

**BYLAWS**  
**THE THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOLARS AT NC STATE**

**ARTICLE I**  
**PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION**

**§ 1. Purpose.**

The purpose of the Thomas Jefferson Scholars at NC State is to encourage and provide peer support for students in the dual-degree Thomas Jefferson Scholars Program, and to foster and support educational and extracurricular activities related to Scholars' interests in the sciences and humanities.

**§ 2. Prohibited Activities.**

**A.** No part of the net earnings of the corporation (Thomas Jefferson Scholars at NC State) shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to, its members, directors, officers, or other private persons except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of purposes set forth in these articles of incorporation. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Code.

**B.** Discrimination based upon race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation is in violation of federal and state law and North Carolina State University policy, and will not be tolerated.

**ARTICLE II**  
**MEMBERSHIP**

**§ 1. Membership.**

Members of the student organization Thomas Jefferson Scholars at NC State shall consist of all participants in the Thomas Jefferson Scholars Program, the dual-degree academic program of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

**§ 2. Classification.**

**A.** Active membership shall be held by full time students of North Carolina State University who are active participants in the Thomas Jefferson Scholars Program. To be

considered an active member one must:

1. Attend all bi-weekly meetings of the semester, being allowed two excused absences.
2. Attend the Fall trip.
3. Attend the Fall and Spring banquets.
4. Attend one service project annually.
5. Attend one fund-raiser annually.
6. Participate in committee duties.
7. Maintain the academic requirements of the Thomas Jefferson Scholars Program, including a 3.0 cumulative Grade Point Average.

**B.** Alumni are those individuals who have graduated as members of the Thomas Jefferson Scholars Program. Active members shall automatically be granted alumni membership upon graduation from the Thomas Jefferson Scholars Program.

### **§ 3. Meetings and Banquets**

**A.** A regularly scheduled meeting can be either moved or removed from the calendar by a two-thirds majority vote of the Jefferson Scholars.

**B.** Taste of Hillsborough will take place at least an hour prior to the regularly scheduled meeting.

**C.** All Jefferson Scholars shall be required to attend the annual Scholars of the Revolution dinner in the Fall semester, unless receiving an excused absence from the President or Secretary.

**D.** All Jefferson Scholars shall be required to attend the annual End-of-the-Year banquet in the Spring semester, unless receiving an excused absence from the President or Secretary. The banquet recognizes the graduating Jeffersons of the Spring and following Fall.

### **§ 4. Participation and Termination.**

**A.** Attendance shall be taken at each general meeting, trip, banquet, fund-raiser, service project or other Jefferson event.

1. Excused absences shall be granted in accordance with the University policy at the discretion of the President, Secretary, or Advisor(s). Reasons for requesting an excused absence shall be submitted by the week prior to the meeting. If it is a conflicting class, the Secretary shall be notified within the first two weeks of classes.

2. If a meeting is missed without prior notice, the President and Secretary must be notified within 24 hours.

3. Unexcused absences shall be dealt with according to guidelines established by the faculty program coordinators in consultation with the Executive Committee (defined below).

**B.** Members who fall below the standards of active membership shall be placed on probation for no more than one year. Within the first two weeks of each semester, the faculty advisers and officers will meet to review probationary cases and appropriate

actions will be taken. These actions may include dismissal from the program via letter from the Associate Dean and Director of Academic Programs in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, if deemed necessary.

C. An active participants in the Thomas Jefferson Scholars Program may terminate their membership at any time by resignation in writing to the faculty mentors and the Associate Dean and Director of Academic Programs in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, thereby forfeiting one's rights and privileges as a Thomas Jefferson Scholar.

**§ 5. Voting Privileges.**

A. All active members possess full voting rights.

B. Probationary members and alumni have no voting privileges but may be present for votes.

C. The President shall serve as a non-voting officer of all elections and votes, except in cases of a tie, which they shall vote to break the tie.

**ARTICLE III  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE OFFICERS**

**§ 1. Membership.**

The Executive Committee of the Thomas Jefferson Scholars at NC State shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Historian, four College Council Representatives, and the First-Year Representative. It is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to provide leadership for the program in coordination with the faculty and administration.

**§ 2. Eligibility.**

Each candidate for office must be an active member of the Thomas Jefferson Scholars Program.

**§ 3. Term.**

A. The term of office for each officer shall be one year (Fall and Spring semesters).

B. No officer shall hold more than one office at the same time.

C. Any officer may be declared incompetent and removed by a three-fourths vote of the total active membership.

D. All retiring officers shall deliver to their successor all pertinent materials related to their office.

**§ 4. Vacancies in Office.**

A. President. The Vice-President shall assume the responsibilities of President until such a time when a regular meeting, with a quorum consisting of a majority of members, can hold a special election. If both positions are vacant, the Secretary and/or Treasurer shall assume acting President until an emergency meeting, with enough members to form a

quorum can hold a special election.

