

CONSTITUTION GREATER LOS ANGELES PROFESSIONAL CHAPTER OF THE SOCIETY OF HISPANIC PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, INCORPORATED

Article I. Name of Organization

The organization governed by this constitution shall be named the Greater Los Angeles Professional Chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Incorporated.

Article II. Purpose of Organization

The Purpose shall be stated and confirmed in the bylaws.

Article III. Objectives and Goals of the Organization

The objective shall be as stated and confirmed in the bylaws.

Article IV. Membership and Privileges

Membership shall be defined as stated and confirmed in the bylaws.

Article V. Executive Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall be defined as stated and confirmed in the bylaws.

Article VI. Elections and Term of Office

The term of office of the Executive Board of Directors shall be as stated and confirmed in the bylaws.

Article VII. Committees

The Committees shall be as stated and confirmed in the bylaws.

Article VIII. Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction shall be defined as stated and confirmed in the bylaws.

Article IX. Student Chapters

Student Chapters shall be defined as stated and confirmed in the bylaws.

Article X. Fiscal Year

The Fiscal Year of the Chapter shall begin on July 1st and end on June 30th of the subsequent year.

Article XI. Dues

Dues shall be established as stated and confirmed in the bylaws.

Article XII. Meeting

Meetings shall be held and defined as stated and confirmed in the bylaws.

Article XIII. Assets

In the event that the Chapter is dissolved, any assets shall become the property of the National Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Incorporated

Article XIV. Donations

Donations shall be defined as stated and confirmed in the bylaws.

Article XV. Liability of Members

No member of the chapter shall be personally or otherwise liable for any debts, liabilities, and/or obligations of the Chapter.

Article XVI. Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws

Amendments to the Constitution and bylaws shall occur as defined as stated and confirmed in the bylaws.

THE BY LAWS OF THE GREATER LOS ANGELES CHAPTER OF THE SOCIETY OF HISPANIC PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, INC.

Article I. Name of Organization

The name of this organization shall be the "Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Inc.". This organization may also be referred to as the "GREATER LOS ANGELES Professional Chapter" or as "SHPE L.A.", herein referred to as the Chapter.

Article II. Purpose of Organization

The purpose of the Chapter shall be to actively promote the policies, objectives, and programs of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Inc.; herein referred to as SHPE National.

Article III. Objectives and Goals of the Organization

The GREATER LOS ANGELES Professional Chapter is committed to providing professional, educational and cultural support in the community and promotes educational development programs that support the advancement of its members.

The objectives and goals of the Chapter shall be to:

1.0. Increase the number of Hispanics entering the fields of engineering, mathematics, physical and computer science, and other technical fields. These goals shall be implemented by:

1. School visitations
2. Hispanic community involvement
3. Workshops at local institutions
4. Help establish and sustain student chapters at Los Angeles area colleges and universities.

2.0. Develop programs that promote the advancement of Hispanic engineers and scientists in employment and education. These goals shall be implemented by:

1. Career/employment workshops
2. Technical seminars and symposiums.

3.0. Develop programs benefiting Hispanics seeking careers in engineering or technical fields.

These goals shall be implemented by:

1. Scholarships programs
2. Recruitment programs
3. Tutoring programs
4. Curriculum assistance.

4.0. Provide a forum for and to encourage (1) the exchange of technical information, (2) professional development, and (3) entrepreneurial opportunities.

5.0 Inform the general public of technical contributions and achievements of Hispanics by newsletters and awards programs.

Article IV. Membership and Privileges

1.0. Regular Membership

Regular members shall be entitled to cast one vote in the election (per Article VI) of officers and in all business that the Board of Directors (BOD) refers to the membership. Regular members may hold office (per Article VI) and may also nominate themselves or qualified individuals for Chapter and/or National Office.

Membership shall be determined after an application has been submitted and approved by the BOD concurrence.

