

By-Laws

- I. Meetings shall be conducted with an informal structure, loosely following and interpreting Robert's Rules of Order.
 - II. Order of Business
 - a. Call to order
 - b. Roll call officer and committee reports
 - c. Old business
 - d. New business
 - e. Close of discussion/adjournment
 - III. Membership shall reflect that of the Golden Apple Foundation of Illinois. GA-ISU members remain members as long as they maintain participation in the GA program and attend ISU.
 - IV. Committees shall be formed as deemed necessary by the executive and/or advisory councils
 - V. GA-ISU shall participate in a minimum of one community related service project, as a group, per semester. The project may or may not change from semester to semester.
- Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Pledge:

“I promise to try as well as I can to succeed in college; to learn my subjects well; to learn how to teach and inspire children. I promise to work towards becoming a role model others would be proud to emulate. I promise these goals in the names of my family, by whose example I arrived at this time and place in my life. I promise these goals in the name of the children I've yet to meet. I promise these goals in the name of the children who died or were lost before I was ready to help them”.

- As written in the Handbook of the Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois, Third edition.

Constitution and By-Laws of the
Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois,
Illinois State University

Ratified

Dated September 3, 2008

Composed by Elaina Von Qualen, Samantha Waskowski, and Megan Snider

2006 Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois

Article I: Name

Section I. The name of this organization shall be the Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois-Illinois State University, here after referred to as GA-ISU.

Article II: Mission Statement

Section I. The mission of GA-ISU shall be to encourage unity, both now and in the future, among Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois (GA) attending Illinois State University (ISU) through an open forum for communication between GA, ISU, and the Golden Apple Foundation on all matters concerning GA life; provide support and guidance for GA at ISU on social, financial, and academic matters; represent and promote the Golden Apple Foundation and the GA program in a positive, proactive manner throughout the local and state communities; and contribute to the advancement and betterment of all future educators who will influence the lives of the children of tomorrow.

Article III: Membership and Dues

Section I. Active membership to the GA-ISU shall be open to all current GA of ISU. To maintain active membership, a GA must maintain a grade point average of 2.5 as an ISU student.

Section II. An active member shall be ranked with a series of points, thus resulting in a certain status. Statuses include Bronze, Silver, Golden, and Crystal. Prizes will be awarded within the different statuses.

Section III. Honorary membership may be conveyed upon individuals demonstrating exceptional achievement in the advancement of the field of education. Honorary membership requires the approval of two thirds majority vote of all members present at the current meeting and approval from Executive council.

Article IV: Officers and Elections

Section I. The offices of GA-ISU Executive Council shall consist of: President, Vice Presiden

Secretary, Treasurer, Social Coordinator, Service Coordinator, Technology Coordinator, and Professional Development Coordinator. These officers shall serve together as the Executive Council of GA-ISU.

Section II. The duties and powers of these officers are as follows:

- a. President: Shall preside over all meetings, call special meetings, meet monthly with the Golden Apple Foundation university liaison, conduct all official business of GA-ISU with the Scholar Executive Council, the Golden Apple Foundation, ISU, and the surrounding communities.
- b. Vice President: Shall serve in the office of President in the case of the President's absence, act as the official representative to the College of Education and committees therein, and inform GA-ISU of the College of Education and its related organizations' workshops and activities. The Vice President will also preside over all committees representing GA-ISU.
- c. Secretary: Shall keep an accurate, permanent record of the minutes and proceedings of the organization, keep track of member attendance for active membership status, and compose emails to all GA-ISU members summarizing all business meetings as well as informing them of GA-ISU events.
- d. Treasurer: shall keep an accurate, permanent record of all monetary transactions of GAISU, disburse fund money in accordance with regulations of the university as decided upon by the membership, inform GA-ISU members of the scholarship, work study, and other financial opportunities available at ISU. This officer will also work alongside Academic Support Coordinator on all fundraising activities that GA-ISU participates in.
- e. Social Coordinator: shall arrange business, workshop speaker, and social activities and meeting areas, and coordinate membership information list and profiles. This officer shall also create and distribute the GA-ISU semester newsletter to the members, advisors, Golden Apple Foundation, and those respective parties associated with GA-ISU and coordinate all communication with the media and the public.
- f. Community Service Coordinator: Shall arrange and coordinate at least one community service per semester but is not limited to one per semester, to investigate what community service projects that other organizations associated or independent of ISU are doing, to try and find recurring events that GA-ISU will be able to participate in year after year, to try and relate community service to education whenever possible but is not limited to only education service projects.
- g. Technology Coordinator: Shall routinely update and maintain the website, GoldenAppleISU.com, as well as all social media that act as GA-ISU's presence on the Internet. These media must be kept up to date with GA-ISU news, calendar of events, and other relevant information. The technology chair must also act as the expert on all things technology for GA-ISU, spreading awareness of new and innovative technologies in education.
- h. Professional Development Coordinator: Shall seek out and notify scholars of any opportunities that will enhance their knowledge of present topics/issues in education.

