University of Arizona School of Plant Sciences Graduate student club

Organization Constitution

**PREAMBLE**

We, the entire students of the School of Plant Sciences, College of Agriculture and Life

Sciences, University of Arizona, having firmly and solemnly resolved to perpetuate and enhance

the advancement of the Student’s Association of the aforesaid College of the University,

recognizing the need to contribute our quota to the terms of production of a constitution with the

sole purpose of contributing our quota to the progress, unity and dignity of our community and

the human race as a whole, the aims and objectives mentioned herein and for the purpose of

fostering unity, peace and progress, to enhance and foster our general welfare and the

protection of our collective interest in identifying the unique role we have to play in the scientific,

technological, cultural social, political and economic development of our fatherland in the realm

of the constraints of our era and our role, in the enhancement of fair, open, progressive and

appropriate educational system that will guarantee self-reliance and egalitarianism in our

society.

To work relentlessly for the maintenance of academic and sustainable utilization of resources

throughout the United States, to provide a conducive and intellectual atmosphere, to provide the

means by which we may adequately utilize the educational, multicultural, intellectual and

sporting activities in our era.

To equip ourselves toward the leadership challenge of this nation and to commit ourselves to

the pursuance of the best ideals of the University, maintenance of cordial relationship with

constituted authority and obedience to the Executive Office of the President, University of

Arizona, do hereby make, enact and give to ourselves through our representatives in the

Parliament, the following constitution which shall become effective from the date it is approved

by the President, University of Arizona, United States.

**ARTICLE I:** This constitution was adopted by majority vote on February \_\_, 2023.

**ARTICLE II:** )) is a student group that provides an opportunity for graduate students in the School of Plant Sciences to meet and discuss current research in the field, ways to improve the department, and their experiences as graduate students. In addition, )) will plan events to encourage collaboration and connections between students, faculty, and staff in the School of Plant Sciences.

**ARTICLE III:** )) is a campus-based and student-controlled group at the University of Arizona. University of Arizona students in good academic standing can be a member of )). )) will have a faculty/staff advisor, Dr. Marc Orbach, who will not serve as a member.

**ARTICLE IV:** )) is a not-for-profit student group and there will be no financial obligations from any member of the group.

**ARTICLE V:** Officers of the Club

**SECTION 1- OFFICERS** Officers of the club shall include: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two (2) student ambassadors. These individuals will make up the Executive Board of )).

**SECTION 2-DUTIES**

The President: It is the President’s responsibility to serve as the spokesperson of )), chair all Executive Board meetings, and work with the Executive Board and faculty advisor to ensure that objectives in Article II are met.

Vice President: The Vice President will assist the President in overseeing all club activities, and perform the President’s duties in situations where the President must be absent due to unavoidable circumstances.

The Secretary: The Secretary will keep detailed notes on topics discussed during meetings and will send meeting notes to all members within one week of a general meeting. The Secretary will keep track of all elections, and report results to all members within 48 hours.

The Treasurer: The Treasurer will be responsible for organizing the club’s finances and helping the Executive Board to create budgets for club activities. The Treasurer is responsible for applying for funding for club events and must update the Executive Board on the financial status of the club once a month.

Student ambassadors: Student ambassadors will be responsible for updating other members of the Executive Board on events occurring at the University of Arizona that pertain to graduate students. Student ambassadors will also be responsible for communicating with other departments, clubs or universities to encourage collaboration between graduate students.

**SECTION 3-QUALIFICATIONS**

All officers must be in good academic standing at the University of Arizona. Students must carry a minimum of three (3) credits during their term of office and maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA.

**SECTION 4-NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS, AND TERM OF OFFICE**

To become a candidate for election for an officer position, a student must be nominated by at least two (2) members of the group. Only affiliated persons, not including the faculty advisor, can nominate an individual for an officer position. Elections will take place in March for the Fall Semester, and the term of office for all officers is one (1) year. Election outcomes will be based on a democratic majority vote from all members of the club- no votes shall be cast by non-affiliated persons or the faculty advisor. The Secretary will count all votes, obtained by secret ballot, and report results to the members. Officers can serve up to two (2) terms in a given position, and members cannot hold multiple officer positions concurrently.

**SECTION 5-REMOVAL OF OFFICERS**

Removal of officers can occur through a special election after being proposed by a member who has petitioned at least five (5) members in good standing for removal. A special election will be led by the Secretary. Removal will occur if a majority votes for the removal of an officer through a secret ballot. If an officer is removed, a special election for replacement of that officer position will occur at the next general meeting.

**ARTICLE V: MEETING PROCEDURES**

Executive Board meetings and general member meetings will be held once a month. Quorum is greater than half of the total number of eligible members. A simple majority of quorum is required to vote on matters such as club business and motions.

**ARTICLE VI: AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION**

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by any member in good standing, and must be supported by at least six (6) members through a petition. A petition must be presented to the Secretary, who will conduct a vote by secret ballot on amending the constitution at the next general meeting. A majority vote is required for an amendment to the Constitution.

**ARTICLE VII: WILLINGNESS TO WORK WITH UNIVERSITY** )) is willing to work in a democratic manner within the framework of University policies and procedures.

**ARTICLE VIII: STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION**

This organization shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or genetic information in any of its policies, procedures, and practices. This policy will include, but is not limited to recruiting, membership, organization activities, or opportunity to hold office. Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute 15- 1863, religious or political student organizations may determine that ordering the organization's internal affairs, selecting the organization’s leaders and members, defining the organization’s doctrines and resolving the organization’s disputes are in furtherance of the organization’s religious or political mission and that only persons committed to that mission should conduct such activities. Pursuant to Section 106.14 of the regulations promulgated under Title IX of the US Education Act Amendment of 1972, Social Greek Letter Organizations may limit membership based on gender.

**ARTICLE IX: STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

A specific member or members designated by this organization shall be responsible for payment in full of all debts accumulated by the organization not covered by funds on deposit.

**ARTICLE X: STATEMENT OF NON-HAZING**

This organization will not conspire to engage in hazing,participate in hazing, or commit any act that causes or is likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm,or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to any fellow student or person attending the institution.

**ARTICLE XI: STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE** This organization shall comply with all University and campus policies and regulations, in addition to all local, state, and federal laws.

**ARTICLE XII:** )) is subject to the Arizona Board of Regents Code of Conduct.