

Gente de la Tierra

Mission Statement:

Gente de la Tierra provides a space for students of low-income backgrounds to express their challenges such as in their personal and environmental issues. Issues that would be expressed through dialogue, art, and other forms of activities as a healing process. This will empower and create an awareness movement which will develop and address these issues utilizing on-campus resources and bridging off-campus organizations to build a strong Santa Cruz County community.

Statements of Responsibility:

The Authorized Representatives, officers, and members of this organization:

- Accept responsibility for compliance with University policies and campus regulations.
- Understand and agree to abide by the provisions of the anti-hazing statutes in the California Education Code or Penal Code (as amended, effective January 1st, 2007).
- Affirm that the rules, regulations and policies of the University of California and UCSC shall supersede the rules, regulations, policies and/or bylaws of any affiliated international, national, regional or local organization.

Membership:

- All students interested in the purpose of this organization are eligible for membership.
- Membership is open to any student regardless of gender, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability status, race, or socioeconomic background.
- Membership is not limited to currently registered UCSC students. Non-students are welcome to participate in activities, and may be members, hold office, or vote.
- Non-students must complete non-student participation forms.

Definition of a Member:

A student is defined as an active member of the organization if they attend three or more events during a quarter. Membership is determined by quarter. If a student does not attend events during a quarter, they are not considered an active member, but can still hold inactive membership, which may limit their opportunities within the organization.

Disqualification may occur if:

Students consistently demonstrate the following behavior toward any person after mediation:

1. Verbal and physical violence
2. Gender and Race Discrimination
3. Three or more consistent attendance grants voting privileges
4. Open quorum will decide if the member is disqualified or not, using consensus-based method.

Community Agreements:

Students must demonstrate the ethnic responsibility by committing and dedicating to the

organization's purpose and goals, and willingness to work with people and resolve any conflicts when they arise.

Members will volunteer weekly for the alternating positions. If there is the case of multiple members that want the same job, then there will be a vote among the organization, which will choose who is more capable of taking on the responsibility of the position. Positions will be switch every week. The purpose of switching officers is to give an opportunity to all members to experience all positions in order to be a well rounded member.

Member Roles and Responsibilities:

1. Facilitator: Responsible to facilitate the meetings on-time, and reserve a room for at least 2 hours, state the outcomes, begin with a trust building activity, consider others opinions and be mutual, end with evaluation/ feedback. At the end of each meeting, someone volunteers to be a facilitator for next week and reserves the room. So, the location and time of next week will be showed in the notes online.
2. Fiscal: Responsible to make the organization's account transparent to student members and keeps record of any historical financial expenses.
3. Outreach: Outreach events and projects to students and off-campus organizations who are interested or may be interested to build connections and bridging for interested resources.
4. Webmaster: Insure the website is reliable from an outsider perspective and update any changes (notes, events, location and time for every week)
5. Historian: Documents any past events in a scrap notebook album and locates it in an accessible location. Also, obtains contact information from past members and organizations. Also, the historian would have written records of finances that would be posted on Gente de la Tierra website and on DropBox, an external harddrive.
6. Note-taker: Takes notes and reminds the members of the organization of any important dates and deadlines. The note taker would be required to email the notes to the student members and the website coordinator to post them online, where it can be transparent to the public. Also, the note-taker should record attendance through a google dox, and update for his/her day, and if a person has stopped coming for over a month, they should stop emailing them.

Organization Decision-making:

Consensus based

To have a consent of all participating members and agree to have a collaborative decision-making process. Voting privileges will be lost if students do not consistently attend to three or more meetings. The group of students will participate in this consensus decision-making process, unless they desire to block. First, the students will vote based on the information provided. If the group is not ready, then they will have an opportunity to discuss about the issues related to the topic it pertains. Then, they will vote. This will be documented by the

notetaker and voting privileges will be granted by consistently attending the meetings.

Submitted on January 11, 2013

Approved by Gente de la Tierra on February, 19 2013