

CORDILLERAN SECTION BYLAWS

Established by Council on August 26, 1901

ARTICLE I

Name and Organization

1. The name of the section is the Cordilleran Section, a regional organization within The Geological Society of America, Inc.
2. This Section of the Society is organized in accordance with Article VIII of the Bylaws of that Society and is governed by provisions of that article.

ARTICLE II

Geographical Limits

1. For purposes of scientific fellowship and discussion, the limits of the Section shall correspond with the limits of the general Society. Meetings of the Section shall be open to all Members, Fellows, Honorary Fellows, and Affiliates of the Society, non-members, and their guests for attendance at scientific sessions, presentation of papers, and participation in field conferences.
2. For purposes of administration, the geographical extent of the Section shall include: in the United States, the states of Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and that part of Arizona south of 35 degrees North Latitude; in Canada, the Province of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut Territory; and in Mexico, the Distrito Federal and the states of Aguascalientes, Baja California, Baja California Sur, Chiapas, Colima, Durango, Guanajuato, Guerrero, Hidalgo, Jalisco, México State, Michoacán, Morelos, Nayarit, Oaxaca, Puebla, Querétaro, San Luis Potosi, Sinaloa, Sonora, Tlaxcala, and Zacatecas.

ARTICLE III

Membership

1. Members, Fellows, Honorary Fellows, and Affiliates of the Geological Society of America residing within the geographical limits of the Section shall normally be members of the Section.

2. Members, Fellows, Honorary Fellows, and Affiliates of the Section whose principal interests lie within the geographical limits of another section may become members of the other section, with all rights and privileges pertaining thereto, on written or electronic request to the Society; in so doing, they relinquish their rights and privileges in the Cordilleran Section, 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. By following a similar procedure, those who reside within the geographical limits of another section may transfer or extend their rights and privileges to the Cordilleran Section.

ARTICLE IV ***Officers and Management Board***

1. **Officers.** The officers of the Section shall be a chair, a vice-chair, and a secretary, all of whom shall hold membership in the Section. In addition to regular duties, the secretary shall serve also as accounting officer for the section.
2. **Terms of Office.** The terms of office shall be: chair, one year; vice-chair, one year; secretary, four years. The secretary may be re-elected for a second term. Terms shall commence at the end of the Section Annual Business Meeting after elections are held at that Meeting.
3. **Management Board.** The management board of six shall include the Section officers, the Section chair from the preceding year, the Cordilleran Section meeting chair from the previous year, and a student member. The student member shall be a student member of GSA and the Cordilleran Section with graduate standing. The management board shall conduct the affairs of the section. Non-officer members of the management board shall normally serve for one year and not more than two years.
4. **Removal of Section Officer.** Any Section officer who fails to perform the duties prescribed in the bylaws, or who brings discredit to GSA or the Section in any way, or does not adhere to the “GSA Constitution and By-laws” or the GSA “Code of Conduct”, may be removed from office by a unanimous vote of the other officers of the management board. Any management board officer may make a motion for removal of another officer. The Section officer who is subject of a motion for removal must be provided an opportunity to present an argument against removal prior to any vote on the motion.
5. **Vacancies.** Any vacancy occurring during the term of any elected Section officer shall be filled by appointment of the management board and such appointee shall serve until the next Section Annual Business Meeting.
6. **Officer Resignation.** Any Section officer may resign at any time by giving written notice of such resignation to the Section Chair and Section Secretary.

ARTICLE V
Committees

1. Program Committee. The Section meeting chair shall be appointed by the Section chair, with the advice of the management board, at least two years before the annual meeting of the Section. The meeting chair shall select a program committee which represents diversified interests.
2. Nominating Committee. The nominating committee consists of the Section Chair, Vice-Chair, Past Chair, Secretary, and two former Section Chairs. The Vice-Chair serves as Chair of the Nominating Committee and invites the former Section Chairs.
3. Other Representatives. Representatives of the Cordilleran Section to GSA Committees shall be appointed by the chair, with the advice of the management board.

