

# **Constitution of the Microbiology Club**

This thirteenth day of the month of March  
in the year two-thousand and seven

## **Article I** **Name**

This organization shall be known as the Microbiology Club. The location of the club will be the campus of Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama.

## **Article II** **Purpose**

The purpose of this organization is four fold:

1. To allow students an opportunity to obtain an increased knowledge of the diverse areas of interest in microbiology as well as to gain a better understanding of the practical purposes of microbiology.
2. To organize the microbiology students into an effective group to promote student-faculty relations and to maintain a closer fellowship among all students interested in microbiology.
3. To help students in this field obtain information concerning future education, available scholarships and fellowships, and employment.
4. To develop the leadership abilities of its members.

This will be achieved through monthly meetings and activities which will include, but not be limited to, guest speakers in the field of microbiology, service projects that involve microbiology, and field trips to places of interest in the field of microbiology.

This will be an organization affiliated with Auburn University.

## **Article III** **Membership**

**Section I:** Membership in the Microbiology Club will consist of two categories. The first is students who are interested in microbiology or a related field, have paid dues, and who are regularly enrolled at Auburn University. The second is staff and faculty who are interested in interacting with students concerning microbiology or a related field. No one may be denied membership on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, color, age, disability, or veteran status.

**Section II:** Student members of the society who have paid dues are entitled to vote on all issues before the chapter. All members may participate in club activities and functions as well as to invite guests to functions.

## Article IV **Officers**

**Section I:** The officers of the club will be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Officers will be elected by a written plurality of votes of the student members. These officers, the webmaster, the standing committee chairs, and the liaisons, shall comprise the Executive Board of the club.

**Section II:** Nominations will be accepted during the March meeting (or the next-to-last scheduled meeting of the spring semester). Nominations can come from other members or from self in written form.

**Section III:** Officers will hold office starting immediately after the last meeting of the spring semester through the last meeting of the spring semester one year later. An officer can be reelected one time per office.

**Section IV:** Roles of officers:

*President:* The duties of the President will include presiding at meetings, directing club activities and assuming responsibility for said functions. The President will also serve as chair person of the Executive Board. The President will also have the responsibility of appointing the undergraduate and graduate liaisons and the webmaster, as well as any other non-elected office not specifically referred to in the constitution or by-laws. In addition to the enumerated powers of this constitution, any specific powers not delegated to another official shall remain the prevue of the President, but can be delegated to another individual or committee by the President.

*Vice-President:* The duties of the Vice-President will include presiding over the meetings in the absence of the President and overseeing the activities of the organization's committees. The Vice-President shall also be responsible for appointing the chairpersons of the social, service, and science committee.

*Secretary:* The duties of the Secretary will include maintaining an accurate record of the meetings, documenting club activities and functions, recording the attendance of the officers and cabinet, providing a notice of future meetings, as well as distributing the newsletter.

*Treasurer:* The duties of the Treasurer will include collecting annual dues as set by the bylaws, maintaining accurate financial records, depositing the organization's funds, and recording expenditures.

**Section V:** The impeachment of an officer can only occur when the officer has not fulfilled his/her duties, has exhibited unethical behavior, or has abused his/her power and responsibilities. An impeachment will be made after a two-thirds majority vote of a quorum of members at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

## Article V **Elections**

**Section I:** Elections of new officers will take place at the last meeting of the spring semester.

**Section II:** Student members who have paid dues, who have been members for a minimum of one semester, and who anticipate remaining in good academic standing at Auburn University for a period no less than one year (defined as the fall and spring semesters of that academic year) are eligible for nomination.

**Section III:** Members who are running for office must submit a nomination or have a nomination submitted in his/her name by a member in written form either by person, mail, or email to the Secretary. If nominated by another member the nominee must accept the nomination either in spoken or in written form. Nominations will be accepted for one week following the announcement that nominations will be accepted (to occur during March). Nominations must be accepted within one week of the closing of the nomination period.

**Section IV:** Officers must be elected by a plurality. Elections will be carried out by means of a secret ballot. No person holding a position in the club (i.e. an officer, committee chair, liaison, or webmaster) may hold any two positions concurrently.

**Section V:** If an officer decides to step down from an office or is no longer enrolled, the officer needs to submit a resignation in written format. The club will be notified by email and new nominations will be accepted for the week following the notification. New nominations will be made known to members by email. Voting will take place at the next scheduled club meeting. The President will appoint an existing member of the Executive Board to fulfill the duties of the outgoing officer until the new election has been made.

## Article VI **Advisors**

The faculty advisor shall be someone whose ideals are aligned with the organization's purpose and is willing to serve as a source of information and advice for the organization. The faculty advisor shall be selected by a two-thirds vote with a quorum present of the Microbiology Club. The club shall not have more than two co-advisors in any year. The advisor will serve a two year term after which he/she can accept another two year term if offered. The advisor shall not serve more than two consecutive two year terms, but can serve an unlimited number of terms overall.

**Article VII**  
**Meetings**

Meetings will be held on a monthly basis, but more than one activity or meeting may fall in any one month. Special meetings can be called by an officer of the Executive Board. The officer calling for a special meeting must give at least a one week notice by email. A quorum will be set at one-fourth total membership. A quorum must be present in order to conduct business at the organization's meetings.

**Article VIII**  
**Relationships**

The Microbiology Club will be associated with the American Society for Microbiology (ASM).

**Article IX**  
**Parliamentary Authority**

Parliamentary procedures will follow those outlined by *Robert's Rules of Order* unless conflicting with the constitution or bylaws. A proposed agenda for meetings can be seen in the bylaws.

**Article X**  
**Amendments**

Amendments to this constitution, as well as revisions, may be made by a three-fourths majority of a quorum of members. The proposed amendments or revisions shall be submitted in writing and given to all members at least two weeks in advance of the date for casting and counting votes. Amendments and revisions shall be effective immediately upon their approval unless otherwise stated in the amendment.

**Article IX**  
**Constitutional Supremacy**

In any case where the bylaws of this organization conflict with the constitution of this organization, the constitution shall be given priority.