**Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) Constitution**

**ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION**

The name of this organization is Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society. This organization may use the acronym AISES in publicity materials and correspondence[AD1] [MD2] . This student chapter of AISES has been recognized by the national board of directors and therefore has been approved to use the name, acronym and logo.

**ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION AFFILIATION**

As outlined in the RSO Classification Policy, the Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society is considered a General Registered Student Organization. As a GRSO, our organization is a separate 3rd party entity, not considered a part of the University of Florida. Through registering with the University, our student group agrees to follow its policies and operate on campus with access and/or eligibility for specific campus benefits.

**ARTICLE III. PURPOSE STATEMENT**

The purpose of the Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society is to provide a sense of community for Indigenous students on campus and to raise awareness of Indigenous culture on campus. The goal of the student organization is to substantially increase the representation of American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, First Nations and other indigenous peoples of North America in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) studies and careers.

**ARTICLE IV. COMPLIANCE STATEMENT & UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS**

Upon approval by the Department of Student Activities and Involvement, Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, as well as all University of Florida regulations, policies, and procedures. Such compliance includes but is not limited to the University’s regulations related to Non-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment (including sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking), Hazing, Commercial Activity, and Student Leader Eligibility.

Section A. Non-Discrimination

Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society agrees that it will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act.

Section B. Sexual Harassment

Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society agrees that it will not engage in any activity that is unwelcome conduct of sexual nature that creates a hostile environment. Behaviors that could create a hostile environment include sexual harassment (which could include inappropriate sexual comments), sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.

Section C. Hazing

Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society agrees that it will not initiate, support, or encourage any events or situations that recklessly, by design, or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health or safety of a student for any purpose including but not limited to initiation or admission into or affiliation with any student group or organization.

Section D. Responsibility to Report

If this organization becomes aware of any such conduct described in this article, **Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society** will report it immediately to Student Activities and Involvement, the Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, or the University’s Title IX Coordinator.

Section E. Officer Eligibility

Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society understands, acknowledges, and agrees to uphold and abide by the specific minimal requirements regarding officer eligibility as defined in the Registered Student Organization Classification and Officer Eligibility Policy

**ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in this organization is open to all enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-enrolled students, spouses, faculty, and staff are prohibited from holding membership, office or voting powers. All members and associate members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

**ARTICLE VI. BYLAWS FOR GATOR CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING SOCIETY**

Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society may elect to maintain separate bylaws document to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements sent forth by local, state, and federal laws, the university of Florida’s regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Student Engagement constitution requirements. Amendments and changes may be made to the bylaws and shall be consistent with the Student Engagement approved constitution on file and student engagement’s constitution requirements. Should the organization transition leadership, all bylaws and guiding documents will be transitioned to new student organization leaders and/or advisor(s). Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society agrees to provide all unaltered by laws and guiding documents and/or clarify its procedures in writing to any University of Florida student, faculty, or staff upon request. To be eligible to hold an officer position, an individual most be in good academic standing with a GPA above 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, regardless of academic level (i.e. undergraduate, graduate or postgraduate student). The GPA will be verified by the student organization advisor via unofficial transcript prior to officer turnover between old and new board. Nominations for all officers will take place annually at the general meeting prior to election meeting. The election will take place each year in April. Any member may nominate any other member, including themself.

**ARTICLE VII. STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISOR**

The student organization advisor shall serve as a resource person and provide advisory support for the officers and members of the organization. In addition to the aforementioned roles, a main function of the student organization advisor will be to review the student organization budget with the executive board each semester to provide feedback and guidance. The student organization advisor will be responsible for checking potential new officer’s GPA to ensure it meets the 3.0 minimum during elections from unofficial transcripts. The student organization advisor may attend executive and general meetings; however, the student organization advisor may not vote in any Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering matters. The student organization advisor may set up monthly meetings with the executive board in lieu of attending the executive and general meetings. The student organization advisor shall be nominated by the officers and confirmed by a 2/3 majority vote of the members at the same time of elections for executive board members. The student organization advisor will serve a term of one (1) academic year with the opportunity to be reappointed. In the event that the student organization advisor is unable to continue in their position, officers may nominate a replacement at any time, to be confirmed by a 2/3 majority vote of the members.

**ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS**

Section A: The elected officers of Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Part 1: The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and shall coordinate the work of the officers and committees.

