

American Fisheries Society  
Mississippi Chapter  
BYLAWS  
of the  
Mississippi State University Student Subunit

Section 1. NAME AND OBJECTIVES

- (a) The name of this organization shall be the Mississippi State University Student Subunit of the Mississippi Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, hereinafter referred to as the Student Subunit.
- (b) The objectives of the Student Subunit shall be those of the American Fisheries Society as set forth in Article I of the Constitution, and especially, to encourage the exchange of regional fisheries and other technical information among the members of the Society who belong to the Student Subunit.
- (c) All activities of this subunit shall conform to the Society's Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, and policies.

Section 2. MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Qualifications for Membership
  - 1. The Student Subunit shall be composed of students who have an interest in the fisheries and related issues of importance to Mississippi State University.
- (b) Membership Categories shall be the following:
  - 1. Active of full membership shall be composed entirely of faculty, students, and staff.
  - 2. Inactive membership shall be composed of alumni and honorary members: Inactive members will not be allowed to vote or hold office.

Section 3. MEETINGS

- (a) The Student Subunit shall hold regularly scheduled meetings on the second Tuesday of each month during regular school semesters.
- (b) Meetings will be conducted according to the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.
- (c) Procedures for calling a meeting are:
  - 1. The president and/or the faculty advisor will notify the club secretary of the need for a meeting.
  - 2. The club secretary will inform the membership through a written or verbal notice of the time, place, and nature of the meeting.
- (d) If there is a called meeting the members will be notified at least 1 week prior to that meeting through a written or verbal notice.
- e) Special Meetings can be called by the President and/or Faculty Advisor when such a need arises.

Section 4. OFFICERS

- (a) The officers of the Student Subunit shall consist of a President, a Vice- President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.
- (b) Only student members of the Student Subunit shall be eligible to hold office.

- (c) Officers shall be elected at the first meeting of the Fall semester; however terms of newly elected officers shall coincide with those of the Parent Society officers. Officers shall serve for one year; however the Secretary and Treasurer may serve more than one term.
- (d) The Faculty Advisor shall preside over all officer elections.
- (e) If an office is vacated, the Executive Committee shall appoint a qualified replacement to fill the remainder of the term.

#### Section 5. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- a) The President of the Student Subunit shall preside at all meetings, chair the Executive Committee, make appointments, and initiate all club activities and functions either directly or through a committee appointed by the president.
- b) The Vice-President shall chair the Program Committee and shall assume the duties of the President if the latter is unable to act. The Vice-President will also assist the President in the execution of the President's duties.
- c) The Secretary will maintain accurate records and minutes of the Student Subunit meetings, which will be submitted to the Society's Executive Director and the Chapter's Secretary-Treasurer within 30 days after each meeting. The Secretary will also conduct all club correspondence and handle club announcements. The Secretary will also discharge other duties as requested by the appropriate Society officers.
- d) The treasurer will maintain accurate fiscal records for the Student Subunit. The treasurer will also transact any and all monetary exchanges concerning the club, including the collection of dues. The Treasurer must present a record of receipts and disbursements at the monthly Student Subunit meeting. The Treasurer will also discharge other duties as requested by the appropriate Society officers.
- e) The Advisor of the Mississippi State University Student Subunit shall be a member of the faculty or staff at Mississippi State University. The Advisor will be a full member of the Student Subunit and will have all rights accorded club members, including a vote. The Faculty Advisor will be elected annually by majority vote of the active membership. The Faculty Advisor must cosign all checks.

#### Section 6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- a) The Executive Committee of the Student Subunit shall consist of the elected officers, and other members as may be appointed by the President. The Executive Committee is authorized to act on behalf of the Student Subunit between monthly meetings. A majority of voting Executive Committee members constitutes a quorum.

#### Section 7. STUDENT SUBUNIT COMMITTEES

- a) Committees and Chairs of Committees, except as listed in Sections 5 and 6 of these Bylaws, shall be appointed and charged by the President. Except for Standing Committees, these Student Subunit committees shall cease to function upon the discharge of the duties for which they were appointed or with the end of the term of the appointing officer.

#### Section 8. VOTING AND QUORUM

- a) All decisions at meetings are decided by a simple majority vote, except for bylaw revisions.
- b) A quorum at any meeting for transaction of official business shall be one-third of the Student Subunit

membership, except those members present may approve a lesser number for a given meeting, if circumstances dictate.

#### Section 9. DUES AND FEES

- a) The Executive Committee shall establish annual dues subject to approval of the members voting at the annual meeting. The Executive Committee may assess registration fees for annual meetings. The Student Subunit Treasurer shall collect dues.
- b) Dues will be payable at the beginning of each Fall and Spring school semester.
- c) The Faculty Advisor and the Treasurer must sign all financial transactions.
- d) The amount of dues shall be \$5.00 per semester, or \$10.00 annually (\$5.00 going towards Mississippi State Chapter dues).

#### Section 10. AMENDMENT AND REVISION OF BYLAWS

- a) Amendments to these bylaws shall be proposed in writing at least 30 days prior to the time they are voted upon.
- b) Adoption of amendments shall be by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority vote of the members present and voting.
- c) Following approval by Student Subunit membership, bylaw amendments must be submitted to the State Chapter's President and the Society's Executive Director within 45 days of the approval of the amendment.
- d) Revision of these bylaws shall be undertaken only if a motion or revision is approved by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority vote of the members present and voting.
- e) If a revision is approved, a committee appointed by the Student Subunit shall undertake it. The President shall appoint one member to serve as Chairman of the Revision Committee.
- f) The Revision of these bylaws shall be by ballot and shall require a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority vote of the members present and voting.

#### Section 11. NON-DISCRIMINATION

- a) The Mississippi State University Student Subunit does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or handicap.

## AMMENDMENTS

### I. Amendment to Section 4. Subheading (c):

Officers will be elected at the beginning of the Spring Semester. Incumbent officers will continue to serve, allowing the newly elected officers to become acquainted with their positions and obligations. The newly elected officers will then serve their 2-semester term the following school year.