

Constitution

Preamble

Recognizing that service to the public, to the state and to the profession is a fundamental obligation of the professional engineer, the Society of Professional Engineers does hereby dedicate itself to the promotion and protection of the profess of engineering as a social and economic influence vital to the welfare of the community, the State of Wyoming, the United States of America and all mankind.

Article I – Name

- Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Wyoming Society of Professional Engineers WSPE), hereinafter called the Society.
- Section 2. The Society is incorporated as a nonprofit organization under the laws of the State of Wyoming.
- Section 3. The Society is a member state society of the National Society of Professional Engineers, a national organization of like aims and purposes, hereinafter called the National Society, or NSPE.
- Section 4. The Society subscribes to and supports the Code of Ethics of NSPE.

Article II – Objectives

- Section 1. The objectives of this Society shall be to:
- a. Advance and promote the public welfare.
 - b. Advance the professional, social and economic interests of the profession.
 - c. Strive throughout the profession to make registration more meaningful in terms of acknowledgment of individual achievement in engineering as reflected by education and practice, and encourage all qualified engineers to seek legal status through registration.
 - d. Unite all qualified engineers of the state in one organization.
 - e. Stimulate and develop professional concepts among all engineers.
 - f. Advance self-education and self-improvement, motivating practicing engineers to upgrade and expand their competence by continuing study.
 - g. Develop the civic consciousness of members of the engineering profession, and serve the public good by support of, and cooperation with, the governor and other public officials.

- h. Represent the engineering profession in legislative matters in the interests of the state and the profession.
- i. Promote high standards of engineering education.
- j. Cultivate public appreciation for the work of the engineer through improved public relations, and provide a forum for effective exchange and advancement of knowledge of matters of concern to the profession.
- k. Assist well-qualified and properly motivated young people in obtaining reliable information concerning the profession of engineering.
- l. Establish and preserve high standards of ethical conduct and practice by members of the profession.

Article III – Chapters

Section 1. The membership of the Society may be organized into chapters. The Board of Directors may authorize and charter such chapters, defining geographical boundaries as may best serve the members of the Society.

Each chapter thus formed shall have a minimum of 10 voting members. All qualified members of each chapter shall be members of the Society and the National Society.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall have authority to make rules and regulations for and decisions affecting the chartering, combining or dissolving of chapters.

Section 3. Each chapter chartered by the Society shall adopt such bylaws for its operation as it may deem proper, provide that nothing contained therein shall conflict with or contravene the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society. Such bylaws and any changes thereto are subject to approval of the Board.

Section 4. Chapters shall engage only in such activities as are consistent with professional ideals and ethics. Such activities shall be restricted to the area for which the chapter is chartered, except as the Board may authorize.

Section 5. In all matters of local concern not covered by this Constitution and Bylaws, chapters shall retain full autonomy, but may call upon the state and National societies for advice, counsel and assistance.

Section 6. Each chapter shall be represented on the Board and on the committees of the Society as provided in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society.

Section 7. No chapter shall in any way contract any debt or obligation on behalf of the Society unless expressly authorized by the Board.

Section 8. The fiscal and administrative years of the chapters shall be concurrent with those of the Society.

Section 9. Student members in engineering colleges and universities may be organized into student chapters, as provided in the Bylaws.

Article IV – Membership

Section 1. The membership shall consist of Member, Senior Associate Member, Associate Member, Student Member and Surveyor Member who shall abide by the Constitution and Bylaws and the Code of Ethics and who shall be subject to election, discipline, suspension and termination as provided in the Bylaws.

Section 2. A member may be disciplined by the Society for cause as provided in the Bylaws. In disciplinary matters, the Board may: (a) authorize joint action with other state societies; (b) waive jurisdiction to another state society; or (c) request the assistance of the National Society where, in the Board's judgment, the circumstances warrant.

Section 3. All members other than Student Members shall have voting privileges. Only Members may hold the offices of president and president-elect; only Members and Surveyor Members may vote on constitutional changes.

Section 4. All Members, Senior Associate Members, Associate Members, Student Members and Surveyor Members of this Society shall be members of the National Society.

