ARTICLE I

Organization, Name, and Purpose

1. This division of The Geological Society of America, Inc., is organized in accordance with Article IX, *Divisions of the Society*, of the bylaws of that Society and is governed by the provisions of that article.

2. *Name*. The name of the division is the Geology and Society Division of the Geological Society of America, Inc.

3. *Purpose*. The purpose of the division is to strengthen, broaden, and support the engagement of GSA Members, Fellows, Honorary Fellows, Associates and Affiliates in those opportunities where the science of geology intersects with the social, economic, and policy interests of modern society. The division supports this engagement in the following ways and for the following purposes: to bring together those scientists and practitioners of the geological sciences working on issues where geology and society interact; to provide a suitable forum for the presentation and discussion of mutual problems and ideas; to stimulate communication with other earth scientists and establish avenues for interdisciplinary research on the relationship of geology to societal interests and public policy; to promote and encourage the publication of the results of such research; to foster the recognition of significant contributions and to acknowledge accomplishments in this area of activity and research; to actively encourage and mentor students interested in these activities and issues; and to advise and assist the officers, committees and divisions of GSA in matters related to geology and society.

4. *Relationship to GSA Committees and Divisions*. The division supports and augments the responsibilities of GSA committees, and especially the Committee on Geology and Public Policy (Committee). The Committee is charged by GSA Council to perform specific functions on behalf of the Society and its members, including “the preparation and enunciation of positions based on scientific considerations so that the committee’s informational activities will provide the broadest background for decisions on public policy involving the science of geology.” The division will interact with the Committee and assist it in carrying out its charge, as outlined in GSA Council rules.

The division supports and augments the functions of other divisions of GSA. The division cooperates with other divisions, especially in those instances where their activities and research interests intersect with the social, economic, and policy interests of modern society. The division will assist in conveying information to GSA members and to the public in as broad a forum as may be reasonable and appropriate.
ARTICLE II
Membership

1. Any Member, Fellow, Honorary Fellow, or Affiliate of the Geological Society of America who is in good standing may become a member of the Geology and Society Division. To effect division membership, an applicant shall express his/her desire on the GSA application or membership renewal forms or in writing to the secretary of the division or the executive director of the Society. All division members in good standing are eligible to vote and to hold office in the division.

ARTICLE III
Finances

1. The division shall be financially responsible for its normal expenses. All other financial obligations or commitments of the division must have prior approval of the Council.

2. The division may collect annual dues or special assessments from affiliates when recommended by its management board and approved by a majority vote of the voting affiliates.

3. The division may solicit and accept contributions of funds to be used and expended under supervision of its management board and subject to Council approval.

ARTICLE IV
Officers and Management Board

1. Officers. The officers of the division shall be a chair, a first vice-chair, a second vice-chair, a past chair, a student member, and a secretary-treasurer. The chair, first vice-chair, and second vice-chair shall each be elected for terms of one year, and the secretary-treasurer and the student member for terms of two years. The terms of office shall begin immediately following the annual business meeting at which the results of the election are announced. Only the secretary-treasurer may be re-elected to the same office for consecutive terms. The student member must be a full-time student at an accredited college or university at the time of his/her election.

2. Management Board. The management board shall consist of the chair, first vice-chair, second vice-chair, secretary-treasurer, the immediate past chair, and the student member.

3. Election of Officers. The nominating committee of the division shall nominate candidates annually for the office of second vice-chair, and every two years for the office of secretary-treasurer and the student member. Unless prohibited by extenuating circumstances, the current first vice-chair will advance to the office of chair for the following year, and the current second vice-chair will advance to the office of first vice-chair for the following year.
Nomination of a candidate to become a division officer also may be made in writing to the division secretary-treasurer by any four voting affiliates of the division in good standing who shall verify that the candidate is qualified and willing to serve in that office. The candidate's name will be forwarded to the chair of the nominating committee for consideration. Nominations shall be accepted if signed by the nominating affiliates and received by the secretary-treasurer no later than June 1, or earlier deadline if announced by the Board to the membership. After considering the nominations, the nominating committee shall present the management board with the names of the candidates to be voted on by the division membership at large. Elections are held by July 1; new officers are installed at the end of the annual division business meeting.

The election of officers shall be in accordance with the election procedures of the Society and shall be under the supervision of the Society. All provisions governing the election of officers of the Society, and which are applicable to the division, shall govern the election of officers of the division.

4. **Removal of a Management Board Officer.** Any officer of the division who fails to perform the duties prescribed in the bylaws, or who is convicted of a felony, or who brings discredit to the GSA or the Division in any way, may be removed from office by a unanimous vote of the other members of the management board of the division. Any officer of the division may make a motion for the impeachment of any other officer of the division. The officer who is the subject of an impeachment must be provided an opportunity to present arguments against the impeachment prior to any vote on the motion.

5. **Vacancies.** Any vacancy occurring during the term of any elected officer of the division shall be filled by an interim appointment of the Management Board, and such appointee shall serve until a successor is elected. Management board officers appointed on an interim basis are not eligible to advance to a higher office, or continue in their office for the remainder of a multi-year term, unless their appointment has been endorsed by the division membership. Such endorsement may be gained either by election or by an approved motion at the annual business meeting.

**ARTICLE V**

**Committees**

1. **Program Committee.** The division’s management board shall appoint a program committee consisting of two or more voting affiliates of the division.

The program committee shall plan and arrange for the technical sessions of the division at the GSA annual meeting and such other programs as may be directed by the management board.

