

**BYLAWS OF THE B004, SAN BUENAVENTURA SECTION  
OF  
THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS**

**ARTICLE I – NAME AND OBJECTIVES\*\***

**Section 1. Name**

The name of this organization shall be the B004, San Buenaventura section (hereinafter called “the section”) of the Society of Women Engineers (hereinafter called “the Society” or “SWE”).

**Section 2. Objectives**

The section is an organizational unit whose purpose is to further the objectives of the Society.

**Section 3. Powers**

The section is empowered by the Society to pursue the objectives of the Society under these bylaws and in consonance with the Society bylaws.

**Section 4. Non-discrimination**

In accordance with the Society’s policies and purposes, the section shall not discriminate in connection with its membership and its services to the public at large.

**ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP\*\***

**Section 1. Members**

Members of the section are those members of the Society assigned to the section. All members of the section shall have the right to attend all in-person section and executive council meetings.

**Section 2. Grades of Membership**

Members shall have the same membership grade in the section as they have in the Society and voting privileges as specified in the Society bylaws.

**Section 3. Business Meeting**

A meeting of the general membership to conduct the business of the section may be called by the president, the executive council, or by a group of five percent or five of the voting members of the section, whichever is greater. At least thirty days written notice shall be provided to all members prior to such a business meeting.

**Section 4. Quorum**

Fifteen voting members or thirty percent of the voting members of the section, whichever is less, shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of the business of the section.

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49 **ARTICLE III – OFFICERS**

50 **Section 1. Officers\*\***

51 The officers of the section are the president, vice president – career guidance, vice  
52 president – programs, secretary, treasurer, and section representative(s) as designated  
53 in the bylaws of the Society.  
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55 **Section 2. Eligibility and Term of Office\*\***

56 A. The officers must be voting members of the Society and assigned to the section.  
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58 B. Section officers shall serve for a term of one fiscal year, to coincide with the  
59 Society's fiscal year.  
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61 C. Officers may hold more than one office provided that there is a minimum of three  
62 elected officers of the section. No one may hold the office of president and treasurer  
63 at the same time.  
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65 **Section 3. Duties\*\***

66 A. The president shall:

- 67 1. Represent the section before the public and preside at meetings of the section  
68 and its executive council;
- 69 2. Appoint the chairs of all committees, with the approval of the executive council,  
70 except the chair of the nominating committee;
- 71 3. Approve the appointment of all committee members, except the members of the  
72 nominating committee;
- 73 4. Authorize the disbursement of section funds within the budget approved by the  
74 executive council;
- 75 5. Be an authorized signatory on all section accounts;
- 76 6. Coordinate activities and execute the business and policies of the section  
77 between meetings;
- 78 7. Review and approve the year-end section financial report;
- 79 8. Provide oversight and guidance to the committee chairs as assigned, and  
80 9. Perform other duties normally associated with the office of president or as may  
81 be assigned by the executive council or the governance documents.  
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83 B. The vice president – programs shall:

- 84 1. Assume the duties of the president if the president is temporarily unable to serve;
- 85 2. Provide oversight and guidance to the committee chairs as assigned; and
- 86 3. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the president, the executive  
87 council, or the governance documents.  
88

89 C. The vice president – career guidance shall:

- 90 1. Provide oversight and guidance to the committee chairs as assigned; and
- 91 2. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the president, the executive  
92 council, or the governance documents.  
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94 C. The secretary shall:

- 95 1. Maintain the records of the section;  
96 2. Provide oversight and guidance to the committee chairs as assigned; and  
97 3. Perform other duties normally associated with the office of secretary or as may  
98 be assigned by the president, the executive council, or the governance  
99 documents.

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101 D. The treasurer shall:

- 102 1. Be responsible for the collection, distribution, and safekeeping of section funds;  
103 2. Prepare, maintain, and report as directed on the financial position of the section  
104 in relation to the approved budget;  
105 3. Submit a financial report to the Society in accordance with established  
106 procedures;  
107 4. Provide oversight and guidance to the committee chairs as assigned; and  
108 5. Perform other duties normally associated with the office of treasurer or as may  
109 be assigned by the president, the executive council, or the governance  
110 documents.

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112 E. The section representative(s) shall:

- 113 1. Perform those duties expected of them as described in the region governance  
114 documents; and  
115 2. Perform other duties normally associated with the office of section representative  
116 or as may be assigned by the president, the executive council, or the governance  
117 documents.

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119 Section 4. Nomination and Election

120 A. The executive council shall elect at least two members to serve on the nominating  
121 committee. The nominating committee shall select its own chair, who must be a  
122 voting member of the Society but does not need to have been elected to the  
123 committee by the executive council.

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125 B. Members of the nominating committee may not become candidates during their  
126 tenure of service on the nominating committee.

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128 C. The nominating committee shall propose at least one qualified candidate for each of  
129 the officer positions. The slate shall be presented to the members of the section by  
130 mail, electronic mail, or posting on the section web site by April 15 of each year.

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132 D. Additional candidates may be nominated by petition, provided that:

- 133 1. The member is eligible for the position;  
134 2. The member has given written consent to being placed on the ballot;  
135 3. A minimum of two percent or five of the voting members of the section,  
136 whichever is greater, have signed a petition or endorsed an email to place the  
137 candidate's name on the ballot; and

138 4. The petition, together with the written consent, is submitted to the chair of the  
139 nominating committee by April 30 or fifteen days after the slate is announced to  
140 the members of the section, whichever is later.

