



2.3 Bylaws Vision Statement

PAS aspires to be the premier leadership and career development organization serving college agriculture students.

Adopted March 27, 1980 Revised April 1, 1982; March 24, 1983; March 29, 1984; March 21, 1985; March 20, 1986; March 15, 1988; March 12, 1989; March 17, 1990; March 16, 1991; March 20, 1993; March 18, 1995; March 16, 1996; March 8, 1998; March 14, 1998; March 8, 2003; March 15, 2006, March 21, 2013; March 19, 2016; March 16, 2018; March 13, 2019; March 21, 2020; March 16, 2021.

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the organization shall be the National Professional Agricultural Student Organization. The letters PAS may be used to designate the organization. The name, National Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization, will remain the legal name for taxes and legal filings. Outside of all legal filings, the organization will now go by National Professional Agricultural Student Organization. A State of Minnesota "Doing Business As" form has been filed with the Minnesota Secretary of States' Office to do business under National Professional Agricultural Student Organization moving forward.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of the National Professional Agricultural Student Organization is to provide opportunities for members to develop the skills and abilities needed to enter and advance in careers in agriculture, agribusiness, agricultural technologies, horticulture, and natural resources.

ARTICLE III. ORGANIZATION

Section A.

The National Professional Agricultural Student Organization is a student organization associated with agriculture/agribusiness, agricultural technologies and horticulture and natural resources offerings in state approved or approvable institutions offering vocational diplomas and/or certificates, associate degrees and baccalaureate degree programs. It is an integral part of the instructional program but may meet and operate outside of class time.

Section B.

Student officers will be elected to govern the local chapter, in coordination with the chapter adviser (non-voting).

Section C.

Every state with one or more chapters may organize a state association, however; affiliation fees with National PAS will be as an individual chapter.

Section D.

The location of the National PAS office shall be permanently located in Minneapolis, Minnesota, regardless of where the executive director resides.

2.1 ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Active Membership

Active membership shall be limited to students enrolled in a program preparing students for a career in agriculture, agribusiness, agricultural technologies, horticulture and natural resources at institutions offering postsecondary diplomas and/or certificates, associate degrees and baccalaureate degree programs.

1. Active membership for students pursuing a postsecondary career and technical diploma, certificate or associate degree shall cease at the close of the second national conference following the completion of the curriculum.
2. Active membership for students pursuing a baccalaureate degree shall cease at the close of the first national conference following the completion of the curriculum.
3. National PAS annual membership and chapter/institutional dues shall be fixed by the Board of Directors, subject to approval and amendments by majority vote of the delegates present at the National PAS Conference and shall remain the same until changed by the delegates at a subsequent National Conference.

Section B. Alumni and Friends Membership

1. Alumni and Friends membership shall be open to former, and active PAS members, advisers, and other PAS supporters.
 - A. The name of this membership shall be PAS Alumni and Friends.
 - B. To use the name National PAS Alumni and Friends, a group or individual must have a current or lifetime National PAS Alumni and Friends membership.

The purposes shall be:

- a. To provide a connection to the National PAS organization.
- b. To support National PAS in advancing the organization and providing continued connection and interaction with agriculturally- related industries

2. The executive body of the PAS Alumni and Friends shall be a special committee referred to as the PAS Alumni and Friends Committee.

PAS Alumni and Friends shall be a standing committee of the National PAS Board of Directors with leadership of PAS Alumni and Friends as follows:

- A. A chairperson, chair-elect, and immediate past chair, serving staggered three-year terms. To be elected to the PAS Alumni and Friends leadership committee, you must be a current member. The chairperson will serve on the National PAS Board of Directors as a representative of the Alumni and Friends membership.
- B. All three leadership positions (above) are to be elected at-large by the PAS Alumni and Friends membership at the annual meeting which is held during the National PAS Conference.

- C. No PAS Alumni and Friends leadership position shall serve more than two consecutive three-year terms.
 - D. The Executive Director of the National PAS Organization shall serve as an ex-officio member of the PAS Alumni and Friends Committee.
1. There shall be an annual meeting of the membership held in conjunction with the annual National PAS conference or called by the Committee as needed.
 2. Dues shall be set by the PAS Alumni and Friends members at the annual meetings. The dues structure must be approved by the National PAS board of directors. PAS Alumni and Friends membership annual dues will be paid to PAS Alumni and Friends and will be deposited into the National PAS bank account and assigned to the PAS Alumni and Friends subaccount. Any Alumni and Friends projects will be proposed to the National PAS Board of Directors by the PAS Alumni and Friends committee chair for approval
 3. Lifetime membership dues will be deposited into an escrow account. The National PAS Executive Director is to be the authorized representative of this account. The National PAS Executive Director and PAS Alumni and Friends chair will present proposals for spending the interest only from the escrow account to the National PAS Board of Directors for approval.

Section C.

Honorary Membership may be awarded to persons who have helped advance postsecondary education in agriculture and/or PAS and shall be conferred for life. Honorary membership can be recommended by a professional in agriculture and may be awarded by the board of directors to persons who represent the ideals of the National Professional Agricultural Student Organization.

ARTICLE V. NATIONAL OFFICERS

Section A.

