

Zamorano Agricultural Society at Louisiana State University A&M

PREAMBLE

We, the members of **Zamorano Agricultural Society** do hereby establish this Constitution in order that our purposes, of enhancing the cultural/agricultural exchange among students and alumni of Louisiana State University and Pan-American School of Agriculture (Escuela Agrícola Pan Americana "El Zamorano"), as well as the strengthening of the historical relations between Louisiana State University and Zamorano, shall be realized to its fullest extent.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the organization will be **Zamorano Agricultural Society** at Louisiana State University and A & M College at Baton Rouge, henceforth referred to as **Zamorano Agricultural Society**.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

Zamorano Agricultural Society is established for the expressed purpose of developing leadership skills as well as awareness of social responsibilities so that students are encouraged to participate in public affairs.

Zamorano Agricultural Society is established for the expressed purpose of providing guidance, support, and orientation to new Zamorano alumni and students in the following areas:

- Orientation before arriving to LSU campus.
- Source of information for students interested in doing agricultural research.
- Organize visits and seminars on campus.
- Orientation to recently graduated students.
- Other agricultural, social, educational, and professional activities.

Zamorano Agricultural Society is established for the expressed purpose of strengthening the historical relations between Louisiana State University and A&M College and Zamorano.

Zamorano Agricultural Society is established for the expressed purpose of assisting in the organization of cultural and agricultural exchange among students and alumni of Louisiana State University and A&M College and the Pan-American School of Agriculture.

Zamorano Agricultural Society is established for the expressed purpose of participating in educational and professional agricultural conventions in the State of Louisiana and the nation, in order to increase the knowledge of students about the technological advances in agriculture.

Zamorano Agricultural Society is established for the expressed purpose of promoting agricultural research at LSU.

ARTICLE III – BASIC POLICIES

Section 1 The organization shall be non-commercial.

Section 2 The name of the organization or the names of any members in their official capacities shall not be used in connection with any commercial purpose.

Section 3 The organization shall cooperate with Louisiana State University to support the improvement of education in ways that will not interfere with the administration of the University.

Section 4 The organization may cooperate with other organizations and agencies, but no single member representing Zamorano Agricultural Society shall make no commitments that bind the organization without the authorization of the executive committee.

Section 5. The organization agrees to abide by all University polices and local, state and federal laws.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Any LSU student, faculty member or staff member who subscribes to the purpose and basic policies of the organization may become a member of this organization, subject only to compliance with the provisions of the constitution.

Section 2 Active membership is restricted to LSU students. Associate membership is restricted to LSU faculty and staff. Associate members are non-voting members.

Section 3 Zamorano Agricultural Society will have 5 types of members:

A. Founding Members. Any LSU student, LSU alumni, LSU faculty or staff who attends to at least one of the meetings before the end of the spring semester of 2004. These members are exempt of quotas.

B. Active Members. – Active Members. – All Founding Members are Active Members. Any Zamorano student or alumni and LSU student or alumni who apply for a membership after spring 2004 semester will comply with the following requirements:

- To be a LSU student and/or alumni.
- To be a Zamorano student and/or alumni.
- To supply with her/his contact information for our database.
- To submit a letter requesting membership to the organization.
- To pay the established quotas.

C. Associate Members. – Any member of the LSU faculty and staff who works towards the development and progress of Zamorano Agricultural Society. Associate members are non-voting members. These members are exempt of quotas.

D. Emeritus Members. – All LSU and Zamorano Alumni who were members of Zamorano Agricultural Society while enrolled in school.

E. Friends. – Any person can participate in the activities of the organization by volunteering in the planning and execution of activities, such as providing information, sharing time with the community and networking. Friends are non-voting members.

Section 4 The Zamorano Agricultural Society shall admit students to be members at any time.

Section 5 Only student members in good standing with the university requirements shall be eligible to participate in its business meetings and/or to serve in any of its appointed positions.

Section 6 In the event this organization becomes inactive, all monies left in the treasury after all outstanding debts and claims have been paid shall be donated to the Christ the King Catholic Church.

Section 7 All members of the Zamorano Agricultural Society will be informed of any activity conducted by the University, the state of Louisiana and the U. S.; the activities shall be relevant to the best interest of our membership. Members will also be provided with information on how to attend and participate in such activities.