Part 2: The Vice-President shall serve as an aide to the President and shall perform the duties of the President in her/his absence or inability to serve.

Part 3: The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering and shall perform other duties as may be delegated.

Part 4: The Treasurer shall receive all monies of Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering; shall keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures; shall pay out local funds in accordance with the approved budget as authorized by the organization. The Treasurer shall present a financial statement at every executive board meeting of Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and at other times when requested by the President or Vice President. The Treasurer, with assistance of other executive board members will apply for Student Government funding annually. The proposed budget will be approved by the student organization advisor each semester.

Section B: The appointed officer of Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering shall be the Networking Chair.

Part 1: The Networking Coordinator shall be appointed by the Vice President.

Part 2: The Networking Coordinator is responsible for the coordination of all chapter activities that promotes the social interaction of club members. The Networking Coordinator shall also oversee the social media accounts and will assist with forging connections with other clubs for the purpose of networking and events.

Section C: Officers shall assume their official duties at the close of the last general meeting of the academic year and shall serve for a term of one academic year and/or until their successors are elected/appointed. Any officers may be appointed for consecutive terms. If nobody fills the vacancy of Secretary or Treasurer, it is permissible for one person to serve as both Secretary and Treasurer. In this case, their official title for the academic year will be Secretary/Treasurer. The appointed Networking Chair may also be an individual who is already been voted into the executive board.

Section D: Any officer of Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering may be removed from office through the following process:

Part 1: A written request by at least three members of the organization shall be submitted to either the President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer. Written notification shall be sent to the officer in question asking that officer to be present at the next meeting and prepared to respond to the removal request.

Part 2: A two thirds majority vote of members present is necessary to remove the officer.

Part 3: In the event of the removal of an officer, a special provision may be granted to the remaining officers to appoint an interim replacement until an election may be held.

Section E: In the event that an officer position becomes vacant for reasons beyond impeachment (e.g. resignations, officer ineligibility, or similar occurrences) the president will appoint a temporary officer to fill that position until such time as an election can be held using the election procedures found in Article VIII.

**ARTICLE IX. ELECTIONS**

Nominations may also be made during the election meeting prior to closing of nominations. As voting will take place using an online format, members may choose to write-in an individual for an officer position. Voting will occur by secret ballot and a simple majority vote is required to elect an officer. If there are more than two candidates running and no candidate receives a majority vote, there shall be a run-off vote between the top two vote recipients. No person shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

**ARTICLE X. FINANCE**

As a national organization, the American Indian Science and Engineering Society encourages college chapter members to have active membership. As of, January 2020 AISES announced all memberships for college students will be free. Should this change, this Gator Chapter of AISES will not require members to pay dues. Instead, the student organization will use fundraising dollars to cover memberships.

This student organization will also raise funds through fundraising activities to support operational expenses of the organization. Fundraising activities include, but are not limited to, selling cultural merchandise such as selling cedar roses or Indigenous jewelry. Fundraising activities will be voted on by executive board members. Executive board will accept proposals from members on fundraising initiatives. At least two-thirds majority of the executive board must approve the fundraiser in order to spend club efforts. Primarily, the funds will be used to pay for travel to AISES regional, national and leadership conferences each year. Funds raised will also be used to host events on campus and to purchase promotional items for the student organization. The funds will be used to pay for membership dues[AD3] [MD4] , should the national policy change, as this student chapter does not wish to charge dues to members; instead this chapter is electing to fundraise to pay dues should the need arise. Members are encouraged, but not required, to participate in these fundraising activities. The Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society will apply for Student Government funding each cycle. The treasurer shall also apply for mini-grants, as available.

**ARTICLE X. DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION**

In the event this organization dissolves, all monies left in the treasury, after outstanding debts and claims have been paid, shall be donated to American Indian Science and Engineering Society, which is a national, nonprofit organization.

**ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

Amendments to this constitution may be made at any regular meeting of Gator Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering provided notice of the proposed amendment was given one week prior to a vote. Prior to this meeting our officers will request a copy of the constitution from the Department of Student Activities and Involvement through email. Any member is eligible to propose an amendment, and proposals should be sent to any member of the executive board who will then call a meeting if one is not already scheduled in that timeframe. Amendments require a two-thirds vote of the members in attendance at the meeting and are subject to final approval by the Department of Student Activities and Involvement.