College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences Student Council


PREAMBLE

We, the representatives of organizations in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences and the School of Environment and Natural Resources, believing that a coordinating body is needed for the College and School do ordain and establish this Constitution of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences Student Council.

ARTICLE I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall be:

To communicate, as a representative body, the interests of students in the College and School concerning campus affairs and University and College and School policies to the University community.

To sponsor activities and encourage rapport among students, faculty, staff, and alumni of the College and School in order to provide for continuing growth of students’ services, scholarship and leadership.

To project a professional image of modern agriculture and natural resources.

To serve as a medium for the exchange of ideas and for the publicity of events between the organizations of the College and School.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in the Council shall be comprised of the organization’s highest officer or selected representative who is enrolled in either the College of Food, Agricultural, Environmental Sciences, or the School of Environment and Natural Resources, with the exception of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers The Secretary will keep a current roster of organizations and their representatives.

Section 2. Other voting members include the two student chairpersons of Public Relations, the two Elected Members at Large, and the Social Chairperson.

Section 3. Advisors from Agriculture and Environment and Natural Resources shall serve as ex-officio members of the Council. One advisor shall represent the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and one shall represent the School of
Environment and Natural Resources. The Agriculture advisor is selected on even years for a term of two years, and the Environment and Natural Resources advisor is selected on odd years, also for a two year term.

Section 4. A permanent advisor, who is also an ex-officio member, is assigned by the Associate Dean of the College and serves in this capacity until said advisor resigns due to any reasons, personal or professional.

Section 5. Further membership in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences Student Council shall be determined as provided for in the By-Laws.

Section 6. Membership in the Council shall not be denied to anyone on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, sex, age, handicap, or Vietnam-era veteran status.

Section 7. Our student organization agrees not to participate in hazing. Hazing, defined by the Ohio Revised Code, means “doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. No person shall recklessly participate in the hazing of another.”

ARTICLE III. FINANCIAL

Section 1. No dues shall be required of members.

Section 2. It shall be within the powers of this organization to enter into any contract with approval of all advisors. However, if at the end of the Council’s fiscal year, the Council is in debt, the organizations represented shall discharge the deficit by a general assessment.

Section 3. Authorized co-signers on the Student Council bank account are; president, treasurer, and the permanent advisor. In extreme circumstances, the president and permanent advisor may appoint another individual (other than the three previously mentioned) to be a co-signer.

Section 4. Any student organization in good standing, having worked at least one shift at the Farm Science Review refreshment stands, may request funding for programs from Council. Funding request forms must be submitted to Council when the request is made. Upon the completion of their program, club representatives must make a presentation summarizing their event or trip in order to show how Council funds helped the club. Under extreme circumstances, the executive team may approve such requests.

ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings will be held on the even weeks of the quarter on Thursday, unless holiday or other conflicts exist.
Section 2. Executive meetings will be held during the odd weeks of the quarter on Thursday, unless holiday or other conflicts exist.

Section 3. The Transition Meeting shall be held at the fourth meeting of spring quarter. This meeting shall mark the beginning of a new Student Council year. All old and new club representatives and officers should be in attendance so Council can successfully transition into the next year.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS

Section 1. Elected officers shall consist of: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Social Chairperson, and Public Relations Co-Chairs.

Section 2. Applicants for at-large offices (including President, Social Chairperson, and Public Relations Co-Chairs) on Council must be an enrolled student in good standing in the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences or the School of Environment and Natural Resources. The Selections Committee will screen the applications and propose a slate of at least two candidates for each office, if applicable. The Council will elect the at-large offices by a simple majority vote with each active club, Social Chairperson, Public Relations Co-chairs, and the elected members at large having one vote. Elections shall be conducted at the third meeting of the Spring Quarter.

Section 3. The office of Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer must come from the newly elected members of Student Council. Applicants for these offices must be an enrolled student in good standing in the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences or the School of Environment and Natural Resources. The Selections Committee will screen the applications and propose a slate of at least two candidates for each office, if applicable. A simple majority vote is required with each active club, Social Chairperson, Public Relations Co-chairs, and elected members at large having one vote. Elections shall be conducted at the third meeting of Spring Quarter.

Section 4. Removal of elected and appointed officers shall take place if the officer is not fulfilling the duties outlined in the constitution and can be approved by the executive committee with the approval of two advisors. If the decision is contested, it shall be brought before the general council body and the removal will require a 2/3 vote.

ARTICLE VI. COMMITTEES

Section 1. Executive Committee - This committee shall consist of the officers, the Public Relations Co-chairs, the Social Chairperson, the co-chairs of each Student Council committee, and advisors of the council.

