

# Forestry Forum

## Student Organization Constitution

### ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Forestry Forum

### ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

1. To promote social relationships among the students in the School of Natural Resources or the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, and to bring the students into closer contact with the faculty.
2. To further the advancement of forestry by giving all possible aid to the school and college in projects that they may undertake.
3. To increase the members' interest in the study of forestry by providing programs about forestry and related subjects.

### ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

#### **Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct**

*Forestry Forum agrees that it will not engage in sexual misconduct nor any harassment or discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status or any other basis in accordance with the Student Organization Registration Guidelines.*

#### **Section B. Hazing**

*Forestry Forum agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with Ohio State University and Collin's Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing. Hazing includes any activity, regardless of consent, that causes or creates a substantial risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm or humiliation to any individual as part of membership or affiliation with the student organization. If found responsible for hazing, members and/or the organization may face disciplinary actions.*

#### **Section C. Bylaws**

*Forestry Forum retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements set forth by local, state, and federal laws, The Ohio State University's regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Council on Student Affairs (CSA) Student Organization Registration Guidelines. Organizations*

*may make amendments and changes to the bylaws without consulting the Ohio Union & Student Activities department, and changes to the bylaws do not require approval. All elements of organizational bylaws shall be consistent with the organization's currently approved constitution on file and CSA constitution requirements.*

## **ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section A. Membership Eligibility**

A student may be a member of Forestry Forum if they are a student in good academic standing with the Ohio State University and are not engaging in behavior that violates the Ohio State University's Code of Student Conduct.

### **Section B. Member Selection**

A student may become a member of Forestry Forum by receiving an invitation to and joining the annual group chat which will be updated at the start of each academic year.

### **Section C. Membership Timeline**

A student who has joined the group chat is expected to participate in the group chat and appear at least half of the club activities or meetings for the semester.

### **Section D. Member Removal**

A member may be removed from the organization if they engage in behavior that is in violation of the Student Code of Conduct. A member in violation will be removed by a majority vote of the executive board and subsequent approval by the advisor.

## **ARTICLE V. ADVISOR**

### **Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities**

Advisor will be available on request to provide consultation on club matters, and contact with external networks including professional contacts, alumni, and faculty.

### **Section B. Advisor Term**

The advisor will serve a term for the extent of the academic year. At the beginning of the next academic year they will confirm their continued status.

### **Section C. Advisor Selection**

A candidate for advisorship will be selected by a majority vote of the executive board before being offered the position. Advisors will be selected from The Ohio State University's pool of faculty.

### **Section D. Advisor Removal**

An advisor may be removed from the roster in the case that they infringe on the Rules of University Faculty, have resigned from their position as faculty at the Ohio State University, and/or by unanimous vote of the executive board on the condition that advisor is not engaging with organization or

executive board to promote the welfare of Forestry Forum. Lack of engagement may be defined as inconsistent communication, not attending at least one club meeting per year, and not performing duties as listed under Section A of Article V or not following duties as assigned to advisors of student organizations by the university.

### **Section E. Advisor Replacement**

A candidate for advisorship will be selected by a majority vote of the executive board before being offered the position.

## **ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP**

### **Section A. Officer Positions**

#### **President**

The President shall preside at all meetings of the forum. The president shall appoint committees. The President shall call special meetings of the forum when deemed necessary. The president shall preside as Chairman of the Executive Board. The President shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee for one quarter following his term in office if available.

#### **Vice-President**

The Vice-President is considered a member of the executive board and shall preside in the absence of the President. The Vice-President shall serve to coordinate the programs at the regular meetings. The Vice-president shall serve as representative on the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Council.

#### **Secretary**

The Secretary is considered a member of the executive board and shall be responsible for recording the proceedings and reading the minutes of all the forum meetings. The Secretary shall be responsible for any general forum correspondence. The Secretary shall read communications at meetings when requested.

#### **Treasurer**

The Treasurer is considered a member of the executive board and shall be responsible for collecting dues and other receipts. The Treasurer shall pay out funds only on the order of the President or by vote of the membership. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate membership roll.

### **Section B. Officer Eligibility**

No member shall be eligible to hold office who has not been a member of the club for one semester. No member shall be eligible for candidacy for any office unless he/she has at least one academic year left in his/her present enrollment, a cumulative point-hour ratio of at least 2.25, and is able to fulfill the duties of his/her office. Any member holding an office must be enrolled in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences or in The Ohio State University and have a sincere interest in Natural Resources.

**Interim Appointments** - Should an officer resign during the forum year, the President shall appoint some member of the forum to assume the office temporarily and order the Secretary to send notice of a special election at the next meeting so that the vacancy can be filled.

### **Section C. Officer Selection Process**

Nominations will be sought from the membership at the first regular meeting in April of each academic year. Elections will be held at the last regular meeting in April of each academic year. Officers are to be elected by secret ballot, by members present in the election meeting in-person or synchronously online. Officers will be considered elected if they receive a majority of club votes for their desired position. Candidates not elected may elect to seek another position in office.

### **Section D. Officer Removal**

Officers are subject to removal if a majority of the executives vote that their resignation is necessary for the good of the club. Causes for removal include any behavior that violates the Student Code of Conduct or negligence of duties as assigned by this constitution. The removal vote should be noted officially by the club for the purpose of record-keeping.

## **ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION**

### **Section A. Dissolution Requirements**

Dissolution should be considered when membership in the club drops below four members for more than two academic semesters, not including the summer semester. A motion for dissolution will be read at a regular meeting, with the vote to be taken at the subsequent meeting. Dissolution requires a majority vote of the remaining members.

### **Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts**

Remaining funds will first be used to pay off any outstanding debts and as a donation to an equivalent student organization within the School of Environment and Natural Resources, chosen by majority agreement of the executive board. If there are any outstanding debts, equipment owned by the club will be sold to pay them off, and the remaining revenue will also be donated to an equivalent student organization within the School of Environment and Natural Resources chosen by majority agreement of the executive board.

## **ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

### **Section A. Amendment Process**

This constitution and its by-laws may be amended at any meeting by a two-thirds vote of a quorum.