SCHOOL OF RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCES/FORESTRY, WILDLIFE, AND FISHERIES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

Article I. Name
The name of the Association shall be the School of Renewable Natural Resources/Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries Alumni Association (Association) at Louisiana State University.

Article II. Objectives
The objectives of the Association shall be to bind together the Alumni for the advancement of forestry, wildlife, and fisheries related fields in natural resource ecology and management; to improve the standing of graduates in their respective professions; and to support the School of Renewable Natural Resources (School) at Louisiana State University through recruiting and mentoring of students and development of scholarships and internships.

Article III. Membership
Section 1. The membership of the Association shall be composed of undergraduate members, graduate members, honorary members, and friends.

Section 2. Undergraduate members shall be those upon whom Bachelor of Science degrees have been conferred after completion of degree requirements as established by the School.

Section 3. Graduate members shall be those upon whom Master’s or Ph.D. degrees have been conferred after completion of degree requirements as established by the School.

Section 4. Honorary members shall be persons who have rendered distinguished service to the School of Renewable Natural Resources at Louisiana State University and its graduates, or to the professions of forestry, wildlife, and fisheries or related fields in natural resource ecology and/or management.

Section 5. Friends are supporters of the School and the Association who voluntarily elect to pay dues and support the objectives of the Association.

Article IV. Admission and Termination of Membership
Section 1. All graduates from the School of Renewable Natural Resources at Louisiana State University may become active members of the Association upon receiving their degrees and payment of the prescribed dues, and will be entitled to all benefits of the
Amended 4/1/2017

Association. All friends of the School of Renewable Natural Resources may become active members upon payment of the prescribed dues, and will be entitled to the benefits of the Association; however, friends are ineligible to serve as President or President-Elect of the Association.

Section 2. Upon endorsement by five active members of the Association, the names of persons who meet the qualifications specified in Article III, Section 4, will be placed before the Association for election as Honorary Members.

Section 3. Termination of membership shall be by voluntary resignation or by expulsion for unethical conduct. A former member previously expelled for unethical conduct may be reinstated by four-fifths vote of the Council and two-thirds vote of the active members, provided such reinstated member pay the current dues... A former member who has voluntarily resigned may be reinstated upon payment of current dues. Failure of an active member to pay their dues by July 1 of each year shall place such member on an inactive status and they shall not be entitled to hold office or to vote. Inactive members will be automatically reinstated to active membership upon payment of the current dues.

Article V. Officers and Council

The officers shall be a President, President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and three at-large members who, with the President and President-Elect, shall make up the Council. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be appointed by the Director of the School of Renewable Natural Resources and shall serve as a voting member of the Council. All officers and council members shall serve two year terms, with the exception of the Secretary-Treasurer. Neither the President nor President-elect shall succeed themselves, except that a member appointed to fill an unexpired term is eligible for re-election for a succeeding term. At-large members of the council may be elected to a maximum of two consecutive terms.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as faculty liaison to the Association and will be responsible for the maintenance of the official records and accounts of the Association. The Secretary-Treasurer shall prepare and present for approval at each annual meeting minutes of annual and special meetings held during the prior year, as well as a categorical summary of income received and expenses incurred during the prior year and current balances of any and all accounts held on behalf of the Association. The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve for an indefinite term at the pleasure of the Director of the School of Renewable Natural Resources.

The purpose of the Council is to provide leadership to the Association for the attainment of objectives identified in Article II above. At a minimum, the Council shall oversee collection of dues on behalf of the Association, review budgeted and actual expenditures, plan the annual
meeting, provide for periodic communications to the membership, and conduct other business necessary for the good of the Association. Four members of the Council will constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the Council.

**Article VI. Sections**
Upon petition of not less than five members, the Council may authorize the formation of local sections whose territorial boundaries are defined. Each section shall elect a chairman and may elect other officers. The section may make by-laws and regulations, which do not conflict with the constitution, by-laws, and regulations of the Association. The chairman shall report to the Council all action taken or resolutions made which shall be in accordance with the principles and policies of the Association.

**Article VII. Meetings**
Annual and special meetings shall be at such time and place as shall be determined by the Council. The annual meeting shall be held preferably at Louisiana State University during the spring.

**Article VIII. Dues**
Annual dues for undergraduate members, graduate members, and friends shall be determined by majority vote of the membership present at the annual meeting. Honorary members shall not be required to pay dues.

**Article IX. Publication**
The official organ of the Association shall be *Research Matters*, or a similar departmental communication, to be published under the direction of the School of Renewable Natural Resources.

