



香港大學學生會社會科學學會
地理地質及考古學會
Geographical, Geological &
Archaeological Society
SSS HKUSU

CONSTITUTION OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL, GEOLOGICAL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, SOCIAL SCIENCES SOCIETY, THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' UNION

Article I-----DEFINITIONS

- i) "Committee" shall mean the executive committee of the Geographical, Geological & Archaeological Society, Social Sciences Society, The Hong Kong University Students' Union. **(amended 2016)**
- ii) "Constitution" shall mean the constitution of the Geographical, Geological & Archaeological Society, Social Sciences Society, The Hong Kong University Students' Union. **(amended 2016)**
- iii) "Department" shall mean the Department of Geography, The University of Hong Kong.
- iv) "Members" shall mean members of the Geographical, Geological & Archaeological Society, Social Sciences Society, The Hong Kong University Students' Union. **(amended 2016)**
- v) "President" shall mean the elected full time academic staff of the Department of Geography.
- vi) "Society" shall mean the Geographical, Geological & Archaeological Society, Social Sciences Society, The Hong Kong University Students' Union. **(amended 2016)**
- vii) "SSS HKUSU" shall mean the Social Sciences Society, The Hong Kong University Students' Union. **(amended 2016)**
- viii) "Vice-Presidents" shall mean the elected full time academic staff and full time postgraduate research students of the Department of Geography.

Article II-----NAME

The Society shall be called the "Geographical, Geological & Archaeological Society, Social Sciences Society, The Hong Kong University Students' Union". **(amended 2016)**

Article III-----OBJECTS

The objects of the Society are to cultivate interest in geography, geology and archaeology, and to promote a better understanding among Members.

Article IV-----SESSION

The session shall commence at the termination of an Annual General Meeting and end at the next Annual General Meeting.

Article V-----MEMBERSHIP

A) Honorary Membership:

All elected President and Vice-Presidents shall be Honorary Members of the Society



automatically.

B) Full Membership:

- i) All students of the University (of Hong Kong) who take course(s) currently offered by the Department shall be full members of the Society (on the payment of the subscriptions).
- ii) The Society shall have a majority of its full members registered as full member of SSS HKUSU.

C) Associate Membership:

All other persons may apply for associate membership and have to be approved by the Committee.

Article VI-----TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTIONS

- A) Full and associate members who are enrolled after the second semester and before the Annual General Meeting, the term of membership shall terminate at the end of the Annual General Meeting in the next session.
- B) Full and associate members who are enrolled within a period other than stated in (A), the term of membership will terminate with the session of the Committee.
- C) All full and associate members shall have the obligation to pay a lump sum of HK\$ 40.00 for membership subscription of four years, or pro rata of HK\$ 40.00 for any other duration calculated on yearly basis.
- D) All membership fee received are non-refundable under any circumstances.

Article VII-----GOVERNMENT

- A) The Society shall be governed by a Committee consisting of the Chairperson, Internal Vice-Chairperson, External Vice-Chairperson, General Secretary, Financial Secretary, Social Secretary, Academic Secretary, External Secretary, Publication Secretary, Publicity Secretary, Welfare Secretary and Programme Secretary. *(amended 2017)*
- B) The Committee shall have the power to appoint sub-committees and delegate power. Each sub-committee shall include at least one member of the Committee.
- C) The Committee shall have the power to appoint its members to represent the Society in external



香港大學學生會社會科學學會
地理地質及考古學會
Geographical, Geological &
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organizations of similar interests.

Article VIII-----YEAR REPRESENTATIVES

- A) A maximum of two Year Representatives from each of the years shall be elected.
- B) The Year Representatives shall:
 - i) represent the interests of members of their respective year in the Society;
 - ii) represent the interests of members of their respective year in the Staff-Student Consultative Committee, Department of Geography, The University of Hong Kong;
 - iii) assist the Committee members in the executive of their duties.

Article IX-----GENERAL MEETING

- A) The resolution of General Meeting shall possess the highest authority in all matters affecting the Society.
- B) The quorum at all General Meeting shall be formed by no fewer than 20 full members of the Society.
- C) The Committee shall invite at least one member from the Social Sciences Society Council, SSS, HKUSU, all except representatives of the Society, to be the Returning Officer for the General Meeting. *(amended 2016)*
- D) The Annual General Meeting shall be held in November at a period of notice no less than one week. *(amended 2016)*
- E) The Society shall hold an Extraordinary General Meeting at the discretion of the Committee or upon the written request of not fewer than 20% of its full members to the President or the Chairperson. At least one week's notice must be given prior to the date on which the meeting is to be held.