Section 8 All members of the Zamorano Agricultural Society will provide contact information to create a database. The organization agrees to handle this information with confidentiality. This information will not be released to any commercial or non-commercial organization unless the member's consent is granted.

Section 9 There will be a quota for membership and the amount will be set by vote of the members present at a regular meeting.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION

Section 1 To be eligible to be elected to, appointed to, or to hold an office or be a standing committee chairperson, a student must:

- A. Must be enrolled as a full-time student at LSU.
- B. Must be in good standing with the University, have at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA, and must not be restricted from obtaining or occupying a position of leadership by Student Advocacy and accountability.
- C. Must meet all other reasonable academic standards established by the student organization and included in the organization's constitution and/or bylaws.

Section 2 The officers of the Zamorano Agricultural Society shall include a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. They shall foster leadership and organization skills among the active members of the organization.

Section 3 Responsibilities of Officers:

A. President: The president must propose an agenda for each session, be in charge and guide the reunions, authorize by signing new proposals when approved and represent the organization. The president will lead the executive committee.

B. Vice president: In the absence of the President, the Vice president will assume the functions of the President. Furthermore, the Vice president will support and advice the president. To collect ideas that will enhance the success of the organization.

C. Secretary: To elaborate and to sign documents, proposals and acts of sessions of the organization. The secretary also has to keep records to the active members and verify membership.

D. Treasurer: To keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures, to collaborate with the president on the elaboration of the annual report.

E. The Faculty or Staff Advisor: To serve as a resource and support mechanism for the officers and members of the organization. He/She should attend one executive board committee and other events as necessary.

Section 4 Election of Officers

A. Officers shall be elected by ballot annually at the last regular meeting of the academic year of the organization.

B. Officers shall assume their official duties at the close of the last regular meeting of academic year and shall serve for a maximum term two years or until their successors are elected due to extraordinary circumstances.

C. A person shall not be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same position.

D. A vacancy occurring in any executive position shall be filled for the non-expired term by a person elected by majority vote of the remaining members of the executive committee.

E. Any officer of the Zamorano Agricultural Society in violation of the organization's purpose or constitution may be removed from his/her position with the following procedure:

1. A written petition signed by at least three active members of the organization in good standing.
2. A written notification to the officer at default shall be sent by the executive committee, in such notification, he/she will be asked to be present at the next meeting and be prepared to provide an explanation and/or appeal.
3. After the officer at default and the active members requesting removal had presented their cases, a two-third (2/3) majority vote of active membership is necessary to remove the officer.

F. The procedure of removal of officers also applies to active members.

ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1 The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the organization, past president, and the chairperson of each standing committee.

Section 2 Regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held once a month on Thursdays during the academic year at a time to be determined by the committee during its first meeting of the year.

Section 3 The duties of the Executive Committee shall be:

- To plan and approve activities for the organization and for each active committee. Such plan shall be presented to the active members.
- To collect ideas and suggestions from members.
- To transact necessary actions between organization meetings.
- At each meeting, the Executive Committee members shall communicate all relevant information about the status of the organization.
- To present each year a final report at the last regular meeting of the organization.

ARTICLE VII - STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Standing committees shall be created by the Executive Committee as required to achieve the general purpose and specific objectives of the association.

ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS

Section 1 Regular meetings of this organization shall be held at least every month. In the event that a change in the date of a meeting occurs, the Executive Committee shall notify the change no less than five (5) days prior to the new date of the schedule.

Section 2 Twenty five percent of the active members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business in any meeting of the organization.

Section 3 The privilege of holding office, introducing motions, debating, and voting shall be limited to active members.

Section 4 Extraordinary meetings shall be approved by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

Section 1 This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the organization by a two third vote of the active members; provided that notice of the proposed amendment shall be given at the previous meeting. The proposed amendment shall be subject to approval by the Dean of Students or his/her designee.

Section 2 A committee may be appointed to submit a revised constitution by majority vote at a regular meeting or by a two-third vote of the Executive Committee. The requirements for adoption of a revised constitution shall be the same as in the case of an amendment.

Article X REGISTRATION RENEWAL

The **Zamorano Agricultural Society** will apply to Campus Life for registration on an annual basis two weeks after **Zamorano Agricultural Society's** new officer elections.