**B. Vice-President.** The President shall assume the responsibilities of the Vice-President, until such a time when a regular meeting with a quorum can hold a special election.

**C. Secretary.** The President or Vice-President shall assume the responsibilities until a regular meeting with a quorum can hold a special election.

**D. Treasurer.** The President or Vice-President shall assume the responsibilities until a regular meeting with a quorum can hold a special election.

**E. Historian.** The President or Vice-President shall assume the responsibilities until a regular meeting with a quorum can hold a special election.

**F. College Council Representatives.** The secondary representatives will take the place and responsibility of the primary representative until regular meeting with a quorum can hold a special election.

**G. First-Year Representative.** The President or Vice-President shall assume the responsibilities until the first-year members can hold a special election. The First-Year Representative shall be elected by a special election of the first-year students no later than the third regularly scheduled meeting of the Fall semester.

## **§ 5. Duties.**

### **A. President.**

1. The President shall represent the Jeffersons in any official capacity required.
2. Regular duties of the President shall include:
  - a. Chair all meetings.
  - b. Chair the Executive Committee meetings.
  - c. Coordinate activities and planning with program coordinators, including setting dates for meetings and events, planning the Fall trip with the Executive Council, and coordinating logistics and expenditures with the CALS Dean's office.
  - d. Serve as needed in capacities deemed necessary by the organization.

### **B. Vice-President.**

1. The Vice-President shall assist the President in his/her duties as needed by the President.
2. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President.
3. The Vice-President shall solicit and coordinate speakers for the bi-weekly meetings.
4. The Vice-President shall maintain a record of room reservations, and will be responsible with coordinating room reservations with the advisor(s) at the beginning of each semester.

### **C. Secretary.**

1. The Secretary shall be responsible for taking meeting minutes and posting minutes to members.
2. The Secretary shall keep an active roster (including current addresses and telephone numbers) of all members.

3. The Secretary shall record attendance at all events of the organization.
- D. Treasurer.**
1. The Treasurer shall hold and disperse, for the purposes of educational and extracurricular activities of the organization, all student club funds belonging to the organization, with co-approval of the President and faculty advisor.
  2. The Treasurer shall assist the College Council Representatives in preparing the semester budget.
  3. The Treasurer will maintain accurate records of all transactions and coordinate with the faculty advisor for appropriate tax filings.
- E. Historian.**
1. The Historian shall maintain visual and written artifacts for the activities during term.
  2. The Historian shall be responsible for the end-of-the-year slide show at the Spring Banquet.
- F. College Council Representative.**
1. At least one College Council Representative shall attend all Agri-Life and CHASS Council meetings.
  2. A College Council Representative shall report previous Agri-Life and CHASS Council activities at the Thomas Jefferson Scholars program meetings.
  3. A College Council Representative shall submit and present the club budget to the Agri-Life and CHASS Councils.
- G. First-Year Representative.**
1. The First-Year Representative will represent the views of first-year class members for program planning.

## **ARTICLE IV ELECTIONS**

### **§ 1. Nominations.**

Nominations shall be called for at a regular meeting two weeks prior to scheduled elections during the Spring semester.

### **§ 2. Ballots.**

**A.** Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.

**B.** Any member of the program that is not in attendance of a meeting where voting has taken place, and has an excused absence, shall have 48 hours to submit a vote by email to the program advisor(s).

### **§ 3. Run-Off Elections.**

**A.** Runoffs will be held for positions within two votes.

**B.** Runoffs will be held within one week by e-mail vote directly to the designated faculty advisor.

## **ARTICLE V COMMITTEES**

### **§ 1. Definition.**

- A.** All members shall serve on one of the standing committees.
  - 1.** Alumni Relations Committee shall be responsible for outreach to alumni of the organization.
  - 2.** Fund-raising Committee shall be responsible for planning and coordinating events each semester for raising funds for the organization's educational and extracurricular activities.
  - 3.** Social Committee shall be responsible for planning and coordinating events and activities to foster fellowship among the members.
  - 4.** Service Committee shall be responsible for planning and coordinating at least one community service project each year.
  - 5.** Thomas Jefferson Distinguished Lectureship Committee shall be responsible for coordinating with the faculty advisors in the selection of a distinguished scholar or public figure to deliver the Thomas Jefferson Scholars Distinguished Lecture each academic year.
- B.** Special committees shall be formed by the President as needed, and the duties of said committees shall be outlined by the President.

### **§ 2. Membership.**

- A.** Members of the committees shall be selected off the floor by the President on a volunteer and necessary appointment basis.
- B.** Each committee will select its own chair, responsible for meetings and reports.

### **§ 3. Reports.**

Committee chairs shall report as requested by the President.

## **ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS**

### **§ 1. Review**

The Executive Committee shall review the Bylaws yearly to update and address any changes that need to be made.

### **§ 2. Amendments**

- A.** The Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote at a meeting with a quorum of a majority of the members of the Thomas Jefferson Scholars at NC State.
- B.** The proposed amendment must be submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.