



Charter

Mission

Water@UW-Madison is an umbrella organization to represent and facilitate the work of water scholars across the UW-Madison campus and beyond. We endeavor to:

1. Foster connections and communication among members of the UW-Madison water community including faculty, PIs, graduate students, postdocs, and research staff;
2. Convey information about the scope and diversity of water research at UW-Madison to people both within and outside the university;
3. Provide information about graduate opportunities to prospective graduate students;
4. Foster interdisciplinary and cross-departmental research, instruction, and outreach; and
5. Strengthen bridges between UW-Madison's water research and research being done at other UW system campuses, private colleges, government agencies, non-government organizations and civil society in Wisconsin and beyond.

Affiliation

Any faculty, academic staff, or student interested in participating in water-oriented research, teaching, or outreach on the UW-Madison campus is eligible for Water@UW-Madison affiliation. Affiliation is obtained by contacting the Water@UW-Madison email at water@mailplus.wisc.edu or signing up to participate on the water.wisc.edu website with your @wisc.edu email. Water@UW-Madison affiliates receive regular email communications regarding water-related events sponsored by Water@UW-Madison and other departments and programs on campus.

Although Water@UW-Madison activities are designed to serve water faculty, staff and graduate students, most of our events are open to undergraduates and the general public and anyone is eligible to receive our newsletter. However, only those with an @wisc.edu address will be allowed to participate in election of the executive board.

Officers

Executive Committee: 8 faculty, researchers, or academic staff including the Chair, Outgoing Chair, Chair-Elect, and 5 Members-at-Large as well as 1 Project Assistant and 2 Graduate Student Representatives. The Executive Committee is responsible for day-to-day programming decisions for the organization and has the authority to review and revise the Water@UW-Madison Charter.

Chair (1): The Chair is responsible for overall program organization, coordinating meetings and activities of the Executive Committee, interacting with Central Campus to ensure funding for the organization, and representing Water@UW-Madison to the larger UW-Madison campus. The incumbent Chair-Elect will become Chair the following year and then become Outgoing Chair the year after; each term is thus three years with the first year as Chair-Elect, the second as Chair, and the third as Outgoing Chair.

Chair-Elect (1): The Chair-Elect is responsible for working with the Chair to learn effective management of the organization. A current member of the Executive Committee will be appointed annually by the committee to serve as Chair-Elect, the appointee will then serve as Chair the year following his/her term as Chair-Elect and as Outgoing Chair following his/her term as Chair. Any committee member appointed as Chair-Elect is automatically entitled to an additional 3 year term, as required to carry out his/her duties as Chair-Elect, Chair, and Outgoing Chair, regardless of how far the appointee is into his/her current term.

Outgoing Chair (1): The Outgoing Chair is responsible for assisting the current Chair by providing “memory” from his/her term as Chair. The Outgoing Chair will serve a one year term immediately following his/her term as Chair.

Members-at-Large (5): Members-at-Large are responsible for participating in meetings of the Executive Committee and helping to plan and execute Water@UW-Madison Programs. Each year, two Members-at-Large will be designated as Event Coordinators. One Event Coordinator will lead planning of the fall event and the other will lead planning of the spring event. Both Event Coordinators will be paired with one graduate student representative, who will assist them in the planning process. Members-at-Large may serve up to three years without having to run for re-election. Following their three year term, they may choose to run for re-election.

Graduate Student Representatives (2): Graduate Student Representatives are responsible for participating in meetings of the Executive Committee and helping to plan and execute Water@UW-Madison Programs. They will also serve as a liaison between graduate students and faculty to identify areas where graduate training in water can be enhanced and to ensure student input to Water@UW-Madison activities. Each year, one Graduate Student Representative will be designated to assist the fall Event Coordinator in planning the fall event and the other will assist the spring Event Coordinator in planning the spring event. Graduate students serve one-year terms and may choose to run for re-election following their term, provided that they will maintain their graduate student status the following year.

The call for candidates to fill any vacant positions will be put out on a yearly basis during the spring term. It is the duty of the Executive Committee to designate nominees for election and to encourage new volunteers to run. The committee should strive to seek candidates that represent the diversity of water departments at UW-Madison. The committee will be elected via an online survey distributed to the Water@UW-Madison community. If the number of nominees does not exceed the number of vacant positions, the

proposed slate of candidates will still be subject to approval by the Water@UW-Madison community.

Terms of service: Terms begin annually on 1 July and the search to fill vacant positions takes place in the preceding spring semester.

Meetings

The Executive Committee meets monthly during the academic year or at the discretion of the current Chair.

Water@UW-Madison Charter revised and approved by the Executive Committee September 15, 2017.