**Article X. Amendments**
The Constitution or By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members voting, providing the proposed amendments have been submitted to all voting members by mail and/or e-mail at least four weeks in advance of the date set by the Council for counting the ballots. Amendments shall, unless they themselves provide otherwise, be effective immediately upon their adoption.

**Article XI. Approval of Expenditures**
The Secretary-Treasurer is authorized to make deposits and payments on behalf of the Association. Expenditures in excess of $1,000 shall require the documented authorization (in writing or by e-mail) of the President prior to payment. Expenditures in excess of $2,500 shall
be presented for approval by majority vote of members voting at an annual meeting; alternatively, a request for authorization may be submitted to all voting members by mail and/or e-mail at least four weeks in advance of the date set by the Council for counting the ballots.

BY-LAWS

1. The Headquarters of the Association shall be at the Louisiana State University School of Renewable Natural Resources.

2. By February 15th of each odd numbered year, a nominating committee appointed by the President shall submit the names of nominees for office, preferably at least two for each of the elective offices. The nominating committee will make a good faith effort to ensure that the Council always includes representatives from the three major areas of emphasis of the School (1) forestry/forest products, (2) wildlife, and (3) fisheries/aquaculture. The nominating committee will seek names for nominations from the Council, and from the Director of the School of Renewable Natural Resources. Active members, alumni, and faculty should be encouraged to provide nominations to the President or Secretary-Treasurer so that they may be forwarded to the nominating committee. Each name that is submitted by the nominating committee to the Council should meet all criteria for running for an office and be confirmed by the nominating committee or Secretary-Treasurer as being interested in running for office. Alumni and others may provide additional names for consideration for nomination by a petition signed by at least ten members in good standing, provided said petition is received by the Secretary-Treasurer on or before February 25th. The names placed in nomination by the above methods shall, by March 1st, be submitted by the Secretary-Treasurer to all active members via e-mail and letter ballot. The polls shall be closed on April 1st. The candidate for each office receiving a plurality of votes cast for that office shall be declared elected and shall begin his or her duties at the conclusion of the next annual meeting. In the event of tie vote in the election of officers by mail, a vote of members in attendance at the next annual meeting shall determine the elected candidate.

3. The President may appoint from the active membership individuals to fill vacant positions on the Council for the unexpired term of the position. Individuals appointed to partial terms may run for election to the same position at the next regularly scheduled election of officers and at-large council members.
4. The President shall preside at meetings, shall be chairman of the Council, shall appoint such committees as may be approved by the Council, and shall perform all other duties incident to his or her office.

5. In the absence of the President, or in his or her inability to act, necessary duties shall be performed by the President-Elect. In the event neither can serve, the remaining members of the Council shall elect a President pro tempore.

6. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be the administrative officer of the Association under the general direction of the Council, and shall maintain the official records and accounts of the Association.

7. The Council shall be vested with the general direction of the Association and control of funds, shall recommend to the President individuals to fill vacancies in unexpired terms of office, and perform other functions incumbent upon it including participation in such advisory boards as may be recognized by Louisiana State University.

8. The Council shall meet annually with the Director. At this meeting the Council and Director will report on their activities and plans. Insofar as possible the Council and Director will refrain from making changes in policy which will affect the School and its graduates until they have been presented at the joint meeting.

9. Upon receipt by the President of a charge of unethical conduct against a member, which shall be signed by at least three members in good standing, the Council shall immediately investigate the case and the Secretary-Treasurer shall notify the defendant who shall have the right to submit a defense. The findings of the Council and the written defense shall be sent to all members. A four-fifths majority of the Council and two-thirds majority of members voting shall be required to expel the member so charged.

10. A member in arrears in dues shall not be entitled to vote.

11. All active members should notify the Secretary-Treasurer promptly upon any change of position or upon permanent or extended temporary change of address.

12. The active members present at any meeting of the Association shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and adoption of resolutions, except in the case of amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, which must be ratified as specified in Article X. Any active member may delegate their vote to any other active member provided he notifies the
Secretary-Treasurer in writing and states the name of the active member to whom the vote is delegated.

13. All Council members shall vote directly or by proxy on all ballots cast by the Council or any ballot requiring the vote of the Council.

14. The following named persons shall serve as officers of this chapter until the next general meeting:

   President: William desGravelles
   Secretary-Treasurer: Lucien P Laborde Jr.
   Board Member: Craig Gothreaux
   Board Member: Rachel Villani