICLE V Duties of Officers

1.Management Board. The affairs of the section shall be managed by the management board. The management board shall prepare a report of the preceding year's activities of the section, which shall include the report of the secretary-treasurer of the section and the reports of the various committees. Immediately after the annual meeting, this report shall be submitted to the executive director of the Society.

2.Chair. The chair shall preside at meetings of the section and the management board. At the annual meeting ending his term of office, he shall submit a report to the management board on future plans and on the activities of the section during his term of office.

3.Vice-Chair. The vice-chair shall assume the powers and duties of the chair in the event of the absence of or disability of the chair. He shall also serve as program chair. The vice-chair shall be the nominee for chair on the regular ticket for the following year, unless for good and sufficient reason he is unable to serve.

4.Secretary-Treasurer. The secretary-treasurer shall collect and disburse all funds of the section and shall keep records of all receipts and disbursements and other financial transactions of the section. The secretary-treasurer shall also keep records of the proceedings of the section and shall act as secretary of the management board. He shall serve, *ex officio*, as a member of all committees. The secretary-treasurer shall arrange for the issuance of notices of all meetings of the section.

5.Members-at-Large. To assist the officers in the conduct of the affairs of the section.

ARTICLE VI Committees

1.Program Committee. The vice-chair shall be chair of the program committee and shall appoint such other members as he deems necessary.

2.Nominating Committee. The vice-chair-elect shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of three voting members of the section. They shall meet during the first day of the annual meeting, at which the vice-chair-elect is presented for election as chair. He will also inform them of the instructions of the management board.

The committee will nominate one candidate for each of the offices, including membership-at-large on the management board, in accordance with their instructions. They shall obtain statements of willingness to serve from each.

These nominations shall be reported as the regular ticket for election one year later. The committee will make their report to the vice-chair-elect and at the annual business meeting, immediately after their meeting.

These nominations shall be published in *GSA NEWS AND INFORMATION* prior to the annual meeting and in the *ABSTRACTS WITH PROGRAMS* for the annual meeting of the section.

Nominations other than the regular ticket may be made to the section chair prior to/or from the floor of the annual business meeting; but they can only be made by a petition signed by ten voting members of the section or by unanimous consent of the voting membership present at the annual business meeting.

Terms of office shall begin at the close of the annual meeting one year AFTER election.

3. Auditing Committee. An auditing committee consisting of three voting members shall be appointed by the chair. This committee shall review the fiscal reports and report to the management board at its spring meeting.

4. International Service Recruitment Committee. This committee solicits names with supporting documents and generates lists of prospective nominees for GSA councilors and for GSA committees. These lists are submitted to the management board for approval.

This committee consists of the following five voting members of the section: a former GSA councilor who will serve a three-year term, the section secretary-treasurer, and three members-at-large serving in three-year staggered appointments. The vice-chair of the section shall appoint, with management board approval, the committee chair and persons to fill vacancies on the committee.

The committee will submit a list of names with supporting documents as prospective nominees for GSA councilors to the management board at the fall meeting. After the names are approved by the management board, the secretary will transmit the list and supporting documents to the GSA Committee on Nominations.

The committee will submit a list of names with supporting documents as prospective nominees for GSA committees to the management board at the section annual meeting. The secretary will transmit the list of those approved by the management board along with supporting documents to the GSA Committee on Committees.

5. Ad Hoc Committees. The chair, with approval of the management board, may appoint special committees when they are needed.

ARTICLE VII Meetings

1. Annual Meeting. The place and time of the annual meeting, and such special meetings as desired, shall be determined by the management board of the section and reported to the executive director of the Society. Insofar as possible, the meeting shall be held in the spring.

2. Management Board Meeting. The management board meeting shall normally be held at the time of the annual meeting of the section and the national meeting of the Society. Special meetings of the management board may be called at any time by the chair. Business may also be conducted by mail.

3. Annual Business Meeting. The annual business meeting shall be held during the annual meeting of the section.

4. Quorum for Meetings. The quorum for the scheduled annual business meeting shall consist of those members present and eligible to vote. The quorum for regularly scheduled and announced meetings of the management board shall consist of those members of the board present.

ARTICLE VIII Finances

1. Following a review by the auditing committee, the secretary-treasurer shall submit an account of all funds for the calendar year to the Council of the Society not later than February 15. The fiscal year begins July 1.

Insofar as they shall be paid from the general funds of the Society, expenses of the section shall be limited to ordinary economical expenses of the section meetings.

ARTICLE IX Rules and Amendment of the Bylaws

1. Amendments to the bylaws may be proposed to the chair by a petition signed by twenty-five voting members of the section or by unanimous vote of the management board.

2. Bylaws of the section may be adopted, rescinded, or amended by a majority of votes cast by the voting membership of the section, either by mail or at an annual meeting. The bylaws, however, must be consistent with the Certificate of Incorporation and the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society. Proposed changes shall be submitted promptly to the Council of the Society for ratification.

3. Rules supplementing the bylaws may be adopted, amended, or rescinded by a majority vote of the management board of the section.

Bylaws amended on May 12, 1974; May 11, 1975; May 3, 1977; May 9, 1978; May 28, 1982; October 21, 1997; October 4, 2008 (bring member categories and fiscal year into conformance with Society's; add option for electronic communications; add states of Mexico to Section).