

Constitution for the Wildlife Graduate Students Society Humboldt State University

ARTICLE I

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be Wildlife Graduate Students Society (WiGSS).

ARTICLE II

Section 1. This organization was formed to achieve the following objectives:

1. To unify the wildlife graduate students and create a stronger connection between the students and the university.
2. To assist with the ecology lecture series.
3. To provide services and equipment for wildlife graduate students to assist with research, course work, thesis writing, and thesis publication.
4. To provide services and equipment that will benefit undergraduate students and other users of the Fisheries Building and Fisheries Building.
5. To provide peer support in terms of volunteer assistance with fieldwork, reviewing thesis proposals, thesis drafts, or other needs.
6. To provide a forum for addressing student concerns/frustrations, focusing strongly on working together to develop solutions.
7. To engage in some type of community involvement or philanthropic activities.

ARTICLE III

Section 1. This organization shall not be affiliated with any other organization.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1. Members of this organization must be graduate students in the Department of Wildlife Management (Master of Science in Natural Resources - Wildlife Option).

Section 2. Any person who meets the criteria of ARTICLE IV, Section 1 may be a member of this organization.

Section 3. Voting membership is restricted to matriculated, currently enrolled students, faculty, and staff at Humboldt State University.

Section 4. Voting membership and all officers must be matriculated, currently enrolled students, faculty, and staff at Humboldt State University.

Section 5. Membership in the organization will not be denied to anyone on the basis of race, religion, national origin, age, sex, disability, veteran's status, or sexual orientation, except as sanctioned by law (California Administrative Code, Title 5, Section 41500; Educational Amendments of 1972, Title IX).

ARTICLE V

Section 1. The officers of this organization shall be co-presidents (2), co-treasurers (2), and co-secretaries (2). The terms of office will be from the time of election until new officers take office immediately following the election.

Section 2. The organization will fill vacancies that occur in any office by a special election.

Section 3. All officers of this organization are matriculated, currently enrolled students at Humboldt State University.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1. The co-presidents shall manage all meetings, communicate with faculty, serve as official representatives for the organization, and resolve conflict within the organization.

Section 2. The co-secretaries shall record and distribute meeting minutes, maintain accurate records of all activities pertaining to the organization, draft official letters, facilitate communication between sub-committees, prepare e-mail and address lists for organization's members, and receive and tally election votes.

Section 3. Co-treasurers shall maintain organization's budget, make quarterly financial reports to the members, establish and maintain bank account, collect and disburse funds as directed by the organization, write checks, and organize fundraisers.

ARTICLE VII

Section 1. Nominations for officers shall be made from the floor at a regular meeting. Elections will be made one week following the nominations and announcement of election results will be made at the next regular meeting.

Section 2. Elections shall take place in October of Fall Semester each year.

Section 3. Members shall e-mail votes to one co-secretary, who has been previously designated to receive and tally votes. Designation of the co-secretary will be made during nominations.

Section 4. Any member of the organization shall be permitted to vote.

Section 5. Officers shall be elected by plurality vote.

ARTICLE VIII

Section 1. Installation of officers shall occur at the regular meeting at which election results are announced.

ARTICLE IX

Section 1. Regular meetings shall occur twice per month and shall be held in Wildlife 142. Meeting times shall be adjusted each semester so as to accommodate the largest number of members. Committee meetings shall be held on an as-needed basis. Locations and times of committee meetings will vary.

Section 2. Any member may call a special meeting. No elections shall be held at special meetings.

Section 3. Special meetings shall be announced to the membership by e-mail, one week prior to the meeting. Meeting announcements will be made by one of the co-secretaries.

Section 4. A quorum shall be 10% of the organization's members.

Section 5. The parliamentary authority of this organization shall be Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 6. There are no attendance rules.

ARTICLE X

Section 1. Any member may recommend committee formation. Any member may request to be a committee chairperson. In the event that more than one person wishes to be the chairperson of a particular committee, the chairperson will be decided by plurality vote.

Section 2. There are no regular or standing committees at this time. Committees will typically have three members.

ARTICLE XI

Section 1. No dues or fees shall be collected by this organization at this time.

ARTICLE XII

Section 1. Any member can originate an amendment to this constitution.

Section 2. An amendment to this constitution shall be read and discussed at two consecutive, regular meetings. Copies of the amendment shall be distributed to all members by e-mail. Voting on the amendment shall occur at the next regular meeting.

Section 3. Votes of two-thirds of the total membership of the organization are needed to adopt an amendment.

Section 4. The amendment becomes effective immediately after the announcement of voting results is made by one of the co-secretaries.

ARTICLE XIII

This constitution shall become the official governing document of the Wildlife Graduate Students Society of Humboldt State University, upon ratification by two-thirds majority vote of the membership, approval and acceptance by the Student Activities Club and Activities Coordinator and Club Coordinating Council of Humboldt State University.

Constitution/bylaws adopted: 29 November 1999