

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**  
**of the**  
**SOUTHERN REGION OF THE**  
**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION (AAAE)**

*Adopted February 2, 2009*

ARTICLE I      NAME

Section 1.      The name of the organization shall be "Southern Region American Association for Agricultural Education." The name "Southern Region" may be used herein in lieu of the complete name of the organization.

Section 2.      The Southern Region is a regional affiliate of the "American Association for Agricultural Education," herein referred to as "AAAE." As such, the Southern Region will operate under the guidelines, procedures, and practices of AA AE, except as noted herein.

ARTICLE II     PURPOSE

Section 1.      Mission: The mission of the Southern Region is congruent with the mission of its parent organization, the American Association for Agricultural Education. The AA AE mission is to advance the broad field of study which integrates social and behavioral sciences with agricultural, life, environmental, and natural resource sciences. Scholarship within the field of study is additive to the knowledge bases of planning and needs assessment; curriculum development; learning theory; instructional design; delivery strategies; evaluation; research methods and tools; scholarship and writing; history, philosophy and ethics; and contextual applications, culture and diversity. Our context for scholarship and practice include teacher education, international agricultural education, extension education, agricultural communications, distributed learning, higher education, and leadership education.

Section 2.      Goals: The Southern Region will accomplish its mission by:

- serving as an advocate for the improvement of teaching and learning in agriculture.
- providing a forum to address issues in agricultural education.
- providing an approach to identifying, prioritizing, and organizing research in agricultural education.
- providing opportunities for individual and organizational growth, development, and renewal.
- providing opportunities to communicate the results of research and other scholarly activities.
- providing opportunities for collaboration within and outside of agricultural education.

- providing for recruiting, inducting, and mentoring people into the profession.

Section 3.

Values: As a professional organization, we value:

- high quality instruction in the total formal and nonformal agricultural education system.
- developing and empowering individuals.
- actively engaging learners/experiential learning.
- high quality research and other scholarly activities.
- an active role in contributing to both formal and non-formal educational systems.
- professional renewal and adjusting to change.
- collaboration and networking.
- the critical role of agriculture and natural resources in our nation's welfare
- a public that is informed about trends and issues in the agricultural industry

ARTICLE III STATES AND TERRITORIES

Section 1. States and territories comprising the Southern Region shall be defined by AAAE.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Membership in the Southern Region may be granted and maintained as defined in Article IV of the AAAE Constitution and Bylaws. Upon acceptance as a member in AAAE, members from states and territories comprising the Southern Region, as defined by AAAE, shall be considered members of the Southern Region.

Section 1 Active Membership

Individuals employed by colleges or universities and who are engaged in agricultural education, as broadly defined herein, are eligible for Active Membership. Active Members shall include those persons who have paid current dues as established in Article IV, Section 6. Once approved by the Board of Directors, Active Membership may be maintained through timely payment of annual dues (Active Annual Member), or by paying a lifetime membership fee (Active Life Member).

Section 2 Associate Membership

Individuals who wish to associate with and support AAAE, but who do not qualify for Active Membership, or do not wish to participate in the

governance of AAAE, may be Associate Members. Once approved by the Board of Directors, Associate Membership is maintained through timely payment of annual dues.

Section 3 Student Membership

Individuals accepted into a graduate degree program pursuing agricultural education objectives, as broadly defined herein, are eligible for Student Membership. Once approved by the Board of Directors, Student Members maintain their membership through timely payment of annual dues and continued student status.

Section 4 Honorary Membership

Honorary membership may be conferred upon recommendation of the Board of Directors to individuals who have distinguished themselves by making outstanding contributions to the mission and goals of AAAE.

Section 5 Retired Life Membership

Life membership may be conferred upon recommendation of the Board of Directors to individuals who have been Active Members of the organization (minimum of five years in good standing) who have retired or will retire during the academic year in which the annual AAAE meeting is held. The life membership will entitle the holder to no further payment of dues and to complimentary copies of the *AAAE Newsletter* and *Journal of Agricultural Education*.