Section 2. Selection Committee - The Selection Committee shall consist of two co-chairs that are rank 4 Council members. It shall be formed spring quarter. It is their duty to distribute applications and run elections for CFAES Recognition Banquet, Council Officer
Elections, CFAES Recognition Banquet Co-Chairs, as well as with any other committee chairs and any other elections that take place throughout the academic year.

Section 3. Current Affairs Committee – Current Affairs Committee shall be responsible for hosting and providing refreshments for the State of the College Address, all duties associated with the Star Student Supporter and Student of the Fortnight awards, and organizes the meal for the annual Student Council Transition Meeting.

Section 4 The Student Development Committee - The Student Development Committee shall be responsible for organizing and implementing Professional Development Night (PDN) which shall be held during Winter quarter. The activities held during PDN shall focus on etiquette training, business dress, interviewing tips, or diversity education. In addition to organizing and implementing PDN, this committee shall facilitate opportunities throughout the year to further enrich students and/or organizations.

Section 5. CFAES Outreach/Public Relations - The CFAES Outreach/Public Relations committee is responsible to coordinate and fund a faculty/staff appreciation breakfast on the last day of classes each quarter. Every fall, the committee is responsible for organizing the CFAES Involvement Fair. In addition, it is the duty of the committee to promote the student organizations within the college and school through the use of display boards in Kottman Hall, Ag Admin, and at the bus stop. These boards should be kept updated and should be available for use by any student organization.

Section 6. The CFAES Recognition Banquet Committee (further referred to as the Banquet Committee) – Banquet Committee shall be presided over by two or more co-chairmen elected by the Student Council at the last meeting of the autumn quarter. These co-chairs will then be responsible for attending Council Meetings and Executive Committee meetings to update members and officers on the progress of the Banquet Committee. Members of the Banquet Committee shall be from both the Student Council body as well as CFAES students at-large. The advisor of the Banquet Committee is to be appointed by the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences.

Section 7. Social Committee – shall be in charge of organizing the CFAES Ag-Lympics as well as planning a quarterly social event.

Section 8. Special Committees may be appointed by the President with the approval by the Executive Committee. Other committees may be appointed as needed. At least two appointed council members shall serve on each committee. Members may serve on more than one committee. A written report may be requested by the Vice President upon completion of that committee’s projects.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. A three-fourths approving vote of all voting members shall be required to pass an
amendment to the Constitution and/or By-Laws.

Section 2. New amendments shall automatically invalidate conflicting provision.

Section 3. Amendments to this constitution and/or By-Laws shall be handed to the Secretary in written form and be read to the Council at a regular meeting. No vote may be taken until the following meeting.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Organizations must have their new representative to Council elected in time for the Transition Meeting during Spring Quarter. An exception is made for the Norton/Scott/Archer Representative which should be elected before the end of the fourth week of Autumn Quarter the following school year.

Section 2. New members to the Council shall begin their terms upon installation at the fourth meeting of Spring Quarter or first meeting after the Recognition Banquet. Terms of retiring representatives shall expire upon installation of new members.

Section 3. It is expected of representatives that they attend all meetings of the Council. On the occasion that a representative cannot be present, an alternate must be sent in his/her place and shall retain all voting privileges. The name of the alternate can be submitted to the Secretary prior to the meeting. The same representative/alternate shall participate through the year of appointment if at all possible.

Section 4. Upon accumulation of two absences deemed inexcusable (not approved in advance) by the Executive Committee during the year, the representative shall be placed on inactive status. Inactive status is defined as a club having no voting privileges. A letter shall be sent to the club’s advisor and president informing them of inactive status. To regain active status, the organization must submit a letter to the Executive Committee requesting active status with a new representative’s name.

Section 5. Any registered OSU organization affiliated with the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences or the School of Environment and Natural Resources, desiring membership on the Council may submit a written petition signed by officers and advisors of the organization to the Executive Committee for review. The petition shall include: a description of the purposes and activities of the organization; its potential contributions to the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences Student Council; and its expectations of the Council’s contributions to the organization. This shall be accompanied by the Constitution and By-Laws of the organization. After unanimous approval by the entire Executive Committee present, the petition will be read
at the next Council meeting. The organization will then granted membership upon a two-thirds approving vote of all voting members.

Section 6. Public Relations Co-Chairperson -- The public relations co-chairpersons shall be nominated from the College at large upon presentation of a petition to the Executive Committee. The Selection Committee shall select not more than four (4) petitioners to be interviewed by the Council for each of the two (2) chairpersonships. One co-chairperson shall be elected from Agriculture and one from Natural Resources. The Council shall elect from the list of petitioners a representative from each of these two (2) by a simple majority vote of the voting members present.

Section 7. The Social Chair shall be nominated from the College or School upon presentation of a petition to the Executive Committee. The Selection Committee shall select not more than three (3) petitioners to be interviewed by the Council. The Council shall elect one (1) petitioner by a simple majority of voting members present to be the Social Chairperson.

