

CONSTITUTION

Virginia Tech CALS Alumni Organization
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Article I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the **Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Alumni Organization**, hereafter referred to as VT CALS Alumni Organization. It is a constituent organization of the Virginia Tech Alumni Association.

Article II – PURPOSE

The Virginia Tech CALS Alumni Organization shall have as its objectives:

Section 1.

The Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Alumni Organization strengthens relationships between the college, its alumni, and the industries they serve.

Section 2.

Support the learning, discovery, and engagement/Extension missions of the Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences to alumni, industry, and the general public.

Section 3.

Provide constituency programs that will:

- A. Enhance the quality of on and off campus event experience for alumni.
- B. Effectively coordinate the events that attract increasing numbers of alumni to return to campus.
- C. Encourage participation by younger graduates.
- D. Develop and implement a set of programs that will engage alumni in their various constituency relationships.
- E. Work in partnership with CALS Advancement to reach giving goals. Identify, cultivate, and leverage volunteers within the alumni organization.

Section 4.

Provide special alumni programs that will:

- A. Promote major programs on and off campus for alumni.
- B. Strengthen programs for alumni living abroad.
- C. Involve the Dean in the alumni organization.

Section 5.

Support job search and career resource initiatives in conjunction with University Career and Professional Development and the Virginia Tech Alumni Association.

Article III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.

All graduates of any degree program offered by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Virginia Tech are members of the VT CALS Alumni Organization. Membership will also be extended to graduates of programs in the University related to agriculture. Current and former faculty, administrators, and staff members of the College are also eligible for membership.

Section 2.

Other persons, who by their interests and activities, have distinguished themselves through their support of, or work with, the College may be offered membership as an “Honorary Member” of the VT CALS Alumni Organization by action of the Board of Directors.

Article IV – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1.

The Board of Directors will consist of sixteen elected positions. If at all possible, all departments in the college should be represented. The College Dean will designate a faculty member and four student representatives to serve on the Board of Directors. The Board will hold the right to elect at-large members.

Section 2:

The following will serve as ex-officio non-voting members to the Board of Directors: Dean of the College, Associate Dean and Director of Academic Programs, CALS Director of Alumni and Constituent Relations, CALS Assistant Dean of Advancement, CALS Director of Communications and Marketing, CALS Assistant Dean of Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity .

Section 3:

There will be a faculty liaison from each academic unit appointed by the department head or school director to serve as a voting member to the Board of Directors and key contact for the faculty and student board members.

Section 5:

Each Director and Member-at-Large will have one vote at each board meeting.

BY-LAWS

Article I – ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Section 1:

The term of office for each elected VT CALS Alumni Organization Board Member shall be three years beginning on July 1. Any member of the Executive Committee shall remain a voting member of the Board until their term of immediate past-president has expired.

Four student representatives will begin a one-year term on July 1. will be encouraged to nominate two undergraduate and two graduate students to be considered for selection as student representatives to the board who have shown leadership skills within the academic unit and/or college student organizations and/or activities; the final selection will be made by the executive committee. The term of the faculty representative appointed by the Dean of the College shall be three years beginning July 1.

Section 2:

A Nominating Committee of at least four members, including the past President as chair, shall be appointed by the President to select a slate of candidates for the Board in accordance with Article IV, Section 1 of the Constitution.

Section 3:

The slate of nominees shall be presented to the Board for election at the June meeting. The candidate(s) (based on the number of available Board positions) receiving the highest number of votes from the Directors and Members-at-large present, shall be elected.

Section 4:

In the event of a vacancy, an interim member may be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee to fill the term of the vacancy until the next election.

Article II – OPERATION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1:

The officers of the VT CALS Alumni Organization shall be the President and Vice President elected by the Board of Directors by majority vote, from its membership, every two years.

Section 2:

The Executive Committee is authorized to transact business between Board meetings.

Section 3:

Should the office of the President become vacant, the Vice President shall succeed to the office. If the Vice President cannot succeed to the Presidency, then the Board shall name an interim President to complete the current term of office.

Section 4:

All actions of the Board of Directors shall be decided by a majority vote of the Board members present.

Section 5:

A Board member absent from three consecutive meetings without being excused by the President can be replaced by the Board.

Article III – MEETINGS

Section 1:

At least one general meeting of the VT CALS Alumni Organization, to be known as the annual meeting, shall be held during the year. The date and place (in the fall) will be fixed by the Board of Directors. A board retreat will be held each year. The date and place (in the spring) will be fixed by the Board of Directors.

Section 2:

Additional Board meetings (either in person or virtually) may be called by the Executive Committee, with the number of meetings to be determined by need.

Article IV – COMMITTEES

Section 1:

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, and Immediate Past-President. Ex officio members will be the CALS Director of Alumni and Constituent Relations. The President shall serve as the chair of the Executive Committee.

Section 2:

There shall be standing and/or ad hoc committees appointed by the Board of Directors. The standing committees shall be Alumni Engagement, Nominating, Recognition, Scholarship, and Student Engagement. . All members are eligible to serve on committees, subject to re-appointment annually.

Article V – FINANCES

Section 1.

Virginia Tech CALS Alumni Organization expenses will be included in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Office of Advancement's annual budget.

Article VI – AMENDMENTS

Section 1:

The Constitution and these by- laws may be revised or amended by a two-thirds majority of the Board members present. Proposed amendments shall be submitted at least two weeks prior to a set board meeting. This provision may be waived with 2/3 vote of members present.