The program committee chair, or someone designated by him/her, shall serve as the division's program representative on the GSA Council's joint technical program committee.
The program committee may plan research symposia to be held at various times and places and may appoint division representatives to organize and chair the symposia.

The program committee will be appointed annually. Committee members may be reappointed to serve a maximum of three years.

2. **Nominating Committee.** A nominating committee consisting of three voting affiliates of the division who are not members of the management board, including one who shall be designated committee chair, shall be appointed annually by the division chair. Upon rotation off the Management Board, the Past Past Chair should be considered the Nominating Committee Chair, subject to confirmation by the division chair.

The nominating committee shall nominate candidates annually for the office of the second vice-chair, and every two years for the office of secretary-treasurer and student member. The secretary-treasurer and student member should stand for election in opposite years.

The nominating committee will be appointed annually. Committee members may be reappointed to serve a maximum of three years.

3. **Other Committees.** The division chair, with the approval of the management board, may appoint other committee chairs. Appointment of committee members will be the responsibility of the respective committee chairs.

4. **Responsibility.** Reports, recommendations, or other actions by appointed committees, other than the nominating Committee, shall be subject to the approval of the management board. After such approval, the secretary of the division shall report appropriately to the Executive Director of the Society if the attention or action of the Council is required. Appointed committees shall present annual reports which shall be summarized in the annual report of the management board.

5. **Tenure.** Committee appointments shall expire at the close of the next annual meeting of the division, unless otherwise specified. Vacancies on committees may be filled by interim appointment at any time by the committee chair. Committee members may be reappointed to serve a maximum of three consecutive years.

**ARTICLE VI**

**Management**

1. **Management Board.** The management board shall manage the property and affairs of the division. At the annual business meeting, the management board shall submit a report of the preceding year's activities of the division that shall include the reports of the chair, the secretary-treasurer, and the reports of the various committees. Before February 15 of the following year, this report shall be submitted by the secretary-treasurer of the division to
the Executive Director of the Society. A summary of the report will be presented to the affiliates of the division in the division's newsletter.

2. **Chair.** The division chair shall preside at meetings of the division and the management board. At the annual business meeting, the chair shall submit a report to the management board on the activities of the division during his/her term of office and on future division plans.

3. **First Vice-Chair.** The first vice-chair shall assume the powers and duties of the chair in the event of the absence or disability of the chair.

4. **Second Vice-Chair.** The second vice-chair shall assume the position of chair whenever both the chair and the first vice-chair are not available.

5. **Secretary-Treasurer.** The secretary-treasurer shall keep records of the proceedings of the division and shall act as secretary of the management board. The secretary-treasurer shall maintain liaison with GSA Headquarters and shall serve, *ex officio*, as a member of all committees. The secretary-treasurer shall notify the officers and the members of the committees of their election or appointment and shall arrange for issuance of notices of all division and management board meetings. The secretary-treasurer shall arrange for the creation, distribution, collection, and tallying of division ballots and for the announcement of election results in the division newsletter. In addition, the secretary-treasurer shall account to the Council of the Society for all funds advanced by the Society. The secretary-treasurer shall collect and disburse all funds of the division and shall keep records of all receipts and disbursements and other financial transactions of the division.

6. **Student Member.** The student member of the Management Board shall represent the concerns of student members of the Division, participate in the meetings of the Management Board, and have a vote on any and all matters considered by the Management Board that require a vote.

7. **Past Chair.** Upon completion of his/her term in office, the chair shall assume the position of past chair for one year. The past chair shall serve as an advisor to the chair.

**ARTICLE VII**

**Meetings**

1. **Annual Business Meeting.** The annual business meeting of the division shall be held during the annual meeting of the Society. Awards or other special recognition by the division shall be presented at this meeting.

2. **Management Board Meetings.** The management board shall meet immediately prior to the annual business meeting. Special meetings of the management board may be called at any time by the division chair with the consent of a majority of the management board. Decisions may also be made by mail or electronic vote.
3. Technical Sessions. Technical sessions of the division shall be held during the annual and regional meetings of the Society. Cooperative meetings with other societies, or other special programs, may be held at any time, subject to the approval of the management board. The participation of non-members of the Society who are engaged or interested in the relationship and engagement of the geological sciences with the broad interests of general society shall be encouraged at all technical sessions.

4. Symposia. Research symposia of the division shall be held [proposed] during the annual meeting of the Society and may be held during regional meetings. The division’s program committee will appoint symposia chairs. The symposia chairs and the program committee will determine symposia topics.

5. Informal Meetings. The management board and program committee may schedule informal research meetings during the annual and regional meetings of the Society.

ARTICLE VIII
Division Newsletter

1. The division shall have newsletters published twice a year, spring and fall, which shall be distributed by means determined by the management board to all division affiliates.

2. The management board of the division shall appoint a newsletter editor who shall serve a three-year term of office with possible reappointment.

ARTICLE IX
Rules and Amendment of the Bylaws

1. The management board, by majority vote, may adopt, rescind, or amend rules supplementing the bylaws.

2. Bylaws of the division may be adopted, rescinded, or amended according to the following procedures: (a) approval by the management board, (b) approval by majority vote of voting affiliates of the division, and (c) ratification by the Council.

October 2007 – Language amended to conform to new GSA policy on who can vote and hold office.
August 2010 – Added language for filling Management Board vacancies during elected terms, Article IV, Section 5
March 2015 – Articles IV and VI amended to add Student Member to Management Board (dues increase approved in same election)
July 2016 – Articles IV and V amended for clarification and consistency, added language for removing a Management Board Officer, Article IV, Section 4