Article X-----ELECTION

- A) (All) Full members have speaking and voting rights and shall be eligible for election. (All) Honorary members have speaking rights but no voting rights but shall be eligible for election. Associate members shall have speaking but no voting rights and shall not be eligible for election.



- B) The nomination of a candidate shall be proposed and seconded by full members of the Society and shall be submitted to the Committee at least one week before the (Annual) General Meeting.
- C) Any candidate of the Year Representative shall be the student of that particular year. The nomination of such a candidate shall be proposed and seconded by full members of the Society of that particular year and shall be submitted to the Committee at least one week before the (Annual) General Meeting.
- D) The President, Vice-Presidents, Committee members and Year Representatives shall hold office for one session. They shall be eligible for re-election.
- E) Election shall be valid if the number of ballot forms issued is not fewer than 75% of the quorum at the meeting and the total number of valid votes is not fewer than 75% of the number of ballot forms issued. A candidate shall be declared elected with a simple majority of “for” or “confidence” votes.
- F) The President and Vice-Presidents shall be elected by a simple majority vote in straight ballot at the Annual General Meeting.
- G) Each Committee member and Year Representatives shall be elected by a separate vote and by secret ballot at the (Annual) General Meeting.
- H) In the case of one candidate, he shall be elected by an excess of confidence over no-confidence votes.
- I) Committee members and Year Representatives shall not resign without the approval of the Committee. A By-election General Meeting shall be convened for the purpose.

Article XI-----DUTIES OF OFFICIALS

- A) The Chairperson shall
 - i) preside at all meetings of the Society with the exception of sub-committee meetings;
 - ii) prepare agenda for all meetings referred to in Article IX; *(amended 2017)*
 - iii) represent the interests of the Society in the Social Sciences Society Council, SSS, HKUSU and its committees; *(amended 2016)*
 - iv) be a member of the Constitution Review Committee, Social Sciences Society Council, SSS,



HKUSU; *(amended 2016)*

v) *(repealed 2016)*

- B) The Internal Vice-Chairperson shall
- i) be the ex-officio Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson;
 - ii) be present at all Committee meetings of the Society;
 - iii) assist the Chairperson in all duties concerning the internal affairs.
- C) The External Vice-Chairperson shall
- i) be the ex-officio Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson and Internal Vice-Chairperson;
 - ii) be present at all Committee meetings of the Society;
 - iii) assist the Chairperson in all duties concerning the external affairs;
 - iv) represent the interests of the Society in Social Sciences Society Council, SSS, HKUSU.
(amended 2016)
- D) The General Secretary shall
- i) be present at all Committee meetings of the Society;
 - ii) keep minutes of all meetings referred to in Article IX; *(amended 2017)*
 - iii) deal with correspondence on behalf of the Society;
 - iv) issue press release of all relevant matters;
 - v) present an Annual Report of the Society at the Annual General Meeting.
- E) The Financial Secretary shall
- i) be present at all Committee meetings of the Society;
 - ii) advise the Committee and sub-committee on all financial matters;
 - iii) deal with all financial work of the Society and present an Annual Financial Report at the Annual General Meeting.
- F) The Social Secretary shall
- i) be present at all Committee meetings and preside at all its sub-committee meetings;
 - ii) be responsible for organization of all social activities of the Society.
- G) The Academic Secretary shall
- i) be present at all Committee meetings and preside at all its sub-committee meetings;



香港大學學生會社會科學學會
地理地質及考古學會
Geographical, Geological &
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- ii) be responsible for the organization of all cultural activities of the Society.
- H) The External Secretary shall
- i) be present at all Committee meetings and preside at all its sub-committee meetings;
 - ii) be responsible for the organization of all external activities (representing the Society in the Joint School Geography Association unless specified) in which the Society participates.
- I) The Publication Secretary shall
- i) be present at all Committee meetings and preside at all its sub-committee meetings;
 - ii) be responsible for the organization of the publication of the Society.
- J) The Publicity Secretary shall
- i) be present at all Committee meetings and preside at all its sub-committee meetings;
 - ii) be responsible for the publicity work of the Society.
- K) The Welfare Secretary shall
- i) be present at all Committee meetings and preside at all its sub-committee meetings;
 - ii) be responsible for the promotion of the general welfare of Members.
- L) The Programme Secretary shall
- i) be present at all Committee meetings and preside at all its sub-committee meetings;
 - ii) be responsible for the organization of the functions of the Society.

Article XII-----AMENDMENT & INTERPRETATION OF CONSTITUTION

- A) The Constitution may be amended with the approval of not fewer than 75% of the (honorary members and) full members present at a General Meeting. The amendment shall come into effect at the date approved at a General Meeting.
- B) The interpretation of the Constitution shall rest solely with the Committee.