Section 5. A Member shall be defined as a person holding a valid license or certificate of registration as a professional engineer, issued under the laws of any state, territory, possession or district of the United States, or a province, or territory of Canada.

Section 6. Senior Associate Member – A Senior Associate Member shall be defined as a person who:

- a. Is of high moral character;
- b. Has graduated from an engineering curriculum accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology; or has graduated from an engineering curriculum prior to the establishment of professional accreditation procedures by ABET; or has graduated from an engineering curriculum which is accredited by ABET within 6 years after graduation; or has awarded a graduate engineering degree from a college or university which has one or more undergraduate engineering curricula accredited by ABET;
- c. Has not less than 12 years of acceptable engineering experience;
- d. Is a member of an engineering society in a grade approved by NSPE Board of Directors.

All of which is acceptable to a Society Admissions Board.

No person shall be accepted as a Senior Associate Member under the provisions of Section 6 after January 1, 1980.

Section 7. Associate Member – An Associate member shall be defined as a person of high moral character who meets the requirements of Article V© NSPE Constitution.

An Associate member shall advance to the Member or Surveyor Member grade as soon as eligible by registration.

Section 8. Student Member – A Student Member shall be defined as an undergraduate or graduate engineering or surveying student.

Section 9. Surveyor Member – A Surveyor Member shall be a land surveyor licensed to practice in any state, territory, possession or district of the United States.

Section 10. Life Membership and Retired Membership, consistent with the qualifications for such grades of the National Society of Professional Engineers, are authorized.

Section 11. Should the registration of a member be revoked for any reason, the person shall automatically cease to be a member of the Society, If the registration should lapse, except in the case of Life, or Retired Members, the member, if eligible, will be reclassified to Associate Member grade.

Article V – Dues

Section 1. The dues of the Society shall be determined by the Board of Directors and state in the Bylaws, and shall include a subscription to the state publication.

Section 2. The procedure for billing and collecting of dues shall be determined by the Board and stated in the Bylaws.

Section 3. The schedule and conditions for dues payment, delinquency, dropping from membership and reinstatement shall be determined by the Board and stated in the Bylaws.

Article VI – Administration

Section 1. The Society shall be administered by a Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the Board. The Board shall determine all questions of policy and shall administer the affairs of the Society under this Constitution and the general provisions of the law under which it is incorporated.

Section 2. The Board shall consist of the officers, one director elected by each chapter, and one at-large director appointed by the Board from geographical areas of the state not represented by chapters. The chair of each practice division shall be ex-officio members of the Board.

Section 3. A majority of the Board members shall constitute a quorum. An affirmative vote of a majority of the Board members present at any regular or duly called meeting shall be required to pass any motion not inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society. The president shall vote only when necessary to break a tie.

Section 4. The Board shall have authority to decide upon any question by means of a letter ballot directed to all members of the Board. Procedures for determining a vote by letter ballot shall be specified in the Bylaws, and a majority of the votes cast within the stipulated time shall decide the question submitted to ballot.

Section 5. The Board shall direct the investment and care of funds for the Society and shall adopt an annual budget and make appropriations for other specific purposes.

Section 6. No members of the Board shall receive a salary or compensation from the Society, except for expenses incurred on behalf of the Society as approved by the Board.

Section 7. The Board may appoint an executive secretary or executive director, when the financial and other conditions warrant, and fix compensation and define the duties of the office.

Article VII – Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Society shall consist of the president, president-elect, vice president, secretary-treasurer, the national director, and the latest living resident past president.

Section 2. The Society shall be represented on the Board of Directors of the National Society by the national director.

Section 3. The president-elect, vice president, and secretary-treasurer shall be elected for a term on one year. The president-elect shall automatically assume the presidency for the year following election.

[Section 4.](#) The national director shall be elected for a term of two years.

Section 5. Eligibility to nomination, election or retention of a position as an elective officer of the Society shall be contingent upon residence or employment in the state. No member may hold two positions on the Board simultaneously.

Section 6. The duties of the officers shall be as defined in the Bylaws.

Section 7. The secretary-treasurer may be bonded, at the expense of the Society, for such amount as may be determined by the Board.

Section 8. The president-elect, vice president, and secretary-treasurer shall be elected prior to the Spring meeting of the Board. Terms of all officers will commence on the last day of the Spring meeting of the Board.

