

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS FOR THE ENGINEERING STUDENT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

PREAMBLE

The mission of the ESLC is to support all engineering student organizations in their academic and professional development through the strategic coordination of selected activities common to all College of Engineering student organizations. The ESLC also serves as a forum for communications between the College of Engineering administration and the student body.

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be officially known and designated as the Engineering Student Leadership Council, herein referred as the ESLC.

ARTICLE II – UNIVERSITY COMPLIANCE

The ESLC shall be recognized as a student organization at The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) that will adhere to all campus policies as set forth in the Handbook of Operating Procedures as outlined by the Office of the Vice President for Business Affairs and the Registered Student Organization Handbook as outlined by the Student Engagement & Leadership Center.

ARTICLE III – UNIVERSITY POLICIES

SECTION 1. Non-Discrimination Policy

In accordance with the UTEP Registered Student Organization Handbook, the ESLC shall not deny membership on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, disability, citizenship, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, except that a registered student organization created primarily for religious purposes may restrict the right to vote or hold office to persons who subscribe to the registered student organization's statement of faith; and a registered student organization may restrict membership based on the provisions of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

SECTION 2. Prohibition Of Hazing Policy

Hazing in state educational institutions is prohibited by both state law (Sections 51.936, 37.151 (5) and (6), and 37.155, Texas Education Code) and by the Rules and Regulations of The Board of Regents of The University of Texas System, Series: 50101, Section 2.8). The ESLC and individuals engaging in hazing could be subject to fines and charged with criminal offenses. Additionally, the law does not affect or in any way restrict the right of the University to enforce its own rules against hazing. For more information on UTEP's hazing policy, please visit UTEP's Handbook of Operating Procedures, Chapter 1, Section 1.2.3(g).

SECTION 3. Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs and activities at the university unless such programs and activities are specifically exempt from the law. The university is required to be in compliance with the provisions of Title IX. Therefore, compliance with Title IX is a condition to be a registered student organization at the university. Since passage of this law and the publication of the implementing regulations, the U. S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights has evolved a rather clear set of criteria for determining when single sex organizations are exempt from the provisions of Title IX. The criteria are as follows: the organization must have tax-exempt status under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code; members must be limited to students, staff, or faculty at The

University of Texas at El Paso; the organization must be a "social fraternity" as defined by the Department of Education.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP & ELIGIBILITY

SECTION 1. Texas Board of Regent's Membership Statement

At the beginning of each academic year, the ESLC Operations Chair must file with the appropriate institutional officer an affidavit stating that the ESLC does not, and will not during the year, have as a member any person who is not a student or a member of the faculty or staff of the institution.

SECTION 2. Membership

2.1 The ESLC membership shall be comprised of independent or joint student organization in the College of Engineering whose mission is to:

- a. advance its members professionally and/or academically and
- b. that is a registered organization with the appropriate University office

2.2 The process for determining the status of student organization shall be:

2.2.1 Joint if three of the following five criteria are met

- a. Same President
- b. Fifty percent or more of the same officers
- c. Similar mission or vision
- d. Joint meetings
- e. Similar Constitutions

2.2.2 Independent unless **ARTICLE IV, SECTION 2.2.1** applies

2.2.3 Active if:

- a. the information of newly elected officers is updated with the ESLC &
- b. at least one seat is filled at the ESLC general meeting

2.2.4 Inactive if **ARTICLE IV, SECTION 2.2.3** does not apply

2.3 The seat allocated on the ESLC shall include:

2.3.1 One seat per student organization that is classified as

- a. Joint and Active or
- b. Independent and Active

2.3.2 The seat to be filled by the president of the student organization or an appointed designee who can speak on behalf of the president.

2.3.3 The tracking of attendance by the Internal Relations Chair

2.4 New student organizations seeking membership shall submit a one-time membership proposal to the ESLC. Acceptance into the ESLC will be decided upon review of the proposal and by vote of its current membership.

ARTICLE V – ESLC CHAIRS

SECTION 1. The leadership of the ESLC shall consist of five equally powered chairpersons.