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142 E. The chair of the nominating committee shall arrange for the distribution of ballots to  
143 occur at least twenty-one days prior to the required return date for the vote. Voting  
144 may be by mail, electronic mail or web-based provided that mail ballots are sent to  
145 those without electronic access. The chair of the nominating committee shall select  
146 a tellers committee to receive and count the votes, and to report the results to the  
147 president.

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149 F. The voting members of the section shall elect the section officers.

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151 G. A plurality shall elect for each office. Write-in votes for eligible candidates shall be  
152 allowed. In the event of a tie, the election for that position shall be determined by lot,  
153 conducted by the chair of the nominating committee.

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155 Section 5. Alternate Section Representative(s)\*\*

156 A. Alternate section representatives may be elected during the officer election process.

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158 B. The executive council may elect alternate(s) for the purpose of attending a region  
159 council meeting if the section representative(s) or alternate(s) cannot attend.

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161 C. All alternates shall be designated in the order in which they will be called to serve,  
162 with alternates elected by the membership serving before those selected in any  
163 other manner.

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165 D. Alternate section representatives must meet the same eligibility requirements as  
166 section representatives.

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168 Section 6. Vacancies

169 A. A vacancy in the office of president shall be filled by the vice president – programs  
170 for the remainder of the term.

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172 B. A vacancy in the office of either vice president, secretary, or treasurer shall be filled  
173 by election by the executive council.

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175 C. A vacancy in the office of section representative shall be filled by the next available  
176 alternate section representative. If there is no available alternate section  
177 representative, the executive council may elect an alternate to fill the vacancy.

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179 **ARTICLE IV – EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

180 Section 1 Composition

181 The governing body of the section shall be the executive council. The officers of the  
182 section shall constitute the executive council. An individual holding more than one

position on the executive council has only one vote and counts as a single person for the purpose of a quorum.

## Section 2. Duties

The executive council shall:

1. Transact the business of the section;
2. Implement section policies as determined by the membership;
3. Elect the members of the nominating committee;
4. Approve the appointment of all committee chairs, except the chair of the nominating committee;
5. Ensure that the section is represented at region council meetings; and
6. Approve the section budget and authorize expenditures not included in the approved budget.

## Section 3. Conducting Business

- A. The executive council shall meet regularly to conduct the business of the section upon the call of the section president or by written petition of at least one-third of the voting members of the executive council.
- B. Unless otherwise restricted by law or these bylaws, the executive council may also conduct business by telephone, mail, electronic mail, fax, or other electronic devices.

## Section 4. Quorum

- A. A quorum shall be a majority of the members of the executive council then in office, but not less than three, one of whom is the president, a vice president, or section representative.
- B. No member of the executive council may vote by proxy.

## Section 5. Removal

Any officer may be removed for cause by a vote of two-thirds of the voting members of the section responding to a recall ballot, provided that votes have been received from at least the number of members required for a quorum. Such removal shall be effective immediately upon the recording of such vote. Removal procedures not covered by law or these bylaws shall be developed and approved by the executive council.

## **ARTICLE V – COMMITTEES**

- A. The executive council may establish committees as the need arises.
- B. The chairs of the committees shall be appointed by the president. The members of the committees shall be appointed by the chair of the committee with the approval of the president.
- C. The executive council shall prepare a description of the duties of each committee and reporting relationships.

- 229 D. Each committee chair shall present a status report to the membership when  
230 requested by the executive council contact. Each committee chair shall also prepare  
231 an annual report providing input to the section representative for the section's final  
232 report to the Society.  
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#### 234 **ARTICLE VI – DISSOLUTION\*\***

235 In the event of dissolution, the assets of the section shall be first used to pay any  
236 remaining debts, after which any remaining funds shall be disbursed to SWE regions,  
237 SWE sections, the SWE members at large organization, the Society, or SWE  
238 endowment funds as recommended by the section's executive council and approved by  
239 the SWE board of directors.  
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#### 241 **ARTICLE VII – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY\*\***

242 The rules contained in the tenth edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall  
243 govern this section in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not  
244 inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the section may adopt.  
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#### 246 **ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENT\*\***

- 247 A. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and  
248 voting at a meeting or of the ballots received prior to the stated deadline.  
249 B. Amendments may be proposed by a majority of the executive council or five voting  
250 members of the section. All proposed amendments must be submitted to the  
251 secretary.  
252 C. Written notice, delivered either by mail or electronically, must be given to all  
253 members of the section at least thirty days prior to the date of the meeting or the  
254 specified date for voting to be completed.  
255 D. Amendments adopted by the section shall be sent to the Society secretary according  
256 to established procedures, and shall become effective after approved by the Society  
257 secretary.  
258 E. Required sections are marked with a double asterisk (\*\*) and conform to the  
259 professional section bylaws template. Changes to these sections of the professional  
260 section bylaws template shall become part of these bylaws upon approval of the  
261 Society. The section secretary shall incorporate such changes into the section  
262 bylaws and forward the updated bylaws to the Society secretary within six months of  
263 notification of the change to the section bylaws template.  
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