Section 9. In the event the president becomes unable to serve, the president shall be succeeded by the president-elect. The office of president-elect shall remain vacant until the next Spring Meeting, at which meeting a president for the following year shall be elected, after receiving a report from the Nominating Committee. A vacancy occurring in any other position shall be filled by election of the Board, with the exception of the chairman of each practice division who shall be selected by that division. Any vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term of the officer being replaced.

Article VIII – Nomination and Election of Officers

Section 1. Nominations for elective offices shall be made by the Nominating Committee.

Section 2. The Nominating Committee shall have the most recent available past president as its chairman and one member selected by each of the chapters.

Section 3. After canvassing each chapter or suggested nominees, the Nominating Committee shall offer one or more nominations for each office, not one of whom shall be a member of the Nominating Committee.

- Section 4. The Nominating Committee shall report the names of nominees to the secretary at the first meeting prior to the Spring meeting of the Board in order that the secretary may report the nominations to all voting members via the minutes of the Board meeting.
- Section 5. Nomination may also be made by a petition signed by twenty-five voting members in good standing or by ten percent of the voting membership of the Society. Nominations by petition must be in the hands of the secretary sixty days before the date of the Spring meeting in order to be placed on the ballot.
- Section 6. Three tellers shall be appointed by the Nominating Committee from its membership.
- Section 7. Ballots to be canvassed shall be delivered to the tellers in suitably identified but unopened envelopes prior to the Spring meeting of the Board.
- Section 8. The names of the elected officers, persons, and other balloting results shall be transmitted by the tellers in writing to the secretary for release at the Spring meeting of the Board.

Article IX – Meetings

- Section 1. The Society shall hold an Annual Meeting at such time and place as may be selected by the Board, which meeting shall be open to all members and their guests.
- Section 2. Special meeting so of the Society shall be called by the president on a two-thirds vote of the Board or upon petition by 50 members of the Society, or 10 percent of the membership, whichever is the smaller number.
- Section 3. The Board of Directors shall hold at lest-least four meetings each year. All meetings of the Board shall be called by the president or upon petition of twenty-five percent of the Directors.

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Article X – Headquarters

- Section 1. The location of Headquarters of this Society shall be determined by the Board.

Article XI – Committees

- Section 1. Standing committees and special committees shall be appointed by the president, following concurrence of the Board.
- Section 2. The duties of the standing and special committees shall be defined by the Board.

Article XII – Practice Divisions

- Section 1. To further the objectives of the Society, establishment of practice divisions is authorized.
- Section 2. The Board of Directors may sanction the creation or order the dissolution of practice divisions as provided in the Bylaws.

Article XIII – Amendments

- Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by: (a) a majority vote of the entire Board; (b) a petition signed by not less than 15 percent of the members of this Society who are eligible to vote on constitutional changes or 50 such members whichever is smaller, or (c) a majority vote of the Board members present, provided that the text of the proposed amendment shall have been mailed to the members of the Board not less than 30 days prior to the day when the amendment shall be considered. Amendments submitted by petition shall be reviewed by the Board before being submitted to the secretary for ballot. The findings of this review may be transmitted to the members at the discretion of the Board.
- Section 2. Proposed amendments to the Constitution, together with a letter ballot, shall be mailed by the secretary to each member eligible to vote. Ballots shall be returned to the secretary not later than 20 days after their mailing by the secretary.
- Section 3. An amendment shall become effective only upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the votes cast by the qualified members, provided that at least 20 percent of the qualified members have voted.

Article XIV – Bylaws

- Section 1. The Board shall prepare and adopt a series of Bylaws which shall govern all procedures under this Constitution, including those of the Board and of the committees.
- Section 2. The Bylaws may be amended by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Board present at a meeting provided that the text of the proposed amendment shall be mailed to the Board at least 10 days before the meeting at which the vote on the amendment will be taken.

Article XV – Effective Date

- Section 1. This Constitution shall become effective upon its adoption in the manner prescribed for voting on amendments and thereupon the previous Constitution and prior amendments thereto are repealed.

Adopted: June, 1974

Last Amended: June 1, 1981