Shall coordinate at least one professional development event per semester but is not limited to one per semester.

Section III. The election of offices shall take place annually at the the November meeting, with all candidates having announced their running and for which position to the secretary or president during or prior to the November meeting. Two meetings should be held in November, one for nominations and one for elections. Anyone who is an active member may run for any position as a single entity; no more than one person per position. Anyone running for a position must commit to serve a full term which consists of one calendar year. Changes in officers must be reported to the Student Involvement Center by the former president.

Section IV. In the case of someone stepping down or resigning from their position, that position will be offered to the person holding the office below them, if that person denies it will be offered to the person below the office that denied the position and if that officer denies the office there will be an open election held at that meeting.

Ex. If the president steps down the vice president will be offered the position of president. If the vice president denies the secretary will be offered the office of president. If the secretary denies the office then there will be an election.

If there is not an officer to ask if they would want the office an election must be held.

Section V. The Executive Council of GA-ISU shall commit to being in attendance at three fourths of all business and executive council meetings.

Section VI. Should the attendance of an Executive Council member falter below the required amount they will receive one written warning from the advisor of GA-ISU. If in-attendance continues nominations will be held in accordance with the constitution and a new person will be elected to the position that is left vacant after going through Section IV's model is used.

Section VII. The Executive Council of GA-ISU shall meet at least two additional times per semester outside of regular business meetings. The time of these meetings will be announced by the president ahead of time.

Article V: Fiscal Agent and University Advisor

Section I. The Golden Apple Foundation university liaison will act as the faculty advisor for the GA-ISU.

Section II. The faculty advisor shall serve as the head of the advisory Council consisting of representatives from ISU's Financial Aid, Academic Advisement, College of Education, Admissions, and other departments deemed necessary to ensure GA success by the faculty advisor, Advisory Council, and the GA- ISU Executive Council.

Section III. The treasurer and the faculty advisor of GA-ISU will jointly control all accounts of GA-ISU.

Article VI: Meetings

Section I. Meetings shall be held once monthly, with location and time decided at the previous meeting. Additional meetings will be held at the discretion of GA- ISU members whenever necessary.

Section II. All official business of GA-ISU shall be discussed at these meetings, including by not limited to, social events, workshops, speaker, teaching opportunities, mentoring events, etc.

Article VII: Amendments

Section I. The proposed amendment of this Constitution and By-Laws shall be submitted in writing and be read at a regular business meeting to be decided upon at that same business meeting.

Section II. A two thirds majority vote of the members present at the meeting shall be required for passage of the amendment

Article VII: Ratification

Section I. Following a complete reading of the Constitution and By-Laws, a two thirds majority vote of all members present at the first meeting of GA-ISU shall be required for ratification of the Constitution and By-Laws

Section II. This Constitution and By-Laws shall be reviewed and read at the first business meeting of each academic year to ensure a thorough understanding of GA-ISU among all current members.

Amendment XI: Establishment of Committees

Section I. In accordance with **By-Laws IV** and **Article IV, Section II**, the executive council hereby establishes seven standing committees in order to assist in carrying out the functions of GA-ISU.

Section II. Committees will be created and appointed as needed according the current Executive Board. Executive board members in need of a committee may open up the opportunity to the General Assembly. Committees may change as needed/per event.

Section IV. The committees shall function in accordance with the “GA-ISU Committee Guidebook”.