Section 1. Dues

Annual Dues for each class of membership shall be congruent with those of AAAE. The AAAE Treasurer shall be responsible for accepting and dispensing funds of the Southern Region and for investment of balances as appropriate in accordance with policies established by the AAAE Board of Directors and Southern Region Executive Committee. The AAAE Treasurer shall present a report and account audit statement for review and consideration by the members at the annual meeting each year. The AAAE Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting dues, funds associated with any activity of the Southern Region, and maintaining membership records.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of Southern Region shall be President (who shall serve as the AAAE Regional Vice President), Vice President, Secretary, and Past-President.

Section 2. Only Active Members may serve in leadership positions.

Section 3 The officers shall be elected by majority vote of those present and voting at the annual meeting. Each regional officer shall be elected for a two-year term. Nomination, election procedures, and duties of officers shall be as described in the Bylaws.

## ARTICLE VII VOTING

Section 1. All classes of membership are eligible to attend and participate in discussions of Southern Region business, but only Active Members are eligible to vote.

## ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

Section 1. Committees may be appointed as deemed necessary by the President and/or Executive Committee.

## ARTICLE VIII MEETINGS

Section 1. The annual meeting of the Southern Region shall be held at such time and place as the membership shall decide. Host states will be determined as outlined in Article V, Section 1 of the Southern Region Bylaws.

Section 2. Notice of the annual meeting shall be made to the membership in writing or electronically via email and/or listserv at least 60 days prior to the annual meeting.

## ARTICLE IX AFFILIATION

Section 1. The Southern Region may affiliate with other organizations upon majority vote of the Active Membership or of those present at the annual meeting, providing such affiliation is not in violation of AAAE policies.

## ARTICLE X PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with this constitution and bylaws and any special rules of order the organization may adopt.

ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. This Constitution may be amended by two-thirds of the Active Members present and voting at any annual meeting provided that:
- A. Proposed amendments are submitted to the Executive Committee at least 60 days in advance of the annual meeting.
  - B. The Executive Committee has submitted proposed amendments to the membership in written or electronic form no later than 30 days before the annual meeting.
- Section 2. Amendments may be proposed by the Executive Committee, by committee recommendation, or by any Active Member.

ARTICLE XII DISSOLUTION

- Section 1. On dissolution of the Southern Region, the Executive Committee shall pay or make provision for the payment of all of its liabilities. Any remaining assets will become the property of AAAE.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Section 1 Election of the President, Vice President, and Secretary
- A. The President, with the approval of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a nominating committee which will be chaired by the Past President. The nominating committee shall prepare a slate of candidates for elective offices of the Southern Region. The nominating committee shall submit its report to the Executive Committee prior to the first session of the annual meeting.
  - B. Nominations for any elective offices of the Southern Region may be made from the floor.
  - C. Voting for election of Southern Region officers shall be by secret ballot during the annual meeting.
  - D. No officer or member of the Executive Committee shall be eligible to succeed themselves in their respective offices, except that tenure in office

by virtue of succession as described in ARTICLE II, VACANCIES, shall not prevent election to that office for a full term.

## ARTICLE II VACANCIES

Section 1 Should the President leave the region or profession, or for other reasons become unable to fulfill the duties of the office, such office shall be declared vacant immediately and be filled by the Vice President.

Section 2 Should the Vice President or Secretary leave the region or profession or for other reasons become unable to fulfill the duties of the office, such office shall be declared vacant immediately and the vacancy shall be filled by action of the Executive Committee.

Section 3 Should the Past President leave the region or profession, or for other reasons become unable to fulfill the duties of the office, the office shall be filled by the most recent Past President available, or if needed, filled by action of the Executive Committee.

Section 4 Should any member of a Standing Committee leave the region or profession, or for other reasons be unable to fulfill the duties of the committee, such position shall be declared vacant immediately and be filled by the President.

