CONSTITUTION FOR THE
DOCTOR OF PLANT MEDICINE STUDENT ORGANIZATION

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION
The name of this organization is the Doctor of Plant Medicine Student Organization. This organization will utilize the acronym DPMSO in all publicity materials and correspondence.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE STATEMENT
The purposes of the Doctor of Plant Medicine Student Organization are as follows:

1. To commit to the improved management of plant pests (arthropods, pathogens, weeds, etc.) through integrated systems, thus promoting healthy plants, people, and environment.
2. To promote world-wide awareness and interest in the Doctor of Plant Medicine (DPM) degree and encourage cultural diversity among students therein so that DPM expertise may become widespread and may benefit people internationally.
3. To increase public knowledge and understanding of status, achievements, and goals of the program.
4. To explore and keep students abreast of scholarship, internship, and career opportunities.
5. To stimulate interest among and provide opportunities for interaction with faculty and students of the departments participating in the Plant Medicine Program.
6. To foster fellowship, integrity, leadership, and excellence among the DPM students.

ARTICLE III. COMPLIANCE STATEMENT
Upon approval by the Center for Student Activities and Involvement, the Doctor of Plant Medicine Student Organization shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. The DPMSO shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, as well as all University of Florida regulations, policies, and procedures. Such compliance includes but is not limited to the University’s regulations related to Non-Discrimination, Hazing, Commercial Activity, and Student Leader Eligibility.

ARTICLE IV. NON-DISCRIMINATION
In compliance with the University of Florida Non-Discrimination Policy (Regulation 6C1-1.006), the DPMSO will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans’ Readjustment Assistance Act.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP
Membership in the DPMSO is open to enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-students, spouses, faculty, and staff may be associate members; however, they may not vote or hold office. All members and associate members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.
ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS
Section A: The elected officers of the DPMSO shall be President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Part 1: The President shall preside at all meetings and shall coordinate the work of the officers and committees. The President shall have the authority to create any committees that he/she deems necessary to execute the purposes of the organization. The President shall have the authority to cancel regular meetings and to call special meetings. All meetings must be announced before they take place.

Part 2: The Vice-President shall serve as an aide to the President and shall perform the duties of the President in her/his absence or inability to serve.

Part 3: The Treasurer shall receive all monies of the DPMSO; shall keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures; shall pay out local funds in accordance with the approved budget as authorized by the organization. The Treasurer shall present a financial statement at every meeting of the DPMSO and at other times when requested by the President or Vice President.

Part 4: The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of the DPMSO and shall perform other duties as may be delegated.

Section B: Officers shall assume their official duties at the close of the meeting in which elections take place. Officers shall serve for one year and may be re-elected in successive terms.

Section D: Any officer of the DPMSO may be removed from office through the following process:

Part 1: A written request by at least three voting members of the organization shall be submitted to the President, Vice President, or Treasurer. Written notification shall be sent to the officer in question asking that officer to be present at the next meeting and prepared to respond to the removal request.

Part 2: A two thirds majority vote of members present is necessary to remove the officer.

Part 3: In the event of the removal of an officer, a special provision may be granted to the remaining officers to appoint an interim replacement until an election may be held.

ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS
Section A: Nominations for all officers will take place annually from the members before the first meeting in January. Any member may nominate any other voting member, including himself or herself. Nominations may also be made during the election meeting prior to closing of nominations.

Section B: Voting will occur by secret ballot and a simple majority vote is required to elect an officer.
ARTICLE VIII. FACULTY ADVISOR
The Faculty Advisor shall serve as a resource person and provide advisory support for the officers and members of the organization. The Faculty Advisor shall be a current faculty member of the Plant Medicine Program (PMP). The Faculty Advisor shall not have voting privileges. The Faculty Advisor shall be nominated by student members and confirmed by a majority vote of the members. In the event that the current Faculty Advisor can no longer fulfill his/her duties, another current faculty member of the PMP shall be nominated by student members and confirmed as Faculty Advisor by a majority vote of the members.

ARTICLE IX. FINANCE
There shall be no collection of dues from members. A Finance Committee consisting of at least the President and Treasurer shall identify needs and prepare and submit a request for funding from Student Government towards the end of the school year. If Student Government funds are granted, they shall be used to fund the activities of the organization according to the rules pertaining to spending by student groups.

ARTICLE X. DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION
In the event that this organization dissolves, all monies left in the treasury, after outstanding debts and claims have been paid, shall be donated to the Plant Medicine Program.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION
Proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the President. Notice of the proposed amendment must be given prior to the next meeting. The Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the members present at a regularly scheduled meeting. The amendment shall be subject to approval of the Center for Student Activities and Involvement.