



Guam Science and Technology Steering Committee Bylaws

ARTICLE I: Title

The Guam Science and Technology Steering Committee, hereafter referred to as the “Committee,” is the governing body of the Guam Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research Program (Guam EPSCoR). When abbreviated the Committee shall be referred to as GSTSC (Guam Science and Technology Steering Committee.)

ARTICLE II: Purpose

The purpose of Guam EPSCoR is to develop Guam’s capacity as a premier research and STEM education hub by bolstering sustainability, economic development, and informed decision-making and engaging communities in 21st-century science and engineering activities.

To accomplish this purpose, the Committee acts as an independent organization on behalf of the broader research, business and government interests of Guam. The Committee promotes innovation, collaboration, and excellence towards the goals of a world-class research and development enterprise in Guam that is an engine for economic diversification, prosperity and social justice.

The Committee provides advice and guidance to the Principal Investigators of EPSCoR or EPSCoR-like programs in Guam, helping to ensure that the NSF EPSCoR program and the related EPSCoR and EPSCoR-like programs of other federal agencies (e.g. NIH INBRE, COBRE, NASA EPSCoR) are consistent with the stated long-term goals and objectives of Guam’s participating postsecondary education institutions, the jurisdiction and its community. Where appropriate, the committee shall also consider the jurisdiction’s position in the context of the U.S. affiliated Pacific region. Committee members act as liaisons between the EPSCoR and wider research and development enterprises and their relevant constituencies.

The primary vehicle for the GSTSC’s leadership of Guam’s research and education vision is the Guam Science and Technology Plan (GSTP). The Committee is charged with the development, ratification, periodic updating and dissemination of this Plan, and with liaising with Guam’s scientific community to promote implementation of the Plan’s goals.

As provided in these Bylaws in Article III Section H, the Committee may also form sub-committees to:

- Identify emerging Research and Development (R&D) initiatives and ways to utilize the Science and Technology (S&T) resources residing in Guam’s industries and university infrastructure to promote a stronger jurisdiction-wide science, engineering and technology enterprise;
- Establish productive long-term partnerships between Guam leaders in government, education and business, capable of effecting lasting improvements to the island’s research infrastructure and national R&D competitiveness;
- Identify, solicit and convene support from federal and local government organizations and the private sector to initiate new and facilitate ongoing S&T initiatives;
- Advise Guam EPSCoR Program Principal Investigator(s) regarding the needs and expectations of Guam’s citizens with regard to research, education, and outreach;

- Review the goals, concepts, approaches and evaluation strategies of proposals to the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies, for funding the jurisdiction’s EPSCoR programs;
- Establish funding priorities for EPSCoR in conjunction with the Principal Investigator(s);
- Facilitate the ongoing development of the jurisdiction’s S&T Strategic Framework for advancing Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, and to promote public-private partnerships;
- Provide strategic programs and opportunities that stimulate sustainable improvements in the jurisdiction’s R&D capacity and competitiveness;
- Advance science and engineering capabilities for discovery, innovation, and overall knowledge - based prosperity;
- Develop, implement and coordinate strategies for the investment of resources to enhance research capacity in existing or new areas.

ARTICLE III: Committee Structure

Section A: Leadership

The Leadership of the Committee shall consist of two (2) Chairpersons each representing one of the broad interests of EPSCoR; Research & Education, Business, and Government. A Vice-Chair appointed by invitation of the Chairs shall be responsible for day-to-day committee organization, and coordination of subcommittee activities and initiatives with the delegated authority of the Chairs when applicable.

Section B: Membership

Membership of the Committee shall reflect the Research & Education, Business, and Government interests of Guam, but shall not exceed fifteen (15) members.

Section C: Term Limits

The co-Chairs will serve for a period of no more than four (4) years and may serve as a committee member for four additional years if approved by a majority vote of the committee. Members will serve for a period of four years, and may be approved for one additional four-year term by a majority vote of the committee.

Section D: Reinstatement

After an absence of at least one year, a former committee member may be voted back onto the committee by a majority vote of the committee.

Section E: Nomination and Selection

- Leadership will be nominated from within the current Committee by members of the Committee at least two weeks prior to the last scheduled meeting of Guam’s fiscal year. The Leadership will be approved by a majority vote of the committee.
- New Members will be nominated and selected by current members of the Committee to fill any allowable vacancies provided in Sections B and C at least two weeks prior to the last scheduled meeting of the Guam’s fiscal year. New Members will be approved by a majority vote of the committee.

Section F: Removal of Members

- Any member may be removed from the Committee by a majority vote of the Committee.
- Members not attending and not responding to a call for attendance at three consecutive meetings may be recommended for removal at the discretion of the Committee Leadership.

- The member in question shall be notified of said removal from the Committee with 30 days' notice to give opportunity to appeal the decision.
- The Committee as a whole shall be notified of said removal after the 30 days' notice period has lapsed.

Section G: Ex-Officio Members

In order to avoid conflicts of interests in project governance and leadership, the RII Track-1 Project PD, PIs, and co-PIs will not serve as voting members, Chairs, or co-Chairs. In addition, RII participants may not serve on the statewide EPSCoR committees of other jurisdictions. As such, the Committee shall have the following ex-officio, non-voting members:

- The Guam EPSCoR Principal Investigator(s)
- The Guam EPSCoR Project Administrator

Section H: Subcommittees

The co-Chairs and Vice Chair of the Committee shall determine the purpose and makeup of subcommittees as needed by a majority vote of the Committee, in accordance with the purpose set forth in Article II of the Bylaws.

Section I: Compensation

No salaries will be paid to GSTSC members or leadership. Travel and per diem expenses approved by the Principal Investigator may be paid by Guam EPSCoR pursuant to University of Guam policies and regulations.

ARTICLE IV: Meetings Administration

The Committee shall hold no fewer than two meetings per year. The Committee Chair and co-Chair, in consultation with the Guam EPSCoR Principal Investigator, shall call the meetings. Notice of a meeting and a draft agenda shall be given at least two weeks prior to the scheduled date of a meeting. A quorum shall be achieved when a majority of the Committee members are present, either in person or by conference call, at the scheduled meeting, but each meeting must include the Committee Chair and/or co-Chair and the Guam EPSCoR Program Principal Investigator or designee. Committee members may participate in meetings by conference call. Robert's Rules of Order will be used as a general operating framework for meetings.

ARTICLE V: Reports

The Committee shall make an annual report of its activities and accomplishments to the EPSCoR Principal Investigator on the first day of July of each year.

ARTICLE VI: Amendment of By-Laws

The bylaws may be amended or repealed by a two-thirds majority vote of the Committee members voting on the motion.