## ARTICLE III DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall preside at all Southern Region meetings and meetings of the Executive Committee. The President shall appoint committees as authorized by the Executive Committee and act as the official representative of the organization unless a representative is otherwise appointed. In addition, the President shall perform the duties customarily associated with the office of President.

Section 2. The Vice President shall, in the absence of the President, act in the official capacity of the President and perform all duties of that office. The Vice President shall also coordinate with the appropriate committee chair, awards given at the Southern Region annual meeting.

Section 3. The Secretary shall keep full and accurate records of all business and proceedings in regular and special meetings. The Secretary shall be responsible for correspondence of the Southern Region, upon direction of the President and/or Executive Committee.

Section 4. The Past-President shall serve in an advisory capacity to the President and as Chair of the Nominating Committee.

- Section 5           The Executive Committee shall constitute the administrative body of the Southern Region and carry out all of the activities necessary to the successful achievement of its goals. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for:
- A. Recommending appropriate administrative and legislative proposals to the Southern Region membership.
  - B. Establishing administrative and operational policies for the Southern Region.
  - C. Serving the general welfare of the Southern Region.

#### ARTICLE IV       COMMITTEES

- Section 1.       Standing committees shall be maintained to accomplish the goals and activities of the organization. The following standing committees will be maintained:
- Program Improvement
  - Research
  - Member Services
  - Professional Development
- Section 2.       In accordance with AAAE bylaws, each region shall select six representatives to serve on standing committees. The term of committee members shall be two years with three members elected each year. Regional members on standing committees shall be selected by election. In the event of a vacancy on a Standing Committee, the President of the Southern Region shall appoint a replacement, as outlined in Article II, Section 4 of the Southern Region Bylaws. Committee membership is limited to Active Members.
- Section 3.       Standing committees shall meet at least once annually in conjunction with the annual Southern Region meeting. Other meetings, either in electronic form or in person, may be scheduled by the committee chair. Each standing committee shall elect a chair and vice-chair at its annual meeting. Although other AAAE members are invited to participate in committee discussions, voting members of the Standing Committees shall be limited to those committee members elected in the respective regions.
- Section 4.       Special committees may be appointed by the President unless otherwise directed by motion to refer. These committees will be discharged once they have completed their charged functions.
- Section 5.       The Southern Region may select from the Active Membership at large representatives to other councils or organizations.

ARTICLE V ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Southern Region will be held in conjunction with the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists (SAAS), unless otherwise determined by the membership. States comprising the Southern Region will rotate as hosts of the conference. For the purposes of planning and conducting the annual meeting, the SAAS Division President, Vice President, and Secretary shall be selected from the host states in their order of service, respectively. The order of serving as the host state is as follows:

Year	Host State
2010	Oklahoma
----	Alabama*
2011	Arkansas
2012	Virginia
2013	Texas
2014	Florida
2015	Mississippi
2016	Kentucky
2017	Louisiana
2018	Tennessee
2019	South Carolina
2020	North Carolina
2021	Georgia
2022	Oklahoma
2023	Alabama
2024	Arkansas

*\*Note:* Alabama will be omitted from the host state rotation for the 2011 year, but will return to the rotation in its regular position in the following rotation.

ARTICLE VI QUORUM

Section 1. For the purposes of conducting business at the annual meeting, those Active Members in attendance shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. For the purposes of business conducted electronically, a minimum of a majority of the Active Members shall constitute a quorum.



## ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. Amendments may be proposed by the Executive Committee, by committee recommendation, or by any Active Member.
- Section 2. The Bylaws of the Southern Region may be amended by a majority vote of the Active Members present and voting at any annual meeting provided that:
- A. Proposed amendments are submitted to the Executive Committee at least 60 days in advance of the annual meeting.
  - B. The Executive Committee submitted proposed amendments to the membership in written or electronic form no later than 30 days before the annual meeting.
- Section 3. Bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 vote at an annual Southern Region meeting without prior notice.