

# CONSTITUTION of the VIRGINIAS' REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE STUDENT CHAPTERS of the AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

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Adopted: April 2, 2004	Revised: April 8, 2005
Revised: April 13, 2007	Revised: April 18, 2008
Revised: April 17, 2009	Revised: April 10, 2010
Revised: April 15, 2011	Revised: March 30, 2012

An important part of each Regional Conference is the revised and, if necessary, the revision of the Conference's constitution. Webster defines constitution as: "A written instrument embodying the rules of a political or social organization."

## Preamble

We the members of the Virginias Regional Conference of Student Chapters of the American Society of Civil Engineers, in order to foster desirable relations among the Student Chapters and among the student bodies of our respective schools and to further the knowledge of the standards and ethics of the engineering professions, do ordain and establish this constitution for the Virginias Conference of Student Chapters of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

## Article I

### Section 1:

Members shall include:

- a) Bluefield State College
- b) Fairmont State University
- c) George Mason University
- d) George Washington University
- e) Howard University
- f) Marshall University
- g) Old Dominion University
- h) The Catholic University of America
- i) University of the District of Columbia- Van Ness Campus
- j) University of Virginia
- k) Virginia Military Institute
- l) Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
- m) West Virginia University
- n) West Virginia University Institute of Technology

## Section 2:

Any member school finding that for geographical or other consideration it cannot take part in the conference may petition the conference to be released from said conference. Inability to attend the meeting of conference may not be considered sufficient reason for such action. Release shall be granted upon acceptance of such petition by the ASCE Committee on Student Activities. That Chapter's name shall then be withdrawn from Article I, Section 1.

## Section 3:

Invited guests are encouraged but will not be official voting members or be eligible for awards.

# **Article II**

## Section 1:

New members or previously released members shall be admitted upon the favorable vote of two-thirds of the member Chapters, and when admitted they shall be added to the roster of Article I, Section 1.

## Section 2:

The Executive Committee will consist of two school delegates composed of one student delegate and one official faculty or practitioner advisor from each Chapter. The Executive Committee will be chaired by the Host Chapter.

## Section 3:

Voting on the Executive Committee shall be by Chapter. Each Chapter will have only one vote.

## Section 4:

The permanent headquarters of Virginias' Regional Conference shall be the Student Chapter of ASCE at Virginia Military Institute where the files of the conference shall be kept in an organized fashion in a safe and dry location. The faculty advisor and student chapter officers of said Chapter shall be responsible for the storage of files. All correspondence should be sent to attention of the ASCE Faculty Advisor and Chapter President at the Following:

American Society of Civil Engineers

ATTN: ASCE Faculty Advisor or ASCE Student President

Address: Virginia Military Institute, 609 Nichols Hall, Lexington, VA 24450

Phone Number: 540-464-7364

Email: [NewhouseCD@vmi.edu](mailto:NewhouseCD@vmi.edu)

## Section 5:

The headquarters of the Virginias' Regional Conference can be relocated by an amendment to this constitution.

## **Article III**

### Section 1:

Commencing in 2005, the Regional Conference (including the required elements of the business meeting and the paper presentation competition) and the optional ASCE/AISC Steel Bridge Competition and ASCE/MBT Concrete Canoe Competition shall be hosted on a rotation basis according to the list at the end of this Section. In case a Chapter feels that it is not able to sponsor and host the conference, that Chapter may be voluntarily passed over or they may switch years with another Chapter by mutual consent. This event shall be hosted in April or late March, only after contacting all schools to avoid spring break, the Fundamentals of Engineering exam, or other relevant scheduling conflicts.

- a) 2007 Virginia Military Institute
- b) 2008 West Virginia University Institute of Technology
- c) 2009 Old Dominion University
- d) 2010 The Catholic University of America
- e) 2011 West Virginia University
- f) 2012 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
- g) 2013 Howard University
- h) 2014 University of Virginia

### Section 2:

A chapter is expected to attend conferences two years prior to hosting conference as scheduled. A Chapter that fails to attend the full conference will not be able to host the conference the following year. In this situation, the host schools will simply be shifted up one year to fill the gap of the non-attending school.

## **Article IV**

Each member Chapter shall contribute \$100 towards the cost of arranging the conference, even if not in attendance. The \$100 school fee shall be remitted by each chapter not less than 30 days before the date of the conference.

The Host Chapter may also charge a registration fee per student/faculty participant attending the conference not to exceed \$75. Additional guest registration may be offered at the host school's discretion. The cost for outside guests is also set at the discretion of the host school's planning committee.

## **Article V**

### Section 1:

The Student Chapter selected to be Host shall have full charge of the details of the conference. To be eligible for the national concrete canoe competition and/or the national steel bridge competition, the school must participate in both a written paper competition and an oral presentation competition. The host schools can provide these activities in one of the following ways:

*Option 1:*

Typical papers for this regional conference follow the established standards of the Marr Paper competition or the Daniel W. Mead national paper.

Typical presentation is the Hardy Cross. The Virginias' Regional Conference traveling trophy (\$500 total) shall be awarded based on the HARDY CROSS ORAL presentation and presented to the winner's school. It is the responsibility of the previous year's winner, complete with appropriate engraving with their winners' information. It is the responsibility to provide a minimum 6"x8" wall plaque (or other suitable recognition) to the winning school for permanent display on their campus.

*Option 2:*

An alternative paper and presentation with competition details may be offered at the discretion of the host school. These may be merged into one competition at the discretion of the host school.

Section 2:

It is the responsibility of the host school to maintain all records relative to the regional conference, including attendance, financial statement, contacts, agendas, revised constitution, etc. Host school shall provide copy documentation within 60 days to the next host and also one file copy to the permanent Regional Conference headquarters.

## **Article VI**

Section 1:

This constitution may be amended by a three-quarters vote of eligible voters on the Executive Committee.

Section 2:

Any Chapter that fails to attend the Regional Conference two years in a row will be considered ineligible to vote. For official attendance of a Chapter to be recognized, at least two people from a Chapter's executive committee must be present for required events of the business meeting and a paper presentation competition.

Section 3:

The privilege to vote can be reinstated upon petition and approval of two thirds of the Executive Committee.

Section 4:

This Conference Constitution shall be reviewed on an annual basis at the required Annual Business Meeting of the Virginias' Regional Conference. Updates shall be made on an annual basis regarding host school rotations. Revisions will require a vote as noted above and signatures of current representatives.

Host school shall provide a copy of this revised constitution within 60 days to the next year's host and also one file copy to the permanent Regional Conference headquarters.

## **Article VII**

The host school of the current Conference is responsible for transporting supplies that will be of use to the following host school for the next year's Conference. It is the host of the following year's Conference's responsibility to provide transportation for those supplies to their school. The supplies transported from school to school will become a conference set of supplies and continuously be transported each year to the next host school.

## **Article VIII**

The head judge for the Concrete Canoe and Steel Bridge competitions are required to have previously judged a Regional Competition at least once and attended a National Competition; but not necessarily been a judge. All other judges required for each competition will be selected by the host school depending upon their belief that each person participating has the necessary requirements to judge knowledgably and fairly.

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### **Signatories:**

School

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Student Representative Name

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