2.0. Regular Student Members

Student Members shall be post-secondary school students who believe and support the purpose and objectives of the Chapter. Student Members shall be enrolled in a curriculum leading to a degree in either engineering, mathematics, physical and computer science or other technical field. Student Members shall either reside within or attend school within the Chapter's jurisdiction. Except for the Student Representative, Student Members cannot run for office or vote in Chapter elections.

3.0. Industrial/Organizational Members

Industrial/Organizational members shall be businesses or organizations, which support and pursue the objectives and goals of the Chapter.

Industrial/Organizational members shall not be entitled to vote nor hold office in the Chapter.

Industrial/Organizational members shall be extended all privileges of membership less those exempted above.

4.0. Termination of Membership

Any member may terminate his/her membership upon written notification of the effective date of resignation to the BOD. The Chapter may, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the entire membership, terminate a person's membership from the Chapter for any infraction of the bylaws, rules and/or regulations of the Chapter.

5.0 Associate Membership

An associate member shall be a person who believes and supports the purpose and objective of this corporation. He/she shall not be entitled to nominate, vote nor hold a position in the Board. Associated members shall be extended all privileges of a Regular/Professional member less those exempted above.

Article V. Board of Directors

1.0. Administration

The Board of Directors (BOD) consisting of the elected officers shall administer the affairs of the Chapter. The BOD operates and makes decisions based upon group majority rule and is presided over by the President. The BOD shall be responsible for all business concerning the Chapter. The BOD shall set and establish policy for the Chapter. The Administration of BOD policy and the management of the day-to-day affairs of the Chapter are delegated to the officers as specified herein.

2.0. The Elected Officers

The elected officers shall consist of a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and a Student Representative which collectively will be responsible for treasury and administrative activities, as well as, those defined in the subsequent paragraphs.

2.1. The President shall:

1. Represent the SHPE L.A. Chapter

2. Be the point of contact for the organizational and financial matters of the Chapter, as well as, all other business concerning the Chapter according to policies and guidelines set and approved by the BOD or the Chapter.
3. The President shall chair and preside at BOD, general, and special meetings.
4. The President and the BOD shall have full power in appointment or dismissal of any committee chair, and may create or dissolve ad hoc committees, subject to the approval of the majority of the BOD.
5. Be one of the two people (the other being the Treasurer) responsible to sign any documents related to financial matters, i.e. proposals, checks, etc.

2.2. The Vice-President shall:

1. Assist the President in all business concerning the chapter membership
2. Be responsible for the establishment of programs aimed at the professional and cultural development.
3. Co-Chair all meetings and chair meetings in the absence of the President
4. Assist the President and the board in business concerning the Chapter
5. Increase educational opportunities for Hispanic youth, especially in engineering, science, and mathematics, and assist local student chapters and their members in meeting their goals.

2.4. The Treasurer shall:

1. Assist the President and the board in business concerning the Chapter
2. Be responsible for the following:
3. Collection of dues.
4. Disbursement of authorized funds.
5. Banking and accounting of all Chapter funds.
6. Preparing monthly financial reports listing all liabilities and assets of the Chapter to the BOD.
7. Filing an annual financial report with the office of SHPE National.
8. All financial reports required by State and/or Federal Governments.
9. Transfer all financial reports in hard and electronic copy to the succeeding Treasurer within 30 days of termination of their term.
10. Maintaining contact with corporate sponsors and corporate members especially in the interest of dues collection.

2.5. The Secretary shall:

1. Maintain all official records of the Chapter.
2. Maintain the official membership roster.
3. Meet all National requirements in submitting membership forms and dues to National within 30 days of receiving.
4. Make proper entries in the books of the Chapter.
5. Serve all notices required by law or the Bylaws of the Chapter.
6. Coordinate the election of officers.
7. Transfer all official records of the Chapter in hard and electronic copy to the succeeding Secretary within 30 days of termination of their term.

2.6. The Student Representative shall:

1. Represent all the students in the Chapter's jurisdiction.
2. Communicate with Student Chapters in the jurisdiction on a regular basis.
3. Inform the board of the needs of the students in the Chapter's jurisdiction.
4. Be a Student Member of the Chapter for six months prior to running for office.