- 1.1. Community Engagement Chair
- 1.2. External Relations Chair
- 1.3. Finance Chair
- 1.4. Internal Relations Chair
- 1.5. Operations Chair

SECTION 2: The chairpersons shall preside over all meetings.

SECTION 3. The chairpersons shall coordinate and represent the ESLC in all internal and external activities.

SECTION 4. The chairpersons shall register the ESLC each semester with the appropriate University office.

SECTION 5. Specific duties of the chairpersons shall be defined in a meeting/plan of action that will be approved by the advisor(s) at the beginning of each elected term.

SECTION 6. Chair requirements – see **ARTICLE IX. SECTION 1 and 2.**

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

SECTION 1: General meetings will be held once a month as assigned by ESLC chairs.

1.1 Presidents must attend every meeting.

1.2 The tracking of attendance shall be done by the Internal Relations Chair.

SECTION 2: ESLC Chair meetings will be held once a week as assigned and agreed upon by ESLC chairs.

SECTION 3: All decisions shall be voted on by all ESLC Chairs and members as stated in **ARTICLE IV.**

3.1 Members and chairpersons will be allowed one vote.

3.2 Fifty percent of members and chairpersons must be in attendance for any voting to occur.

3.3 Decisions will be made by fifty percent plus one vote of all Members and chairpersons voting.

ARTICLE VII - UNIVERSITY ADVISOR(S)

SECTION 1. Chairs of the ESLC will be guided by at least one advisor.

SECTION 2. Advisor(s) will be identified and sponsored by the College of Engineering Dean's Office.

SECTION 3. Advisors will consist of a staff member and/or faculty member in the College of Engineering.

ARTICLE VIII – FINANCES

SECTION 1. The College of Engineering Dean's Office shall be the primary funding source of the ESLC.

SECTION 2. All financial transactions including proposal guidelines, proposed yearly budget will be the responsibility of the ESLC Finance Chair.

SECTION 3. Finance Chair shall propose a yearly budget to the ESLC and approved during its annual Leadership Retreat.

SECTION 4. Financial Guidelines on how funding will work will be coordinated by Finance , Internal Relations, and Community Engagement Chairs.

ARTICLE IX – ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. Nomination Of Chairpersons

1.1. College of Engineering students are required to meet the following criteria to be a chairperson:

- a. have completed one semester as a full-time or part-time student in the College of Engineering and
 - b. not be a President of any UTEP organization or SGA Senator for the upcoming term
- 1.2 Must be nominated no later than the month of April by
- a. a peer in the College of Engineering,
 - b. a faculty or staff member in the College of Engineering or
 - c. self-nomination

SECTION 2. Preferred Criteria

- 2.1 It is preferred that College of Engineering students have at least two consecutive long semesters remaining in their undergraduate and/or graduate studies and
- 2.2 Have a minimum 2.75 cumulative GPA

SECTION 3. Election Of Chairs

- 3.1 Elections shall be managed by the ESLC Operations Chair and supervised by the ESLC Advisor(s) before the last week of April.
- 3.2 All chairs shall be elected and confirmed by May 1 to serve until April 30.
- 3.3 All voting will be done electronically without the ballot being secret. Each ESLC seat, including those held by the chairs, will be allowed five votes.
- 3.4 Candidates with the top five votes will be elected chairs. In the event of a tie, the out-going ESLC Chairs must come to consensus to deliver the deciding vote
- 3.5 Chairs are eligible to serve for a maximum of two terms
- 3.6 A special election will be held should a Chair position become vacant

ARTICLE XI – ORGANIZATION ASSETS

Should the ESLC become defunct, the Dean or the Assistant Dean of the College of Engineering will redirect funds as deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1: Motions to amend this Constitution and By-laws can be made by member or advisor(s)

SECTION 2: Motions shall be discussed and approved by fifty percent plus one vote

SECTION 3: Date and results of the amendments must be noted.

ARTICLE XII – RATIFICATIONS

This article should make known that your final version of the constitution was effective upon approval by your RSO with a definition of how it was voted and approved and include the date the constitution was voted on.

The final version of this constitution is effective upon approval by the appropriate University office. All changes were reviewed by each ESLC chair and advisor.