

# **Constitution for the UCLA Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences Graduate Student Association Chi Epsilon Pi**

14 November 2005

## **1 Statement of Purpose**

Broadly speaking, the goal of Chi Epsilon Pi ( $\Xi\epsilon\Pi$ ) is to support graduate students in the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences at UCLA. This can include social, academic, professional, service, and advocacy activities. It can also include activities that assist the atmospheric and oceanic sciences or broader community as a whole, instead of being specifically targeted to just graduate students in the UCLA Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences.

## **2 Statement of Nondiscrimination**

Chi Epsilon Pi, in accordance with applicable Federal and State law and University Policy, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, medical condition, (cancer related), ancestry, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, or status as a Vietnam era Veteran or special disabled Veteran.

Chi Epsilon Pi also prohibits sexual harassment. This non-discrimination policy covers organization membership, access to organization programs and activities, and the general treatment of members in the organization.

## **3 Membership**

Membership shall consist of all currently and previously registered graduate students in the UCLA Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences.

Membership is also extended to any other individuals who is a member of the UCLA community and who support the goals of this organization. However, individuals who are not currently or previously registered graduate students in the UCLA Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences can be denied membership if two-thirds of the existing membership present at a “serious business” meeting votes to do so (see “Procedures for Amending the Constitution” for a definition of a “serious business” meeting).

## **4 Eligibility for Voting Privileges and Voting Procedures**

Voting privileges are granted only to members who are currently registered graduate students at UCLA. All members present at an association meeting are eligible to vote. Votes may be taken

either by voice vote or written secret ballot. However, if any member requests a written secret ballot for a particular vote, that vote must be made by written secret ballot.

## **5 Organizational Structure**

Overall leadership of the group is provided by a presidency which shall consist of one to three members. The number of members in the presidency for that term is decided at the elections for the officers.

Additional officers of the organization include a Treasurer, a Faculty Representative, a GSA Representative, and a Computer Committee Representative. All these offices and the presidency are elected positions. Other committee representatives can be appointed by the presidency, with the approval of the other officers, as needed. A single individual can be elected to more than one of these offices.

Each officer serves for a term of 12 months, beginning with a new school year. Meetings at which officer elections occur must be “serious meetings.” Elections for the following year’s officers should be held during the summer before the start of the school year. There is no limit to the number of terms an officer can serve.

## **6 Financial Records Availability**

The financial records of the association are available to authorized University officials upon request. Additionally, all members have the right to examine the financial records of the association on request.

## **7 Procedures for Amending the Constitution**

Amendments must be passed by a minimum two-thirds majority of members present at a “serious business” meeting. A “serious business” meeting is any association meeting that was publically announced at least twenty-four hours before the meeting time. An e-mail announcement sent to the majority of graduate students currently registered in the department qualifies as a public announcement.

## **8 Amendments**

1. The office of Treasurer is hereby expanded to include the duties of Secretary of the organization. This expanded office is entitled “Treasurer/Secretary.” (May 15, 1996)
2. No association monies can be spent without the verbal or written approval of the Office of the President. (December 4, 1997)

3. The offices Treasurer/Secretary and GSA Representative are hereby reorganized into the new offices entitled “Secretary” and “Treasurer/GSA Representative.” Further, the latter office may be occupied by more than one person during a given term. (5 October 2005)