Section 8. The two (2) Elected Members-At-Large shall be nominated from the College and School at large upon presentation of a petition to the Executive Committee. The Selection Committee shall select not more than three (3) petitioners to be interviewed by Council for each of the two (2) positions. One Elected Member at Large shall be elected from the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences and one from the School of Environment and Natural Resources. The Council shall from the list of petitioners choose a representative from each of these two (2) by a simple majority vote of the voting members present.

Section 9. Annual Recognition Program Co-Chairpersons – During fall Quarter the Selection Committee shall select not more than six (6) petitioners to be interviewed by the Council. The co-chairpersons must be enrolled in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences or the School of Environment and Natural Resources. The appointment of these co-chairpersons must be approved by a simple majority of the voting members present at a regular meeting of the Council.

Section 10. The editor of Good News shall serve as an ex-officio member.

Section 11. The USG representative from the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, including the School of Environment and Natural Resources, shall have full voting rights.

Section 12. Removal of members shall take place if the member is not fulfilling the duties outlined in the constitution or misrepresenting the purpose of Council as outlined in Article I. The dismissal can be approved by the executive committee with the approval of two advisors. If the decision is contested, it shall be brought before the general Council body and the removal will require a 2/3 vote.

ARTICLE II. MEETINGS
Section 1. Two-thirds of all members shall constitute a quorum. No business shall be conducted unless a quorum is present.


Section 3. A simple majority is 50% plus one of the voting quorum present.

ARTICLE III. ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominations shall be disclosed only to the nominees until time of election. The Selections Committee shall present at least two candidates for President. Candidates must fill out a petition for office by a date determined by the nominating committee. The candidates may give their own qualifications but are not required to do so. Council members shall then vote for President by secret ballot. A simple majority of voting members present shall be required to elect an officer.

Section 2. After the presidential election results are announced, the elections shall take place for the at-large membership positions.

Section 3. After the at-large election results are announced, the same procedure shall then take place for each separate remaining office; Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Co-Chairs, and Social Chairperson. A nominated candidate who loses is not automatically eliminated from being nominated for another office.

Section 4. If there are no petitions for a particular office at the time of elections, nominations can be taken from the floor, assuming that the nominee meets the qualifications for that office.

Section 5. If there is only one petitioner for each office, a slate can be formed and voted on using an approve or not approve ballot.

ARTICLE IV. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Duties of Officers

Paragraph 1: President -- Shall direct all activities of the Council. Shall preside at meetings. Shall be responsible for coordination and welfare of the Council. Shall serve as a member of the CFAES Alumni Society Board of Directors. The President shall also serve as the official representative of the Council.

Paragraph 2: Vice-President — Shall assume duties of President in his/her absence. Shall be ex-officio advisor to all committees. Shall act as chairperson of the Executive Committee and shall formulate an agenda for all upcoming meetings.

Paragraph 3: Secretary — Shall keep an accurate written record of all meetings, take
Paragraph 4: Treasurer — Shall keep an accurate record of all the receipts and disbursements of Council funds. Shall be responsible for paying all the Council’s bills and shall have the records audited as specified by University rules. Shall also prepare an annual budget to be presented to Council for approval by the last meeting of Autumn Quarter. The treasurer will also be responsible for the management of the Farm Science Review refreshment stands.

Section 2. A vacancy in the office of President shall automatically be filled by the Vice President. In case of a permanent vacancy in any other office, nomination shall be made consistent with the procedure used during regular elections. A temporary vacancy in any other office shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and approved by Council.

Section 3. All retiring officers shall be responsible for offering recommendations to the new officers after elections as well as transferring all related documents and materials to the new officers.

ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Selections Committee shall submit an evaluation of the nominating process upon its completion.

Section 2. Co-chairs for the Selections, Current Affairs, and Student Development committees shall be selected on a volunteer basis at the last meeting of spring quarter. If more than two people volunteer for the same co-chair position, an election can be held during the meeting in which the two highest vote recipients shall be elected to the position.

Section 3. At the last meeting of spring quarter, the executive team shall distribute a committee preference sheet so that Council members may request a committee to serve on for the next year. Final decisions regarding committee membership and formation are left to the executive team.

ARTICLE VI. CONSTITUTION REVIEW

Section 1. Review and revision of the Constitution and By-Laws should take place on a biennial basis. The review occurs between the election of new officers and the Transition Meeting (third and fourth meetings of spring quarter) and should involve both newly elected and exiting executive teams.
Section 2. Proposed revisions to the Constitution and By-Laws must be introduced at a regular meeting of Student Council, and then be allowed to sit for period of at least two weeks before being voted upon.