Article VII – ANNUAL REPORTS

Section 1.

The annual report of the organization is included in the CALS Advancement annual report submitted to CALS and University Advancement senior leadership. This report shall include the accomplishments of the previous year and major future planning. The membership shall be updated on the accomplishments and future plans of the organization through CALS *Connections* alumni e-newsletter.

Article VIII

Section 1:

The VT CALS Alumni Organization assists in selecting students who receive the CALS Alumni Organization Scholarship and the John and Pat White Scholarship. The organization selects students who receive funds for travel, research, or scholarship from the John “Buster” Beier Memorial Excellence Fund and the Glenn Anderson Memorial Excellence Fund.

Article IX

These By-Laws Constitution will take effect upon recognition of the VT CALS Alumni Organization by the Virginia Tech Alumni Association as one of the official alumni organizations at Virginia Tech.

The Constitution and By-Laws are effective as amended and adopted on April 24, 1999.

Amended December 2003
Amended March 10, 2007
Amended November 2007
Amended September 2009
Amended March 2010
Amended September 2010
Amended March 2013
Amended September 2015
Amended October 2017
Amended June 2019
Amended June 2022
Amended July 2023

HISTORY OF OFFICERS

1981-82

Robert R. Feggins, President

1982-83

Julian Campbell, President

1983-84

Marcella Arline, President

1984-85

Virgil Cauley, President
John Watkins, President-elect
Curtis Roane, Secretary-Treasurer

1985-86

John Watkins, President
J. E. (Ned) Thornton, President-elect
Curtis Roane, Secretary-Treasurer

1986-87

John Watkins, President
Doug Flory, President-elect
Curtis Roane, Secretary-Treasurer

1987-88

Doug Flory, President
Emory Brumbaker, President-elect
Rodney Young, Secretary-Treasurer

1988-89

Doug Flory, President
Emory Brumbaker, President-elect
Rodney Young, Secretary-Treasurer

1989-90

Emory Brubaker, President
Larry Mohn, President-elect
Sam Alexander, Secretary-Treasurer

1990-91

Larry Mohn, President
Janey Campbell, President-elect
Sam Alexander, Secretary-Treasurer

1991-92

Larry Mohn, President
Janey Campbell, President-elect

1992-93

Janey Campbell, President
Marcella Arline, President-elect
Beth Leonard, Secretary-Treasurer

1993-94

Marcella Arline, President
Beth Leonard, President-elect
Donna Izac, Secretary-Treasurer

1994-95

Marcella Arline, President
Donna Izac, President-elect
Michael Miller, Secretary-Treasurer

1995-96

Larry Fannon, President
Jim Saunders, President-elect
Michael Miller, Secretary-Treasurer

1996-97

Jim Saunders, President
Michael Miller, President-elect
Brad Bryant, Secretary-Treasurer

1997-98

Michael Miller, President
Brad Bryant, President-elect
Anne Herring, Secretary-Treasurer

1998-99

Brad Bryant, President
Anne Herring, President-elect
Cris Watkins, Secretary-Treasurer

1999-2000

Anne Herring, President
Glenn Anderson, President-elect
Jamie Whitacre, Secretary-Treasurer

2000-01

Glenn Anderson, President
Jamie Whitacre, President-elect
Jay Jackman, Secretary-Treasurer

2001-02

Jamie Whitacre, President
Glenn Anderson, Past President
Jay Jackman, President Elect
Mike Parrish, Secretary-Treasurer

2002-03

Jay Jackman, President
Jamie Whitacre, Past-President
Mike Parrish, President-Elect
Karen Johnson, Secretary-Treasurer

2003-04

Mike Parrish, President
Jay Jackman, Past-President
Bob Pitman, President-Elect
Buster Beier, Secretary-Treasurer

2004-05

Mike Parrish, President
Jay Jackman, Past-President
Bob Pitman, Vice President
Buster Beier, Secretary-Treasurer

2005-06

Bob Pitman, President
Mike Parrish, Past-President
John "Buster" Beier, Vice President
Marilyn Adams-Jarvis, Secretary-Treasurer

2006-07

Buster Beier, President
Bob Pitman, Past President
Marilyn Adams-Jarvis, Vice President
Eric Frazier, Secretary-Treasurer

2007-08

Marilyn Adams-Jarvis, President
Bob Pitman, Past President
Eric Frazier, Vice President
Terry Perotti, Secretary-Treasurer

2008-09

Eric Frazier, President
Marilyn Jarvis, Past President
Terry Perotti, Vice President
Rob Harrison, Secretary-Treasurer

2009-2010

Eric Frazier, President
Marilyn Jarvis, Past President
Terry Perotti, Vice President

2010-2012

Ronnie Gill, President
Eric Frazier, Past President
Scott Stevens, Vice President

2012-2014

Ryan Burnette, President
Ronnie Gill, Past President
Tim VanReenen, Vice President

2014-2016

Tim VanReenen, President
Ryan Burnette, Past President
Dixie Dalton, Vice President

2016-2018

Dixie Dalton, President
Tim VanReenen, Past President
Heidi Hertz, Vice President

2018-2020

Rachel Kohl, President
Dixie Dalton, Past President
Elizabeth Galbreath, Vice President

2020-2023

Elizabeth Galbreath, President
Rachel Kohl, Past President
Scott Stevens, Vice President

2023 - 2025