

CONSTITUTION
OF
THE FLORIDA SOCIETY OF GEOGRAPHERS, INC.

Article I – Name

The name of the organization shall be the Florida Society of Geographers.

Article II – Objectives

The objectives of the Society shall be to further professional investigations in geography and to encourage the application of geographic findings in education, government, and business in Florida. The Society shall support these objectives by promoting acquaintance and discussion among its members and with scholars and practitioners in related fields, by stimulating research and field investigation, by encouraging publication of scholarly studies, and by performing services to aid the advancement of its members and the field of geography in Florida.

Article III – Membership

Section 1. Members. The principle criterion of eligibility for membership shall be mature professional activity in the field of geography. This criterion shall be considered to have been met by an individual who possesses any one of the following qualifications:

- (a) an A.B., B.S., or higher degree in geography from a recognized college or university, or
- (b) significant professional contributions to the field of geography, or
- (c) training, work, and/or contributions in geography equivalent to either of the preceding groups in the opinion of the Membership Committee.

Section 2. Associate Members. Students and other persons who are actively interested in the objectives of the Society but who do not meet the qualifications for membership may become Associate Members on application to the Secretary and approval by the Membership Committee.

Section 3. Honorary Members. Honorary Membership may be granted to any individual who receives the unanimous approval of the Executive Committee and the Membership Committee, and is further approved by a two-thirds vote of the membership at the annual Business Meeting. Nominations for honorary membership are made by the Nominating Committee. The Governor of the State of Florida automatically becomes an Honorary Member upon his inauguration.

Section 4. Membership Rights.

- (a) Members.
All members shall have full voting rights and office holding rights.
- (b) Associate Members.
Associate Members shall have the same

rights as Members except to nominate, vote, and hold office.

(c) Honorary Members.

Honorary Members shall have the same rights as Members except to nominate, vote, and hold office.

(d) Mis-use of Affiliation.

Any Member, Associate Member, or Honorary Member who makes use of his affiliation with the Society in a manner considered improper by the Executive Committee may be suspended by that Committee after opportunity has been given the individual for a hearing before the Executive Committee, and may be expelled from the Society by a vote of the Executive Committee and a majority of Members voting at the next Business Meeting of the Society.

Article IV – Officers and Committees

Section 1. Elected Officers and Committees. The elected officers of the Society shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The duties of these officers shall be those normally pertaining to their various posts. The Executive Committee shall consist of the four officers named, and the immediate Past President as an ex-officio member. A Membership Committee of three members shall also be elected by the membership at the Annual Business Meeting. The terms of office shall be one year for President, Vice-President, and members of the Membership Committee and Nominating Committee; two years for Secretary and Treasurer; and three years for elected members of the Executive Committee. Elected officers and elected committeemen shall not be eligible for immediate reelection to the same office. The terms of the three elected members of the Executive Committee shall be arranged so that one will retire each year. The President will automatically become an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee for one year upon expiration of his term as President.

Section 2. Methods of Nomination and Election of Officers. The Nominating Committee shall make two or more nominations for each office. The Nominating Committee shall assure proper representation of the several interest of the membership. The Nominating Committee shall submit its slate of candidates to the Secretary at least 90 days prior to the next Annual Meeting of the Society. The Secretary shall immediately notify the membership of these nominations. Additional nominations may be made by petition of any ten Members of the Society if received by the Secretary at least 60 days prior to the announced date of the Annual Meeting. At least 30 days before the Annual Meeting the Secretary shall mail to all Members official ballots to be returned to the Secretary within 10 days and be counted by three tellers appointed by him from the list of Members. The Executive Committee shall have power to fill vacancies until the next election.

Section 3. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of the persons named under Section 1. The Executive Committee shall have power to transact all business of the Society and to assign specific responsibilities to the vari-

Changes in the Constitution proposed either by the Executive Committee or by Petition of ten Members may be made by affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Members voting at the Annual Business Meeting.

Article VIII Rules

Roberts Rules of Order shall govern all proceedings of the Society.

By-Laws

Section 1. Dues. All Members shall pay an annual fee of not less than three dollars nor more than ten dollars as determined by the Executive Committee. Associate Members shall pay an annual fee determined by the Executive Committee, but in no case shall it exceed the fee assessed Members. Honorary Members shall pay no annual fee. Members and Associate Members in arrears shall be dropped from the membership list of the Society after due notice according to procedures established by the Executive Committee. A Member or Associate Member in good standing at the time of resignation may be reinstated upon application to the Membership Committee. Members or associate Members dropped for non-payment of dues may be reinstated on payment of arrears for one year.

Section 2. Honors. The Society shall encourage meritorious achievements in geography by awarding honors in special recognition of outstanding contribution toward the advancement or welfare of the profession. The contributions might be in research, applied research, writing, teaching, committee or administrative work, collaborative work with non-geographers, or in other aspects of geographic professional work. Recognition may take the form of grants for further advancing or implementing the contributions already made, citations, medals, an annual honor roll or plaque, Honorary Membership, or other form appropriate to the purpose of such recognition. The Executive Committee shall sit as the Honors Committee when appropriate and shall have the power to make all honors awards except Honorary Membership, as provided by Article III, Section 3. At the Annual Meeting the Executive Committee shall announce any awards of such honors as it may have approved.

Section 3. Mail Vote. Matters of concern to the Society may be submitted by the Executive Committee to the membership for a mail vote at any time, except those matters that must be voted at the Annual Meeting as provided for in the Constitution.

Section 4. Publications. The Society shall issue such publications as the Executive Committee may determine.

Section 5. Amendments. The By-Laws may be amended by a majority of the Members voting at the Annual Meeting of the Society.

ous officers and committees of the Society. The Executive Committee is the final authority in all disputes arising within the Society and may designate certain committees to be elected by the Membership. The Executive Committee may delegate to officers authority to sign contracts. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year at the call of the President. Notices of Executive Committee meeting shall be sent out at least three weeks in advance. A majority of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4. Membership and Nominating Committees. A Membership Committee of three members shall be elected at the Annual Business Meeting of the Society. The Executive Committee shall make at least two nominations for each vacancy on the Membership Committee. These nominations shall be forwarded to the Secretary at least 90 days prior to the next Annual Meeting. The Secretary shall notify the membership of these nominations at least 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Section 5. Other Appointed Committees. The President may appoint other committees at his discretion, subject to procedures established by the Executive Committee.

Section 6. Editors. An Editor or Editors may be appointed by the Executive Committee for such term as it may determine.

Article V - Meetings

Section 1. Annual Meetings. The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held at such time and place as the Executive Committee may designate. The Executive Committee may arrange other meetings in addition to the Annual Meeting. Announcement of the time and place of meetings must be mailed to Members, Associate Members, and Honorary Members at least 30 days in advance.

Section 2. Business Meetings. A Business Meeting shall be held during the Annual Meeting. During this meeting, as per the Secretary's report, a summary of the actions of the Executive Committee shall be presented to the membership. Reports shall be presented also by the President, Treasurer, Editors, and the Chairmen of active committees. Any matter pertaining to the Society or its activities may be brought before Business Meetings for discussion.

Article VI - Local Chapters

Local Chapters may be authorized by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will establish the boundaries of each chapter. Each chapter shall have a Chairman and a Secretary-Treasurer, elected by Members of the Society residing within the jurisdiction of the chapter and subject to approval by the Executive Committee. The term of office for the chapter officers shall be one year, as defined in Article IV, Section 1. Local chapters may be disbanded for inactivity or other cause on recommendation of the Executive Committee and a majority vote of Members voting at the Annual Business Meeting of the Society.