Article VI. Elections and Term of Office

1.0. The Elections Committee

The election of the Chapter Officers shall be organized and directed by the Elections Committee. The actions of the Committee must be impartial and fair to all the candidates. The Committee will prepare ballots to be distributed to all eligible regular members to vote for the Chapter Officers according to policies and procedures established by the Chapter. The Elections Committee shall notify the membership in a timely manner of the open offices and solicit nominations for candidates as prescribed below.

2.0. Nominations and Eligibility

The President and the BOD consisting of the Five Administrative positions shall be elected by a vote of eligible members. Each candidate must have been an official SHPE Professional member for at least ONE fiscal year in order to be nominated. A candidate may nominate him/herself with a petition and one (1) signature from regular members or may nominate a candidate with a petition and one(1) signature from regular members. The name of the candidates must be submitted to the Elections Committee. The election process starts on March 1 and ends on June 30.

2.1. Voter Eligibility

Regular Members may participate in the election process if their membership dues are paid either to the National Office or to any BOD member by February 15 of the election year. Each student chapter in the Chapter's Jurisdiction shall have 1 vote for the Student Representative only.

2.2. Candidate Eligibility

A Regular or Associate member is eligible to hold office if he/she:

1. Meets the requirements as per Article IV.
2. Has paid his/her membership dues as of February 15 of the election year.

3.0. Election of Officers

1. The Board of directors shall approve procedures for the elections of officers. The elections may be either in person or by mail.

4.0. Duration of Term

The President and Vice President shall serve two year terms elected on even numbered years. The Secretary and Treasurer shall serve two year terms elected on odd numbered years. In the election of 2002, the Secretary and Treasurer shall serve on a one year term. No Officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office. The Student Representative shall have a one year term.

5.0. Removal From Elected BOD

A BOD member may be removed from office by a recall election for not fulfilling his/her duties as specified in Article V or by membership termination (Article IV Section 7.0).

5.1. Removal of BOD Members

A candidate for recall can be nominated by submitting a petition to the President and a copy separately to any of one other officer on the BOD. The petition must be signed by a minimum of fifty-one (51) percent of the regular membership. The BOD must appoint an ad hoc recall elections committee as soon as possible or no later than the next scheduled BOD meeting after the petition is received by the officers. The recall election committee shall validate the petition signatures and upon validation a recall election will be organized and conducted within thirty (30) days of the recall election committee's formation. A simple majority of the votes of regular

members is necessary to recall any BOD member. A meeting notice per Article XII Section 5.0 shall be delivered.

6.2. Terminated BOD Members

Any BOD member who has been recalled by the membership or whose membership has been terminated is automatically vacated from Chapter Office and from the BOD and must surrender all materials belonging to the Chapter. A President who is recalled from office is not considered as an Immediate Past President for the succeeding term. Should the President be recalled, the Treasurer of the BOD shall assume the office of President for the remainder of the term and shall be the Immediate Past President for the succeeding term.

7.0. Vacancies

The order of succession shall prevail in the event of a vacancy in any office due to death, resignation, disqualification, or otherwise. The resulting vacancy must be filled by the BOD within thirty (30) days of the vacancy for the unexpired portion of the term.

Article VII. Committees

The BOD shall have the power to establish any committee to conduct the business of the Chapter. The President may appoint, with BOD concurrence, any member in good standing to chair such a committee. The assessment of need and creation of a committee should be through the BOD and President's consent.

Article VIII. Jurisdiction

1.0 Geographic Boundaries

The Chapter shall exercise its jurisdiction over Los Angeles County excluding the San Fernando Valley. The Chapter will accept members from throughout Southern California regardless of whether they live or work within the Chapter's jurisdiction.

2.0 Jurisdiction Changes

The Chapter's jurisdiction may be reduced in geographic size if new chapters evolve within Chapter jurisdiction and are officially approved and recognized by SHPE National. In this case, these areas or portions thereof that can best be served by the new chapter as determined by its members shall be subject to jurisdiction transfer to the new chapter.

