

## **The Society of Phi Zeta Sigma Chapter**

### **Louisiana State University College of Veterinary Medicine**

*October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022*

#### **By-Laws of Tau Chapter of the Society of Phi Zeta**

##### **Article I**

###### Name and Object

###### Section 1:

The name of this organization shall be the Tau Chapter of the Society of Phi Zeta.

###### Section 2:

The overall goal of the Society of Phi Zeta is to promote scholarship and research in matters pertaining to the welfare and diseases of animals. Further on, the society shall promote scholarship in the veterinary curriculum by recognizing students who have excelled in all aspects of veterinary medicine. To promote research in veterinary medicine, the Society sponsors research competition at the national level. The Tau chapter sponsors an annual Research Emphasis Day which features research competition for students, advanced studies students, and faculty.

##### **Article II**

###### Membership

###### Section 1:

The membership of the Tau Chapter of the Society of Phi Zeta shall consist of Active Members and Honorary Members, as provided for in the constitution of the Society.

###### Section 2:

The following are eligible for election as Active Members:

- Any candidate for the DVM/VMD degree in a veterinary medical college where a chapter exists and who has completed at least two years of the professional curriculum and who meet the following requirements:
  - The candidate must have an acceptable personality, be of good moral character, and possess high ideals regarding professional services and conduct.

- When elected in the junior or third year, students must rank scholastically in the highest 10 percent of their veterinary medical class.
- Any veterinarian who has been in possession of a veterinary medical degree for at least two years, and who has displayed ability of high order in dealing with one or more phases of the science of veterinary medicine, and who meets one of the following criteria:
  - The candidate is enrolled as a graduate student in a college of veterinary medicine and has completed at least twenty semester (thirty quarter) hours of graduate credit or has successfully passed preliminary examinations.
  - The candidate has been engaged in an intern or residency program for at least two years or has become board certified in his/her specialty.
  - The candidate has completed two years or more on the faculty of an institution or scientific staff of a scientific institution within commuting distance of the nearest chapter of Phi Zeta and has been involved in veterinary research or service.

### Section 3:

Those eligible for election as Honorary Members are:

- Distinguished veterinarians in possession of their veterinary medical degrees for at least five years and who have rendered notable service to their profession
- Persons not in possession of the veterinary medical degree, who have rendered distinguished service in the advancement of the science relating to the animal industry and particularly of animal diseases.
- Only in exceptional instances shall more than two honorary members be elected by any one chapter in any one academic year.

### Section 4:

Active members of other chapters of the Society or any inactive members, coming to Louisiana State University, may become active members of the Tau Chapter by presenting satisfactory credentials and paying Chapter dues.

### Section 5:

The right to vote on affairs of this Chapter and hold office shall be a right of the active members.

## Article III

### Officers

#### Section 1:

- a. The officers of the Chapter shall be a president, president-elect, and secretary-treasurer. The **executive committee** will consist of the chapter officers.

- b. The terms of office of the president, president-elect, past-president and secretary-treasurer shall be for one year. The secretary-treasurer will become president-elect after their one-year term.
- c. The officers shall be elected at the annual fall meeting of the Chapter. At least one month before the meeting the president shall appoint a nominating committee of three active members who shall submit to the Chapter at least one nomination for each office that is to be filled. Additional nominations will be received from the floor. Election shall be by plurality vote of the active members present at the fall meeting.

The secretary-treasurer shall be elected at the annual fall meeting of the Chapter. At least one month before the meeting the president will make the call for nominations for each office that is to be filled. Election shall be by plurality vote of the active members present at the fall meeting.

- d. In case of vacancy of the office of president due to disability or resignation, the duties shall be assumed by the president-elect. Any vacancy in the office of secretary-treasurer shall be temporarily filled by an appointment by the president until such office is filled at the next regular meeting.

#### Section 2:

The executive committee shall be responsible for recommending the levying of fees, for considering and making recommendations for the general welfare of the Chapter, and for ordering all disbursements of funds.

#### Section 3:

The fiscal year shall extend from July 1st to June 30th inclusively. At the end of the year, the retiring officers shall pass to their successors all records, money, or other property of the Chapter.

### **Article IV**

#### Meetings

##### Section 1

- a. There shall be two regular meetings during each year: one each during the fall and the spring terms. Special meetings shall be called at any time upon request to the president by five active members, at least one of who shall be a faculty member.
- b. Announcement of the time, date and place of all meetings must be made five or more days prior to the meeting.
- c. The members in attendance shall be considered a quorum.

## Section 2:

The president or his/her appointee, with approval of the Chapter, shall be the delegate to the conventions of the Society.

## Section 3:

The Tau Chapter of Phi Zeta shall sponsor an annual veterinary student/graduate student/intern/resident research day to stimulate student scholarship and research. Prizes will be awarded for the outstanding presentations. The number and type of awards will be determined by the committee and approved by the executive committee.

All faculty who are active members can have their mentee (house officers, graduate students, veterinary students) present at the annual research day. Failure of the faculty member to submit dues will render the mentee "ineligible to present". For non-phi zeta members, or honorary member who wish to have their mentee present at the Phi Zeta research day, a one-time 25,- conference attendance fee will be required to be paid no later than 14 days before the scheduled Phi Zeta research day.

## Section 4:

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the Chapter in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution of the Society or the By-Laws of this Chapter.

## **Article V**

### Election of New Members

#### Section 1:

- a. The executive committee shall act as a nominating committee, but nominations can be made from the floor at the fall meeting.

#### Section 2:

- a. Election of new members shall take place at the regular fall meeting of the Chapter.
- b. It is best if individuals nominated have given their approval prior to the meeting.
- c. The manner of election shall be by show of hands unless two or more active members present at the meeting request a written ballot. Candidates receiving an affirmative vote from two-thirds of the votes cast shall be elected.
- d. Those elected to membership shall be promptly notified by the Chapter secretary-treasurer.

## Article VI

## Dues and Expenses

### Section 1

The annual dues for active members of Tau Chapter shall be 25 dollars (\$25.00).

### Section 2:

Any unusual expenses levied on the Chapter shall be met by assessment upon approval by the Chapter membership.

### Section 3:

Active members failing to pay their annual Phi Zeta dues prior to the scheduled Phi Zeta research day, shall be dropped from membership, if the obligation is not met in 10 days after being notified in writing by the secretary-treasurer. If an active member fails to pay the dues, they and their mentee(s) will be ineligible to present at the Phi Zeta research Emphasis day. The membership can be reactivated by the payment of the pending and following dues.

### Section 4:

Honorary members are not required to pay dues and the Chapter will defray their initiation expenses. Honorary members who wish to have their mentee present at the Phi Zeta research day, a one-time 25,- conference attendance fee will be required to be paid no later than 14 days before the scheduled Phi Zeta research day.

## **Article VII**

### Amendments

#### Section 1:

These By-Laws may be amended by a three-fourths vote of those present at any regular or special meeting, notice having been given in writing by the secretary at least ten days prior to the meeting.