ARTICLE VI
Nomination and Election of Officers

1. The nominating committee shall prepare a slate of officers. Normally, the slate consists of a recommended candidate for Vice-Chair, and for any other officer positions that are, or will become, vacant at the time of the Section Annual Business Meeting.
2. *Election of Officers.* The nominating committee will solicit nominations from Section membership approximately three months prior to the Section Annual Business Meeting. At least one month prior to the Section Annual Business Meeting, the nomination committee will recommend candidate(s) using a Borda count, as detailed in the Section Voting Procedures. The/these recommended nominees will be presented at the Section Annual Business Meeting, at which time additional nominations may be made by Section members. Voting for each position will then proceed according to a voice vote of members attending the Section Annual Business Meeting and the results will be announced prior to the end of the meeting.

The results of the election will then be transmitted to the Executive Director of the Society.

3. Student Representative. A student representative, appointed by the outgoing Section chair, shall serve until the close of the next Section Annual Business Meeting. The student representative may serve multiple terms and shall be a voting member of the management board.

ARTICLE VII
Meetings

1. Section Annual Meeting. The place and time of the Section annual meeting, and such special meetings as desired, shall be determined by the management board of the Section

and shall be reported to the executive director of the Society. Announcements and programs of the meetings shall be sent to members of the Society.

2. Management Board. At least one meeting of the management board shall be held prior to each Section annual meeting. Most business involving the entire management board shall normally be conducted by correspondence.
3. Quorums for Meetings. (a) A quorum for the Section Annual Meeting shall consist of the voting members present and voting. (b) A quorum for the management board meetings shall consist of the chair or vice-chair and at least three other members of the management board.

ARTICLE VIII *Finances*

1. The expenses of the Section, so far as they shall be paid from the general funds of the Society, shall be limited to ordinary economical expenses of the Section meetings and balloting expenses relating to election of officers.
2. In accordance with Article VIII, Section 4, of the Bylaws of the Society, each Section may, with the approval of the Council, make its own arrangements for the raising of the necessary funds for the proper conduct of its operations. This may be done by means of the registration fees charged for attendance at meetings of the Section. Account of all such funds shall be rendered to the Council at the end of each fiscal year.
3. The fiscal year shall begin July 1 in accordance with the Society.

ARTICLE IX *Annual Report*

1. It shall be the duty of the secretary of the Section to submit to the Council of the Society, not later than one month prior to the GSA Connects Meeting of each year, an annual report outlining the accomplishments of the Section for the preceding fiscal year and plans for the future.
2. Immediately following each annual meeting of the Section, the secretary shall submit to the executive director of the Society an account of the proceedings of the meeting.

ARTICLE X *Conduct of Section*

1. The duly elected officers of the Section shall be responsible to the Council of the Society for the conduct of the Section. The secretary shall render to the Society Council an annual report from the Section, including a statement of accomplishments of the preceding year and future plans.

ARTICLE XI

Rules and Amendment of the Bylaws

1. Rules. Rules supplementing the bylaws may be adopted, amended, or rescinded by majority vote of the management board of the Section.
2. Bylaws. Bylaws of the Section may be adopted, amended, or rescinded according to the following procedures: (a) approval by the Section management board, and (b) approval by a majority of those Section members who voted at the Section Annual Business Meeting, and then (c) submitted to Council for ratification. All Section bylaws must be consistent with the Certificate of Incorporation and Constitution and Bylaws of the Society.

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Established by Council on August 26, 1901.

Bylaws amended on May 7, 1973; October 17, 1982; October 4, 2008 (update language; bring member categories and fiscal year into accordance with Society; add states of Mexico to Section); August 26, 2019 (update language, changes to Management Board); May 23, 2023 (clarify language concerning elections and Management Board).