Article IX. Student Chapters

1.0 Student Chapters

Student Chapters may be established at universities, colleges, community colleges, and technical schools providing a formal curriculum leading to a degree in engineering, mathematics, science or other technical field. Application for the establishment of a Student Chapter shall be reviewed for approval by SHPE National Student Affairs Committee (NSAC). Student Chapters shall be organized according to the current SHPE National Guidelines on Student Chapter Development. SHPE National policies supersede any local policies regarding the Student Chapters.

2.0 Responsibilities of Student Chapters

It shall be the responsibility of Student Chapters, within the Professional Chapter's jurisdiction, to provide the Professional Chapter with the following information:

- 2.1. A copy of the Student Chapter's calendar of events with thirty (30) days of the start of the semester, or twenty (20) days from the start of the quarter.
- 2.2. A copy of the Student Chapter's official roster no later than sixty (60) days after the start of the Student Chapter's academic year for those Student Chapter's on the semester system or forty-five (45) days if on the quarter system.

In addition, periodic updates to the calendar of events and official roster are to be forwarded to the Chapter on a timely basis.

Article X. Fiscal Year

1.0 Duration of Fiscal Year

The Fiscal Year of the Chapter shall begin on July 1st and end on June 30th of the subsequent year.

Article XI. Dues

1.0 Dues

Dues are as follows:

- 1.1. The amount of annual dues for each membership category shall be determined by SHPE National. Dues are to be paid directly to the Chapter. The Chapter will forward a portion of the dues to SHPE National per the current SHPE National policy.
- 1.2. Dues shall be payable to the Chapter before the nominations meeting of each year.
- 1.3. Members who send dues directly to National are responsible for notifying the Secretary to ensure inclusion in Chapter roster.

Article XII. Meeting

1.0 Quorum

To establish a quorum for a General, or BOD meeting, not less than one half (1/2) of the individuals must be present. Voting issues shall be determined by majority vote of members present.

2.0 General Meetings

At least three (3) general meetings shall be held each fiscal year.

4.0 BOD Meetings

The BOD shall meet at least every month during the fiscal year. Members may attend as non-voting observers.

5.0 Special Meetings

The President or any two members of the BOD can call a special meeting of the Chapter general membership.

6.0 Meeting Notices

A meeting notice shall be delivered to each member. The notice shall include the agenda, place, date and time of the meeting and shall be delivered in writing or electronic form not less than ten (10) or more than thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

7.0 Meeting Rules

All meetings shall adhere to "Robert's Rules of Order".

Article XIII. Assets

1.0 Assets

In the event that the Chapter is dissolved, any assets shall become the property of the National Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Incorporated

Article XIV. Donations

1.0 Chapter Donations

The Chapter, a non-profit organization, may accept donations from corporations and other organizations and host fund raising banquets and events for Chapter programs and activities consistent with SHPE National policy.

2.0 Foundation Donations

Donations for Educational Grants and other education purposes under the auspices of SHPE Foundation, a 501(c3) non-profit organization, shall be referred directly to SHPE Foundation consistent with SHPE National policy.

Article XV. Liability of Members

1.0 Liability

No member of the BOD or Chapter shall be personally or otherwise liable for any debts, liabilities, and/or obligations of the Chapter.

Article XVI. Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws

1.0 Amendment Procedure

- 1.1. A motion to amend the constitution must first be made, entertained, and approved by the BOD.
- 1.2. The proposed amendment, after BOD approval, shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary for presentation to the regular membership.

2.0 Chapter Approval

Chapter approval of proposed amendments shall be by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of Regular Members.

3.0 SHPE National Approval

After Chapter approval, proposed amendments shall be submitted to SHPE National for approval.

4.0 Date of Effect

All amendments to this constitution shall become effective immediately after SHPE National approval.

This revision, was approved by a 2/3 vote of the members of the Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers on

Date

President, Michael Márquez

Revisions:

1. Associate membership addition. 8/20/03