CONSTITUTION OF THE
MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

PREAMBLE
We, the graduates, former students, and friends of Mississippi State University, in order to perpetuate the memories of university life, and to provide a medium by which the interest of the University may be promoted, do hereby ordain and establish this Constitution.

ARTICLE I
NAME
The name shall be THE MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, with offices in the Hunter Henry Center, One Hunter Henry Boulevard, Mississippi State, Mississippi, and at such other places as the Board of Directors, from time to time, shall designate.

ARTICLE II
MISSION
The mission of the Mississippi State University Alumni Association is to generate support for Mississippi State University through the development and implementation of programs, activities and events for its alumni and friends.

ARTICLE III
POWERS
The Mississippi State University Alumni Association shall be the primary alumni organization for Mississippi State University alumni. Its leadership shall report to alumni on the University's plans and needs, while representing the views of the alumni to the University administration. The powers of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee of the Board, and/or the staff shall be within the scope of delegated duties from The Alumni Association, or the Board and/or the Executive Committee of the Board, and they shall be: (a) to direct, manage, supervise, and control the business, property and funds of The Alumni Association; (b) to sponsor, supervise, direct, and enlist the support of individual alumni, former students and friends of the University, and to support chapters/societies organized in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV
MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 2. Active members shall be graduates and former students who enrolled for a minimum of one quarter or one semester at Mississippi State University, Mississippi State College, or Mississippi A & M College, and who have made a current contribution to Mississippi State University.

SECTION 3. Life members shall be graduates or former students as prescribed in Section 2, Article IV, who have been awarded a life membership during the Golden Anniversary year of their class, or who purchased such life membership prior to 1981.

SECTION 4. Associate members shall be friends of the University who desire to pledge allegiance and support to Mississippi State University, and The Alumni Association, and who have made a current contribution to Mississippi State University as prescribed by the Bylaws.

SECTION 5. Joint members shall be husbands and wives, one or both of which are in any of the classes of membership listed above, who choose to make a joint contribution to Mississippi State University.

SECTION 6. Honorary members may include those individuals elected by the Executive Committee of the Board and/or the Board of Directors as prescribed by the Bylaws in recognition of outstanding and meritorious service to Mississippi State University and/or The Alumni Association.

SECTION 7. Graduating seniors of Mississippi State University shall be awarded one year's active membership in The Alumni Association upon graduation from the University.

ARTICLE V
CHAPTERS
SECTION 1. There shall be a local chapter in each county in the state of Mississippi; and there may be a local chapter in any state or area outside the state of Mississippi, all of which provide acceptable conditions as prescribed by the National Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. A chapter shall be chartered by instrument duly executed by the National President and the Executive Director, upon proper application by individuals of any class membership who have made a current contribution to Mississippi State University, following the approval of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3. A chapter within this state shall be chartered only on a county-wide basis, except where the Board may authorize, for organizational purposes, the combining of two (2) or more counties into one (1) chapter organization. Out-of-state chapters may be chartered on the basis of groups living or working in cities, towns, or other subdivisions of the state where they reside.

SECTION 4. All classes of membership, except honorary members, shall have full privileges and powers to vote and participate in chapter meetings and to hold chapter offices.

SECTION 5. Each chapter may enact Bylaws not inconsistent with this Constitution and Bylaws.
Constitution of the MSU Alumni Association

SECTION 1. The national officers of The Alumni Association shall be a National President, a National First Vice President, a National Second Vice President, National Treasurer, Executive Director, and Immediate Former National President. All classes of membership except honorary members shall be eligible to be elected to national office.

SECTION 2. All classes of membership except honorary members shall be eligible to be elected to national office and shall have full privileges and powers to vote and participate in all Alumni Association meetings.

SECTION 3. The National President, National First Vice President, National Second Vice President, and National Treasurer shall be elected at the Annual Business Meeting of The Alumni Association, in accordance with the provisions for nomination and election outlined in the Bylaws.

SECTION 4. The Board of Directors and the President of Mississippi State University shall appoint, define the duties of and determine the salary of the Executive Director.

SECTION 5. To be eligible to run for National President, each candidate shall have served a full term on the Board of Directors, or two (2) years on the Executive Committee of the Board. To be eligible to run for National First Vice President, each candidate must have served a full term on the Board, or served one (1) year on the Executive Committee. To be eligible to run for National Second Vice President, each candidate must have served one (1) year on the Board.

