

Policy Number: Coun13.0

Policy Name: Council Code of Conduct **Effective Date:** December 4, 2020

Policy:

The following Code of Conduct shall bind Council members, included elected, appointed, and ex-officio members. In addition, all Council members will be expected to take the Oath of Office at the beginning of each Council year. Refer to Policy Coun4.0 – Councillor Induction and Orientation.

This Code of Conduct reflects basic governance practices and expectations. Councillors must meet certain standards of conduct and attention in carrying out the responsibilities of the Association. Councillors are expected to fulfill their roles with a duty of care, duty of loyalty and duty of obedience. This Code of Conduct establishes the standards of integrity and accountability expected of APEGS Councillors (reference: boardsource.org/code-of-conduct-and-ethics/).

Code of Conduct:

APEGS Council is committed to teamwork and effective decision-making in fulfilling their role to regulate the professions in a manner that is in the public interest. Council members shall:

- Conduct themselves honestly, ethically, and lawfully, and in a manner that
 maintains and enhances the public's trust in the engineering and geoscience
 professions.
- Act impartially and with integrity, and exercise the degree of care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances.
- Always observe proper decorum and treat one another, volunteers and staff with respect and courtesy (refer to Policy Gen5.0 Respectful Workplace).
- Be prepared for, attend the majority of, and participate in, Council, Board and Committee meetings.
- Discuss all issues freely and openly at Council meetings, examining all sides of an argument.
- Avoid discussions outside of Council meetings that would have the effect of creating factions and limiting free and open discussion.

- Accept and respect Council decisions by supporting the decision even if one's own view is contradictory.
- Govern in the public interest in the practice of the professions. It is acknowledged that this may not necessarily be in the interest of individual members of Council, their employers, the Association, or the membership.
- Avoid conflicts of interest and disclose an actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest. Refer to Policy Coun5.0 Conflict of Interest.
- Not disclose or discuss differences of opinion of Council with those who are not on Council. The Council should communicate externally with "one voice".
- Represent the Association and its mission wherever and whenever the opportunity arises in their own personal and professional networks.
- Refrain from giving direction, as an individual Councillor, to the Executive Director & Registrar or any member of staff.
- Resign from Council if found guilty of Professional Misconduct and/or Professional Incompetence in a Discipline Hearing.
- Report any serious non-compliance with this Code committed by another Council member, when such an offence becomes known to, or is reasonably suspected by, that Councillor. This report must be made to the President unless the non-compliance involves the President, in which case the report must be made to the President-elect.

Councillors who are found to have breached the Code of Conduct may be removed from Council and / or not asked to run for Council for a second term.

Rationale: To ensure that members of APEGS Council operate within an established Code of Conduct.

Council Motion: 20-20-165:B Date of Motion: December 4, 2020

Reason for change: new policy