Environmental & Water Resources Institute (EWRI) Student Chapter
Constitution & Bylaws

Article I: Name and Location

1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the Environmental and Water Resources Institute (EWRI) Graduate Student Chapter at the University of Kentucky.

2. Location. The principal place of business and location of the chapter shall be at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY.

3. Chapter status. The Chapter shall be included on the university’s tax exemption OR operated as an unincorporated nonprofit association.

4. Intention. It is the intention of this Chapter to conduct its affairs in conformity and harmony with the American Society of Civil Engineers National Constitution, Bylaws, Rules of Policy and Procedures or Code of Ethics or the EWRI national Bylaws and the policies and procedures of the University of Kentucky.

Article II: Objective and Purposes

1. Chapter. This Chapter shall be a not-for-profit, professional organization for students with interest in environmental engineering or water resources engineering.

2. Purposes. The objective of the EWRI UKY graduate student chapter shall be to promote the common professional interests of its members, aid students to get access to the regional network of civil and environmental engineering professional network, develop professional skills, encourage interdisciplinary academic backgrounds in the fields of sustainability and water resources engineering, and to further the purposes of the EWRI through not-for-profit activities.
Article III: Membership

1. Membership. All members of the EWRI University of Kentucky Chapter shall be EWRI student members. Open to any and all members of the UK community. Individuals shall be provided chapter membership, if they meet the criteria for membership established by the EWRI, students who are working full- or part-time toward a graduate degree at the University of Kentucky, who are in good standing with the university, and who are interested in environmental engineering, water resources, or related professions. Undergraduate students are welcome to participate, but they are not eligible for full membership.

2. Voting Privileges. Each member of the Chapter, who is present at a membership meeting of the Chapter, shall be entitled to one vote.

3. Dues. No dues will be charged by the organization.

Article IV: Meetings of Chapter Membership

1. Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of the Chapter shall be held monthly at such dates and times as the Chapter Board shall determine. Notice of regular meetings shall be given to members at least 7 days prior to the meeting to all chapter members of record.

2. Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called by the Chapter Board of Directors, or by petition delivered to the Secretary of 25% of the chapter membership eligible to vote. Notice of special meetings shall be given to members seven days prior to the meeting. No other business shall be discussed at the special meeting, other than that stated in the notice.

3. Elections. The regular chapter meeting in April/May, and shall be for the purposes of electing officers, receiving reports of officers and committees, and such other business of the chapter. Notice of the Annual Meeting shall be given, as provided in Article V, Item 1. A simple majority (51%) is needed for election into an officer position. If a tie occurs, the officers shall vote to break that tie. A simple majority is needed.
4. Quorum. 51% of the members of the Chapter who are eligible to vote, as long as it represents at least a third of the members, will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting.

Article V: Officers

1. Composition. The Board of Officers of the chapter shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

2. Advisors. The Chapter shall be assisted by a Faculty Advisor, who will work with the chapter on campus in an advisory capacity.

3. General Authority. The Board of Officers shall manage, supervise, and control the business, property, and affairs of the Chapter, and be vested with the authority to determine the policies of the Chapter, consistent with those of EWRI and the University.

4. Quorum. A majority of the duly elected members of the Chapter Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Chapter Board of Officers.

5. Term of Office. A member of the Board of Officers will serve a one year term, with a maximum of two consecutive terms.

6. Vacancies. In the event of a vacancy, an individual shall be selected by the Chapter Board of Officers to complete the term.

7. President: The President shall conduct all meeting, appoint all committees and conduct all business. The President has signature authority over the chapter’s checkbook. The President shall also set times and dates for all chapter meetings and shall make appropriate accommodations. The President shall also complete and submit the Annual Report.

8. Vice President: The Internal Vice President is in charge of organizing any social events or field trips. The Internal Vice President shall also assist the Secretary to maintain accurate minutes of chapter meetings and receive all correspondence. The Internal Vice President will also keep an ongoing list of members and their National Member Numbers.
9. **Secretary:** The secretary shall maintain accurate minutes off chapter meetings and receive all correspondence. The secretary will also keep an ongoing list of chapter members and their National Member Numbers. It also the duty of the secretary to complete and submit the Annual Report to National ASCE in conjunction with the President.

10. **The Treasurer shall maintain all funds for the society and update the President on current financial outcomes.** The treasurer also has signature authority over the check book. It is the responsibility of the Treasurer to properly document members who have paid their member dues.

11. **At least one faculty advisor shall be involved with the chapter.** This member has no voting privileges. The advisor shall be a member of the University of Kentucky faculty who will serve as a connection between the university, student members, the Department of Civil Engineering, and the parent chapter.

**Article VI: Elections**

1. **Procedures.** Elections shall be held every April to determine new officers. Student members will nominate fellow student members for each position. A simple majority (51%) is needed for election into an officer position. If a tie occurs, the officers shall vote to break that tie. A simple majority is needed.

2. **Ties.** If voting results in a tie, the sitting Executive Board will vote amongst themselves. If this also results in a tie, the President will have final say.

3. **New officers will be informed of duties and are to be transitioned by the former officer who held that title, if possible.**

4.

**Article VII: Amendments**

1. **Amendments to this constitution shall be proposed at a meeting and voted on at that same meeting.** A majority (>50%) is needed to pass the proposed amendment. The approved amendment will take effect immediately.

**Article VIII: Parliamentary Authority**
The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order* shall govern the Chapter in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws, any special rules of order the Chapter or its board may adopt, state law, or any rules and regulations promulgated by the University.