SECTION 6. Whenever there shall be a vacancy in the office of National President, the National First Vice President shall become National President. The filling of an unexpired term of National President shall not preclude such person from being eligible to run for re-election as National President, or to serve two (2) consecutive terms in their own right, should such person be elected.

SECTION 7. Whenever there shall be a vacancy in the office of National First Vice President, the National Second Vice President shall become National First Vice President. The filling of an unexpired term of National First Vice President shall not preclude such person from being eligible to run for re-election as National First Vice President, or to serve two (2) consecutive terms in their own right, should such person be elected. If the office of National First Vice President and the National Second Vice President's office becomes vacant, then such shall be filled within forty-five (45) days by an election by the Board of Directors for the remainder of such term or terms, as the case may be, in accordance with the qualification provisions of Section 5, Article VII.

SECTION 8. Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of National Treasurer, the Board shall elect a successor to fill the remaining unexpired term. Such election to fill an unexpired term for the National Treasurer shall not be a prohibition against such individual running for re-election, nor serving three (3) complete terms should such person be elected to such term.

ARTICLE VII

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. There shall be a Board of Directors, consisting of the National Officers; nine (9) In-State Directors; three (3) Out-of-State Directors; three (3) Young Alumni Directors; one Director for each chapter with 400 paid alumni for two (2) consecutive years, and one (1) Director for each additional 1,000 paid alumni, in addition to the first 400, for two (2) consecutive years in such chapter; three (3) Directors-At-Large; and the Student Association President, the Chair of the Faculty Senate, the Chair of the Professional and Support Staff Advisory Council; the Mississippi State University Foundation, Inc. President, the Bulldog Club President, and the Executive Director as ex-officio members. All directors shall be elected or appointed as prescribed hereinafter.

SECTION 2. The Board shall define the policies and shall have full administrative authority in all matters of The Alumni Association not inconsistent with this Constitution.

SECTION 3. The construction and interpretation of the Constitution and Bylaws by the Board on all matters, except candidacy eligibility questions, shall be final and binding, unless such construction and/or interpretation by the Board is timely appealed from and rescinded at the next annual or special meeting of the Alumni Association by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting.

SECTION 4. One-third (1/3) of the In-State Directors shall be elected each year by the membership of the respective regions for three (3) year terms. The nine (9) in-state regions from which a Director shall be elected shall be established by the Bylaws.

SECTION 5. One-third (1/3) of the Out-of-State Directors shall be elected each year by the out-of-state members for three (3) year terms. No state shall have more than one Out-of-State Director.

SECTION 6. There shall be three (3) directors elected with one (1) each from the northern, central, and southern portions of Mississippi, all of whom will be thirty-two (32) years of age or younger at the end of the term to which elected. One-third (1/3) of the Young Directors shall be elected each year by the membership of the respective regions for three (3) year terms.
Constitution of the MSU Alumni Association

SECTION 7. When the active membership of a chapter reaches a level necessary to elect one (1) or more members to the Board, such chapter shall have the right to elect its representative(s) to begin immediate service on the Board for a three (3) year term. The membership of any chapter electing a Director to the Board shall not participate in the election of the Director from the particular region or out-of-state area. The membership of such chapter shall not be eligible to hold the office of Regional Director or Out-of-State Director.

SECTION 8. Should any chapter fail to maintain its requisite paid membership for any two (2) years during the term of its Director, it shall lose such directorship automatically. Such chapter shall not regain its seat on the Board until the chapter has re-established the requisite paid membership for two (2) consecutive years.

SECTION 9. One-third (1/3) of the Directors-At-Large shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Board so that one (1) Director-At-Large shall be appointed each year to a three (3) year term.

SECTION 10. The President of the Student Association shall serve on the Board for the term of office as Student Association President and such term shall be governed by the authorities controlling such term of office.

SECTION 11. The Chair of the Faculty Senate shall serve on the Board for the term of office as Faculty Senate Chairperson, and such term shall be governed by the authorities controlling such term of office.

SECTION 12. The Chair of the Professional and Support Staff Advisory Council shall serve on the Board for the term of office as Professional and Support Staff Advisory Council Chair, and such term shall be governed by the authorities controlling such term of office.

