

**The Constitution of Minorities in Agriculture,
Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) Chapter
Mississippi State University**

Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine

The name of this organization shall be Minorities in AGRICULTURE, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences. **MANRRS-Mississippi State University.**

**ARTICLE II
PURPOSE**

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- a) To provide academic support,
- b) To promote a professional network and career awareness and development,
- c) To provide social support and fellowship for minorities in agriculture, natural resources, and related sciences; and
- d) To help attract and retain minority students and faculty.

**ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP**

- Section 1. Membership shall consist of undergraduates, graduates, professional, associate, honorary, and supporting members.
- Section 2. Undergraduate student at Mississippi State University who is enrolled in an accredited educational institution or program that leads to the award of an undergraduate or associate degree in the agriculture sciences or a related field.
- Section 3. Graduate Student at Mississippi State University who is enrolled full time in an accredited educational institution and/ or program that leads to the award of a post baccalaureate professional or graduate degree.
- Section 4. Professional member is any person who is at employment state in his/her life and is not enrolled as a full time student in an educational institution. This membership is open to all faculty, staff, and professionals in the fields of agriculture, natural resources and the related sciences.
- Section 5. Honorary Member may be conferred upon as any person who has made significant contributions toward the

- promotion and improvement of the agriculture sciences and related sciences and/or the society for MANRRS.
- Section 6. Supporting Member shall be any company, organization, institution, or agency, which contributes to the support of the National Society annually according to levels, set by the Executive Committee. Hold office, preside, officiate, or solicit funds on behalf of this organization.
- Section 7. Only active members may vote hold office, preside, officiate, or solicit funds on behalf of this organization.
- Section 8. A person may be expelled from this organization for any case of dishonesty, misrepresentation or obstruction of the progress or purpose of Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences-Mississippi State University. A quorum shall consist of two-thirds of the members present at a regular meeting. A quorum (see Article VII, Section 1) is needed for voting on expulsion. The vote shall be done by secret ballot.
- Section 9. Membership and participation shall be free from discrimination based on race, religion, ethnic, group, national origin, handicap, or sex.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

- Section 1. The officers of the organization shall include President, Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Business Manager, Parliamentarian, and Sergeant of Arms.
- Section 2. All active members are eligible for office in the organization.
- Section 3. No member shall hold more than one office at a time, and no member shall be eligible to serve more than two (2) consecutive full terms in the same office.
- Section 4. The term of office for regularly elected shall be one year. The term for any officer elected between regular elections shall end at the next regular election. Term of office begins at the end of the meeting at which an officer is elected.
- Section 5. Any currently employed full-time member of the University's faculty or staff who is an active Associate Member of the MANRRS-Mississippi State University Chapter can serve as Advisor or Co-Advisor. The Advisor and Co-Advisor will serve one-year appointments. The Advisor position will rotate among the colleges within the Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine.

The Co-Advisor can come from any colleges at Mississippi State University.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS AND DUTIES

- Section 1. The President shall preside over meetings, serve as an ex-officio member of committees, represent the organization when necessary, and appoint committees with the approval of the Executive Committee.
 - Section 2. The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President when the President is unable to preside.
 - Section 3. The secretary shall be responsible for all correspondences, for recording and maintaining reports and minutes of the organization, and for mailing notices of meetings.
 - Section 4. The Assistant Secretary shall perform all the duties of the Secretary during his/her absence.
 - Section 5. The treasurers shall keep accounts, deposit the organizations funds, and make expenditures in a manner approved by the office of the fiscal director of student finance. At each meeting the treasure shall report any financial transactions that have been executed since the last meeting.
 - Section 6. The Historian shall keep records (photo and written documentation) of all activities of the club.
 - Section 7. The Business Manager shall handle the club's business aspects and interests.
 - Section 8. The Parliamentarian shall act as an expert on the rules and usages of assemblies.
 - Section 9. The sergeant of Arms shall act as the enforcer or chief of police. He/She shall police all meetings; removing any unruly members and restoring law and order.
- The current elected officers shall constitute the Executive Committee of the organization.

ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. This constitution may be amended at any meeting of Minorities in agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences-Mississippi State University providing the proposed amendment has been discussed in detail at a prior meeting. During the meeting at which members vote

- on an amendment to the constitution, that amendment shall be verbally reviewed prior to voting.
- Section 2. The quorum needed for voting on amendments to this constitution shall be that specified in ARTICLE VII, Section 1.
- Section 3 The majority needed to approve amendments to this constitution shall be that specified in ARTICLE VII, Section 2.
- Section 4 All amendments to the constitution or bylaws are subject to the approval of the office of the Dean of Students.

ARTICLE VII BYLAWS

- Section 1 For conduct of business, a quorum shall consist of a two-third vote of members present at a regular meeting.
- Section 2 For all elections a majority shall consist of fifty (50) percent plus one (1) of members present at a regular meeting.
- Section 3 The Executive Committee shall appoint committee chairmen. Other committee members may be appointed by the Executive Committee, or may be volunteers.
- Section 4 Election Procedures
- a) Officers shall be elected annually at least two weeks prior to the last meeting during the fall semester.
 - b) Nominations shall be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee.
 - c) Voting will be conducted by secret ballot.
 - d) The majority needed to conduct nominations and elections shall be that specified in ARTICLE VII, Section 2.
- Section 5 In the event of a vacancy in an elected office, the Executive Committee may call a special election at any regular meeting to fill the vacated position.
- Section 6 Dues for undergraduates and graduates shall be ten dollars per year and are due no later than October 31 of each fall semester.
- a) Suggestions for amount of dues shall be made from the floor.
 - b) The quorum needed to set dues shall be that specified in ARTICLE VII, Section 1.
 - c) The majority needed to set dues shall be that specified in ARTICLE VII, Section 2.
- Section 7. The officers of Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences-**Mississippi State University**

perform the duties prescribed by this constitution and by the parliamentary authority, Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 8 Regular meetings of the organization shall be held monthly during the fall and spring semesters with a minimum of four (4) regular meetings scheduled each semester. The schedule of meetings shall be determined by a two-third vote of the members present at the regular meeting.

Section 9 These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences-**Mississippi State University**, providing the proposed amendment has been discussed in detail prior to voting within the regular meeting. During the meeting at which members vote on an amendment to the constitution, that amendment shall be verbally reviewed prior to voting.

- a) The quorum needed for voting on amendments to these bylaws shall be that specified in ARTICLE VII, Section 1.
- b) The majority needed to approve amendments to this constitution shall be that specified in ARTICLE VII, Section 2.
- c) All amendments to the Bylaws are subject to the approval of the Office of the Dean of Students

Adopted: 12/6/01