

CONSTITUTION

Article I. Name

This organisation will be known University of New England (UNE) Landcare group henceforth referred to as UNELandcare.

Article II. Purpose

The purpose of the UNELandcare is to:

1. Restore ecological integrity on the UNE property, providing insurance for native species.
2. To increase public awareness and environmental education about moving towards ecologically sustainable development

Article III. Membership

A. Members need not be a student at the UNE, anybody who wishes to participate regardless of race, age, gender, sexual orientation or ability, in UNELandcare activities is welcome.

B. Participants must become a member to partake in activities which requires paying the relevant subscription fee for insurance costs as determined by the half Yearly General Meetings of the UNELandcare members. All members have the right to vote and hold office if so elected. Membership can be applied for at any UNELandcare meeting or activity.

C. There will be no maximum number of members.

Article IV. Officers

Section I. Only UNELandcare members are eligible to run or hold for office positions. There must be at least one officer for each position.

Section II. The duties of the Executive Committee will be as follows:

A. President: The President will be the executive officer of the Executive Committee and will have general supervision of the affairs, including the leading the group in applying for funding for UNELandcare, and will preside at all meetings, or if in the advent of not being able ensure the Vice President is able. The president will also take responsibilities for the actions of the UNELandcare group and its projects, whilst ensuring participants are carrying out their responsibilities in their roles.

B. Vice-President: The VP will be the junior executive officer and will act on the behalf of the President in the event of his/her absence. This position can not be nominated for. He/ she will act as a general assistant to the president and be supportive of president decision making, whilst acting as a mediator between parties.

C. Secretary: The Secretary will record the proceedings of each meeting and distribute the minutes via email to the members. They will notify members of events, and organise group paperwork, contact list, and ensure correspondence is handled and dealt with by the appropriate group member. They will be responsible for producing a quarterly newsletter.

D. Treasurer: The Treasurer will maintain financial records of all income and expenditures and consult with the SNELC office to discuss any budget alterations or queries. They will ensure that at each working bee that everyone has paid their membership fees and collect such fees. He/ she are responsible for budget summaries and will prepare financial statements for the group and reports at meetings. The treasurer will compile and maintain asset inventory lists.

E. Project Officers: (4 – 6 positions) Project officers will carry out general organisational tasks (i.e. media and community liaison, flyer distribution, chemical representative, collection of tools, BBQ's, funding applications etc), and assist other committee members where possible when asked. They will act as team leaders at working bees and be aware of necessary permission and guidelines. They must be willing to provide demonstrations of methods used for on-ground works.

Section III. Officers will be elected in the following manner:

A. The elections for officers for the forthcoming period of time (6 months) will take place no later than March 31 & September 30 of each year.

B. Any member of the UNELandcare may campaign or be nominated for any position on the Executive Committee. Existing officers may be re-elected for the same office or another. The candidate names will be emailed out to the list 5 days before voting at the general meeting. Members may self-nominate or with individual permission be nominated by another member.

C. The candidate for each office receiving a majority vote of members at the elections meeting will be considered the victor. If no candidate receives a majority vote, candidates will be allowed 3 minutes to state their case and there will be another ballot. If no candidate receives a majority vote in the second ballot, candidate will be selected randomly by independent overseer.

D. New officers take office from the conclusion of the meeting in which they are voted.

E. Previously elected officers will aid in the training of the responsibilities for the newly elected officers.

Section IV. Officers shall be removed in this manner:

A. If an officer fails to maintain Institute requirements for holding office and he or she shall resign immediately.

B. If it is believed that an officer is not fulfilling his or her constitutional duties, then a petition requesting his or her removal must be signed by all of the remaining Executive Committee and presented at the next general meeting. At this meeting the grievance will be presented and both sides will have the opportunity to present a case. At the conclusion of the meeting those present shall vote, via secret-ballot, to decide whether the individual has the

right to maintain their committee position, upon which they will be re-instated for the duration of the elected term or their position will be terminated.

D. If the President is removed or resigns, the Vice-President will take his/her place in the interim. All other officers will be nominated by the membership and voted on in accordance with regular election procedures.

Article V. Constitutional Amendments

Section I. Amendments to the constitution shall be submitted to the Executive Committee in writing for consideration. A reading or email of the proposed amendment(s) will be required prior to submitting the amendment to a vote.

Section II. Written notification of the proposed amendment to all voting members must be made by mail or email, at least two weeks in advance of any proposed change in the constitution.

Section IV. A two-thirds vote of members present at the meeting in which it is presented will be required for adoption.

Article VI. Dissolution

A. If, at any General Meeting of the Organisation, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of the Organisation, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting of the Organisation to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.

B. If, at that Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the Full Members present at the meeting, the General Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of the Organisation and discharge all debts and liabilities of the Organisation.

C. After discharging all debts and liabilities of the Organisation, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst the Full Members of the Organisation, but shall be given or transferred to the Southern New England Landcare Co-ordinating Committee.