SECTION 13. The President of The Mississippi State University Foundation, Inc. shall serve on the Board for the term of office as Foundation President, and such term shall be governed by the authorities controlling such term of office.

SECTION 14. The President of the Bulldog Club shall serve on the Board for the term of office as President of the Bulldog Club, and such term shall be governed by the authorities controlling such term of office.

SECTION 15. Whenever there is a vacancy in a directorship elected by an in-state or out-of-state region, a Young Director, or a director appointed by the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee shall appoint a successor Director to serve the remainder of that term. Should there be a vacancy in any Director's term, who was elected by an in-state county chapter, such in-state county chapter shall, within forty-five (45) days, elect a successor Director for the remainder of that term.

SECTION 16. Should there be a vacancy in either the offices of the Student Association President; Faculty Senate Chair; Professional and Support Staff Advisory Council Chair; Foundation, Inc. President; or Bulldog Club President, such successor filling the unexpired term as elected by the respective organizations shall immediately become a member of the Board.

SECTION 17. No person shall be eligible to serve as a Director for more than two (2) consecutive terms.

ARTICLE VIII

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. There shall be an Executive Committee of the Board of Directors which shall consist of the National President; National First Vice President; National Second Vice President; National Treasurer; Immediate Former National President; the Executive Director as ex-officio member; and three (3) members elected from the full Board of Directors. At least one member of the Executive Committee shall be a representative from an out-of-state area provided there is a Board member from an out-of-state area who is willing and qualified.

SECTION 2. The Executive Committee shall meet upon the call of the National President, or upon the call of any three (3) members of the Executive Committee.

SECTION 3. The Executive Committee's authority shall include action on all matters except those specifically reserved to the Board or those regarding amendments to this Constitution and the Bylaws. Any action taken by the Executive Committee on behalf of the Board shall be subject to review by the Board and, with the exception of any action which binds the Association with third parties, the Board has the authority to override Executive Committee action.

ARTICLE IX

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The Annual Business Meeting shall be held during the Leadership Conference each year.

SECTION 2. Special meetings of The Alumni Association shall be called by the National President upon petition executed by ten (10) or more chartered chapters, or upon request of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board.

SECTION 3. All classes of membership, except honorary members, shall have full privileges and powers to vote and participate in meetings of The Alumni Association, provided they are a duly qualified delegate representing a chapter or qualify as a delegate at large as provided in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE X

COMMITTEES

The National President, with the advice and consent of the Board, shall appoint such standing and special committees as established in
Constitution of the MSU Alumni Association

the Bylaws or as may be deemed necessary or advisable by the National President or a majority of the Board.

ARTICLE XI
OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

The Board shall publish or cause to be published, under its supervision and control, the official periodical of The Alumni Association entitled MISSISSIPPI STATE ALUMNUS and any such other publications as from time to time the Board deems advisable.

ARTICLE XII
RECALL

SECTION 1. For cause or malfeasance in office upon proper resolution presented to the Board by not less than one-half (1/2) of the chapters for recall of the National President, National First Vice President, National Second Vice President, or National Treasurer of The Alumni Association, the Board shall immediately take action to provide a referendum directed to each chapter for a vote of the members of The Alumni Association in good standing upon the question. The national officer in question shall not be recalled unless two-thirds (2/3) of those voting cast such favorable recall votes.

SECTION 2. No other elected official of The Alumni Association shall be subject to recall by the membership of the Association as a whole.

ARTICLE XIII
QUORUM

The quorum for any meeting of The Alumni Association shall be those duly qualified members, delegates, officers, directors, and/or committee members present and voting, whether the meeting be regular or special.

ARTICLE XIV
DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution, residual assets of this Association will be turned over to one (1) or more organizations which themselves are exempt as organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) and 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or corresponding sections of any prior or future Internal Revenue Code, or to the federal, state or local government for exclusive public purposes.

ARTICLE XV

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

SECTION 1. Amendments to this Constitution shall be made only at an Annual Meeting of The Alumni Association by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates and delegates-at-large present and voting as prescribed by the Bylaws.

SECTION 2. Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be received by the Executive Director at least two (2) months prior to the date of the Annual Business Meeting. The Executive Director shall forward a copy of all proposed amendments to this Constitution to the president of each chapter not later than six (6) weeks prior to the Annual Meeting, in order for such amendments to be considered at that Annual Meeting.

Revised January 24, 2004