

Mission and By-Laws of the UA Geosciences Advisory Board

5 June 2015

Mission Statement

The UA Geosciences Advisory Board comprises colleagues from industry, academia, government agencies, and other areas who possess distinctive experience, skills, connections, and desire to support the Department's mission and vision¹, and whose efforts support and strengthen the Department. The Board assists the Department in:

- achieving its goals in education, research, outreach, and development
- stimulating interdisciplinary College and University initiatives that benefit the Department
- providing support to the Department in community engagement
- serving as a link to alumni, potential donors, and the community
- providing feedback, advice, information and resources to the Department Head as requested on issues of strategic importance to realize its mission¹
- sustaining and strengthening the position of UA Geosciences as one of the top geoscience departments in the country

Membership

Membership of the UA Geosciences Advisory Board will be organized around the following:

- *Size*: Membership will ideally comprise 12 individuals; this may vary from 10-14 depending on individual circumstances.
- *Term*: The term of membership is three years, renewable upon recommendation of the Executive Committee.
- *New Members*: New members of the Board will be proposed to the Executive Committee through nomination by at least two Advisory Board Members or the Department Head and approval by a majority of the Executive Committee.
- *Areas of representation*: Members will collectively compose approximately equal representation in three areas: 1) economic geology (mineral resources), 2) energy (oil, gas, nuclear, geothermal, renewables), and 3) government, environment, research/education.
- *Qualifications*: Members will possess interest in the Department, commitment to its objectives and vision, and expertise in subjects of importance to the Department, including an understanding of the role of geoscience in society.
- *Responsibilities*: Membership includes the responsibility to attend the annual meeting, serve on at least one committee and commit effort to helping the committee achieve its charge, and participate in planning, development, alumni, and community engagement activities as requested and practical. This may include advocacy and outreach efforts on behalf of Geosciences to entities influencing its success, including foundations, the College of Science, UA central administration, state

¹ From the 2014 UA Geosciences Academic Program Review Self-Study Report:

The mission of UA Geosciences is:

- To serve the state of Arizona by engaging our community and training scientists, teachers, policy-makers, business people, and citizens with understanding and skills necessary to lead and participate in a productive society, to create opportunities for scientific and societal growth, and to empower future generations to do the same.

Our vision for UA Geosciences is:

- A nationally and internationally renowned center of excellence in research, education, training, and community engagement in geoscience that inspires economic, scientific, and intellectual growth and attracts the most talented applied and fundamental scientists and stakeholders from around the world to participate in the most innovative, rigorous, and impactful interdisciplinary collaborations and problem-solving in Earth Science.

legislature, Board of Regents, and elected officials. Members will aid development goals of the Department through strategic planning, cultivation of donor relationships, and/or helping to organize and attend events such as alumni receptions.

- *Development contributions:* Members will demonstrate a commitment to maintaining the department through an annual financial contribution, and by working with the Department Head and others to develop initiatives to inspire others to make financial contributions.
- *Annual meeting attendance:* Members will provide at least one week notice if they cannot attend the annual meeting; if two consecutive annual meetings are missed the Executive Board will consider asking the member to resign from the Advisory Board.

Structure

Executive Committee:

- The Executive Committee consists of Department Head, Advisory Board Chair, and Chairs of the three Committees, and a representative with strong links to the College of Science or UA Administration.
- The Executive Committee is responsible for setting the Agenda of the Advisory Board, making decisions on Memberships, and reviewing progress of the various initiatives.
- The Executive Committee meets approximately three times per year, once immediately preceding the annual meeting and on other occasions by Skype and/or phone if members cannot attend personally.
- Decisions will be made by majority vote; however, if the Department Head and Advisory Board Chair jointly oppose a proposal, they can form a blocking vote.
- Between the Advisory Board Head and the three Committee heads, there should be at least one representative from each of three groups [1) minerals, 2) energy, and 3) government, environment, research/education].
- The College of Science/Administrative Member is non-voting; the term of this member will be also be three years.
- As described in the Committee descriptions, the three Committee Chairs each have one-year terms, renewable by agreement of Department Head and Advisory Board Chair
- The Executive Committee will be responsible for reviewing the membership of the Advisory Board.

Committees:

- The **Education and Outreach Committee** will focus on promoting effective and rigorous education, training, and preparation for our students and their diverse educational and career paths. This committee will also provide leadership in student mentoring, outreach and community engagement programs, and efforts to promote student diversity.
- The **Research and Collaboration Committee** will focus on identifying opportunities in research and collaboration with industry, government agencies, and other partners. This includes helping develop connections with colleagues and supporters that could be useful for research projects, teaching opportunities, student mentoring, and development.
- The **Alumni and Development Committee** will focus on maintaining an active and supportive alumni program. It will also provide leadership in planning and execution of fund-raising strategies, and work to secure gifts and matching funds from alumni, industry, foundations, and other sources, by active fund-raising using their own connections, social and work networks, and companies, and assisting the Department Head and others in the Department in doing the same.
- Each committee will have a Chairperson and at least two other members. The composition should ideally include at least one person from each of the (1) minerals, (2) energy and (3) government, environment, research/academic groups.

- The Chairperson on each committee will have a one-year term, renewable with mutual agreement of the Department Head and Advisory Board Chair.
- The Department Head may appoint a faculty member to work with each of the committees to help maintain a strong and practical Department/Board working relationship.
- The Committees will not have a regular schedule of meetings outside the annual meetings but will meet as needed to complete their various projects and tasks.
- The Committees will present at the annual Board meeting their accomplishments of the past year and goals and plans for the upcoming year.

Officers

- The Advisory Board will be led by a Chairperson, who will serve a three year term, renewable for a second term at the proposal of the Department Head. The tenure is limited to two terms.
- The Chairperson is appointed by the Department Head and can be relieved of duties by the Department Head at any time, in consultation with members of the Board. If the Chairperson disagrees with this action, he or she has a right to a hearing in front of the Executive Committee to discuss the action, which may make a recommendation to the Department Head on the action.
- The three-year tenure of the Board Chairperson begins at the time of appointment, even if the previous Chairperson resigns or is relieved during a term.
- Each of the three Committees will have a separate Committee Chairperson who will be appointed by the joint agreement of the Chair of the Advisory Board and the Department Head.
- Committee Chairpersons will have one year terms that can be renewed by agreement with the Department Head and Advisory Board Chairperson.
- Committee Chairpersons are voting members of the Executive committee.

Modification of By-laws

- Modification of by-laws can be done by proposals made at the annual board meeting and accepted by a 2/3 majority of Advisory Board members