

## BY – LAWS

### **Article I - Entrance fees and dues**

#### *Section 1 - Entrance fee*

All membership categories except of honorary members pay an entrance fee, the amount of which is to be determined annually by the Council.

The Secretary shall notify a candidate found suitable for membership in writing and the Treasurer shall collect from this candidate a relevant membership fee (depending on membership category) for the calendar year of his election, in accordance with section 2 hereof.

#### *Section 2 - Dues*

Every member, with the exception of honorary members, is required to pay a membership fee, the amount of which is to be determined annually by the Council. The fee is also to be paid for the business year in which the entry or withdrawal from the Society occurs. Student and senior members pay a reduced membership fee. The annual fee shall, based on membership category include subscription to electronic version and/or printed version of Mineralium Deposita and SGA Newsletter for one year. New members admitted prior to October 1 in any year shall pay full dues for the current calendar year and shall receive upon request all the issues of Mineralium Deposita for that year. Those elected subsequent to September 30 in any year shall pay no dues for the balance of the year, nor shall they be entitled to receive Mineralium Deposita for that year, except by separately paid subscription. Dues shall be payable in advance of January 1 without bank charges for the Society. A notice shall be mailed to each member before the preceding October 1, stating the amount of the dues, the conditions in case of default of payment, and the amount of penalties possibly due on that account.

A member who fails to pay his dues before January 31 shall be dropped from the mailing list of Mineralium Deposita. A member who pays his dues after January 1 shall be restored to the mailing list, and shall not be entitled to receive any issues of Mineralium Deposita that he may miss during the postponement of payment. Members having outstanding debts will be admonished twice a year with a payment respite.

### **Article II - Termination of membership, resignation, expulsion and reinstatement**

Membership expires through:

- death of a personal member
- termination of a non-personal member
- resignation
- expulsion

#### *Section 1 - Resignation*

Any member may resign from the Society at any time. Such resignation shall be in writing and shall be accepted by the Council, subject to payment of all outstanding dues and obligations of the resigning member.

## *Section 2 - Expulsion*

(2.1) Any member who is more than two years in arrear in the payment of dues shall be dropped from membership of the Society. The time for payment of delinquent dues in any individual case may be extended by unanimous vote of the Council. In the latter case, the claim of the Society on the outstanding dues still remains effective. The deletion from membership will be annulled as soon as the required payments are made.

(2.2) Any member, who after being granted a hearing by the Council, shall be found guilty of violation of established professional ethics, may be expelled from the Society by a three-quarter majority vote of the Council. The member thus expelled may demand that this decision be submitted for a decision by the General Assembly which decides by a secret simple majority vote. This decision shall be final.

## *Section 3 - Reinstatement*

Any person who has ceased to be a member under Sections 1 or 2.1 of this article may be reinstated after the payment of any outstanding dues and obligations which were incurred prior to the date on which he ceased to be a member of the Society.

# **Article III - Nomination and election of Officers and Councillors**

## *Section 1 - Nomination*

The Nominating Committee shall, during the first year of tenure of the President, ask Council and the membership at large for suggestions pertaining to the nomination of candidates for each office to be filled, and transmit its nominations to the Secretary prior to February 1 of the following year.

Nominees must have shown their commitment to, and interest in, the Society prior to their nomination, e.g. through membership of SGA. Any member may nominate other members for an elective office provided such nomination shall have been endorsed by the signature of twenty-five (25) or more members and shall have been received in writing by the Secretary prior to February 1 of the second year of tenure of the President. The Secretary will, within two months, submit in writing the nominations to the Council for approval. In the case of one or more nomination(s) not having received approval, the Nominating Committee, in consultation with Council, must provide alternative nominations to be decided upon and approved by Council prior to July 1 of the second year of tenure of the President.

## *Section 2 - Elections*

The election of officers and Councillors shall be by secret ballot prior to October 15 of the voting years. The ballot shall show the names of all persons duly nominated and the last date on which properly marked ballots will be accepted for counting, which date shall not be less than thirty (30) days after call for elections. Election is by simple majority vote.

## *Section 3 - Election of President and Vice-President*

The Vice-President shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee, in consultation with the Council generally from those who are, or have been, members of Council prior to April 1 of the voting years. His/Her name shall be included in the balloting paper distributed to voting SGA

members. After his/her two-year term of office, the Vice-President shall normally be nominated for the office of President. The election process follows the procedure outlined in Article III, section 2.

## **Article IV - Publications**

### *Section 1*

Official publications of the Society are:

- (1) The journal *Mineralium Deposita* as its official bulletin, which shall be issued in several numbers per year (= one volume) and provided to all members of the Society. According to the agreement of January 18<sup>th</sup>, 1975, the journal is a property of the Springer-Verlag GmbH & Co.KG, Berlin - Heidelberg - New York.
- (2) The series of the "Special Publication(s)" which will be published occasionally under the editorial regulations of the Society.

The "Special Publication(s)" are available for the members at a reduced rate.

### *Section 2*

- (1) The publications of the Society are managed by the Chief Editor(s) in close co-operation with the SGA Council and the publishers. Editors are nominated by the Council with 2/3 (two thirds) majority.

The edition and production of single issues (numbers) of the "Special Publication(s)" can be assigned by the Council to other persons and companies with the approval of the Editor(s).

- (2) An Editorial Board shall support the Chief Editor(s) in their various tasks, e.g. stimulating submissions of papers from diverse fields, recommending referees for special contributions, and consulting in critical cases of declination of papers.

The Editorial Board shall consist of fifteen (15) to twenty five (25) members each to serve for a four (4) years term. The members are nominated by the Chief Editor(s) and may be renominated.

## **Article V - Committees**

### *Section 1 - Appointment*

The following standing committees are recognized: Executive Committee, and Nominating Committee. The Committees will serve for terms of two years.

The President shall, with the exception of the Executive Committee, appoint the members of the standing Committees that are to serve during his term as President. He/She will also appoint the Committee Chairperson.

The President shall designate all special Committees needed ad hoc by the Council and shall designate their respective Chairperson.

### *Section 2 - Executive Committee*

The purpose, duties and composition of the Executive Committee are outlined in Art. IX of the Statutes.

### *Section 3 - Nominating Committee*

The Nominating Committee shall consist of three members, of whom two shall be chosen from the membership-at-large, and one from the membership of the Council to serve as Chairperson.

## **Article VI - Rules of the Council**

The Council may adopt rules to carry on the affairs of the Society. Such rules shall be in conformity with the Statutes and the By-Laws of the Society and shall be published in the News of the Society.

## **Article VII - Amendments of the By-Laws**

The By-Laws may be amended by a three-quarter majority ballot vote of the Council. The proposed amendments shall be communicated to the voting members of the Council in writing at least sixty days prior to such vote.

## **Article VIII - Business year**

The business year of the Society is the calendar year.

## **Article IX- Registered Office**

The registered office of the Society shall be:

Department of Earth Sciences  
University of Geneva  
11, rue des Maraîchers  
CH-1205 GENEVE 4 (Switzerland)

The “Department of Earth Science“ is in no aspect responsible for the Society.