

Master of Environmental Studies Student Association Constitution

Article I. Name

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the “Master of Environmental Studies Student Association (MESSA).”

Article II. Purpose

Section 1. The purpose of the organization shall be:

1. to function as a student organization;
2. to endorse participation in the organization;
3. to promote environmental awareness in the local community
4. to encourage professional growth among our membership

Article III. Membership and Dues

Section 1. Membership of this organization shall be open to all College of Charleston students enrolled in the Master of Environmental Studies (MES) program, MES alumni, faculty and (*people associated with the program who are not actually faculty*).

Section 2. Membership shall be maintained by dues as decided by the membership.

Article IV. Officers

Section 1. The officers of the organization shall consist of a president, a vice president, a secretary, a treasurer, a social chair, an outreach coordinator a science track representative and a policy track representative.

Section 2. Duties and Powers:

- a. The duties of the president shall be to preside at all meetings, to call special meetings, to appoint ad hoc committees and to communicate concerns of the student body to the MES Program Director.
- b. The duties of the vice president shall be to perform all duties of the president in his/her absence, to chair the orientation committee and chair ad-hoc committees.
- c. The duties of the secretary shall be to keep accurate, permanent records of the minutes and proceedings of the organization, to take charge of all correspondence, to notify all members of meetings and to promote MESSA organized activities.
- d. The duties of the treasurer shall be to keep accurate and complete records of all monetary transactions, to collect dues and social event fees, and to chair the finance committee.
- e. The duties of the social chair shall be to organize and execute MESSA social functions; specifically, but not limited to, the Fall Oyster Roast and the Spring Fling.
- f. The duties of the public relations liaison shall be to promote awareness of MESSA on the College of Charleston campus and local community

thorough participation in community service projects (such as ASHRAE, Habitat for Humanity, and Sustainable Charleston), promotion of environmental education, as well as any other related activities.

- g. The duties of the outreach coordinator shall be to promote awareness of MESSA on the College of Charleston campus and local community through participation in community service projects (such as Adopt-a-Highway, SCORE, and Beach Sweep), promotion of environmental education, as well as any other related activities.

Section 3. Elections of Officers

- a. Officers must be able to attend all meetings and activities sponsored by MESSA, and remain in good academic standing as described by the College.
- b. The candidates shall be nominated in the following manner: nominations from the floor.
- c. Voting shall be by ballot, standing vote, show of hands, oral vote, etc., as decided by the group.
- d. A simple majority of votes cast shall be necessary for election.

Article V. Faculty/Staff Consultant/Advisor

Section 1. The selection of an advisor is at the discretion of the association. The advisor appointment shall be reviewed yearly or upon permanent vacation by the faculty/ staff advisor.

Section 2. All registered student organizations are required to have a faculty/staff advisor. This person must be a full-time University of Charleston South Carolina employee.

Article VI. Meetings

Section 1. The Master of Environmental Studies Student Association shall meet as decided by the organization.

Article VII. Quorum

Section 1. To constitute a quorum to transact business requires $\frac{3}{4}$ of the membership.

Article VIII. Amendments

Section 1. Proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing and read at a regular meeting and shall be acted upon at the following meeting.

Section2. The constitution may be amended by a majority vote of $\frac{2}{3}$ of those members present at the meeting.

Article IX. Ratification

Section 1. A $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of those present at the first meeting of the newly formed organization will be necessary to ratify this constitution.