- 2.1. Student officers shall be a president, secretary and 5 Vice Presidents. Officers are elected at-large. The seven officers elected annually (president, secretary and five vice presidents) are limited to three per state. The president shall be selected and elected annually from the previous years' secretary and five vice-presidents that have applied for that position. If members of the eligible previous officer team chose not to run for the position of president, the nominating committee will have the discretion to recommend to the delegates a candidate for the position. The officer's membership status must be active for the entirety of their term of office.

National officer candidates shall submit to the National PAS Board a National Officer Application as announced by the PAS Executive Director. The national officers of the organization shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates present at the national conference.

- 2.2 If more than three people are nominated for an office and no one receives a simple majority (51%) on the first vote, the person receiving the lowest number of votes will be dropped from the ballot and a revote taken, this procedure followed until one person receives a majority.

If more than two people are nominated for an office and no one receives a majority on the first vote, the person receiving the lowest number of votes will be dropped from the ballot and a revote taken, this procedure followed until one person receives a majority.

- The state from which the following year's president is from is only allowed two members to become National Officers.
- The Officer Coordinator is responsible for posting the National Officer application 120 days before national conference.
- The nominating committee is responsible for slating the national officer candidates in the positions that they choose would best serve the organization.
- Two delegates from each state present at National Conference will have the opportunity to vote and accept or reject the officer candidates that the nominating committee has slated. A simple majority must be achieved to pass.
- If simple majority is not acquired during voting, it is then the power of the delegates to elect each national officer position on an individual basis.

ARTICLE VI. GOVERNING BODY

Section A

Seven National Officers (student)

 President (non-voting, unless there is a tie)

 Secretary (voting)

 Five-Vice-Presidents (voting)

Three Postsecondary Faculty (voting)

One NASAE representative (voting)

One AAEE Agricultural Teacher-Educator representative (voting)

One PAS Alumni and Friends representative, Chair (voting)

Up to four Agricultural Industry Representative(s) (voting)

National PAS Executive Director (non-voting)

National Officer Coordinator (non-voting)

One Ad Hoc Member with a preference given to a USDE Program Specialist for Agriculture/Agribusiness and Natural Resources (non-voting)

Section B

The chairperson of the board of directors shall be a board-elected position, shall be a nonstudent board member and shall serve as the executive officer of the board with administrative responsibility for implementing the policies of the board under the bylaws of the organization.

Section C

The executive director shall be an employee of the board, shall be annually evaluated by the executive committee of the board of directors and shall serve as an ex-officio member of the board of directors.

- The Executive Director should receive a yearly evaluation basis on his/her performance.
- The Executive Committee has the responsibility of completing the evaluation.

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- If the Executive Director receives poor evaluations in two consecutive years, the Board of Directors must take initiative action to resolve the situation, and the poor performance of the Executive Director.

Section D

The postsecondary faculty members on the board of directors shall be Elected by the faculty delegation present at the national conference. Postsecondary faculty need not be present at the conference to be elected but must have expressed interest to the board prior to the conference.

The state staff member will be appointed by the National Association of Supervisors of Agricultural Education. The teacher educator will be appointed by the American Association of Agricultural Educators. The four agriculture industry representatives shall be appointed by the National PAS Board of Directors for a three-year term. The alumni committee chair position will be a rotating three-year term on the National Board of Directors and on the alumni committee leadership team.

Section E

The three faculty members shall be elected in staggered three-year terms. State staff members and teacher educators shall be appointed in staggered three-year terms. The four agriculture industry representatives shall be appointed in staggered three-year terms. No board member shall serve more than two-consecutive three-year terms. After a three-year cycle off the board, a member may be considered for one additional three-year term.

Section F

Special meetings of the board of directors may be called by the chairperson and the president.

Section G

All Board and National officer terms will begin April 1st and commence on March 31st. During the overlap time between the board and delegate meetings which take place during conference and April 1st, the sitting board and officer team will retain voting rights while on-boarding the new team. As of April 1st, the newly elected board members and national officers will receive voting rights and those leaving their positions will drop off the board completely.

ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

Section A.

States with chapters may bid on the location of the national conference, and the selection shall be made by the board of directors two years in advance of the conference.

Section B.

The body of delegates at the national conference shall consist of two delegates per state association. The chapter delegates must be elected by their chapter or appointed by their adviser. The at-large delegates must be elected at their state conference or appointed by their state association. All delegates (both the chapter and state) will conduct business for the organizations.

Section C.

Parliamentary authority shall be the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order (revised).

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES

Section A. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of:

- Chairperson of the board of directors
- Chair-elect

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- Immediate Past Chair
- National President (non-voting, unless a tie)
- National Secretary
- Treasurer (to be elected from within the board)
- National PAS Executive Director, Ex-officio

2. The Executive Committee

- a. Has the authority to conduct business of the organization that shall occur between meetings of the board. Such action shall be reviewed by the board at the next regular meeting.
- b. Is responsible for the annual performance evaluation of the PAS Executive Director.
- c. Will serve as the finance committee of the organization and is responsible for an annual audit/review of the financial records of the National PAS Organization.
- d. Is responsible for reviewing and maintaining bylaws.

2.1 2.

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- B. Is responsible for the annual performance evaluation of the PAS Executive Director.
- C. Is responsible for an annual audit/review of the financial records of the National PAS Organization.

Section B

Standing committees of the board shall be appointed by the board of directors. Standing committees shall include:

1. Nominating Committee to interview National Officer Candidates
2. National Conference Committee
3. PAS Alumni and Friends Committee

Section C

Ad Hoc committees shall be appointed as needed by the Board of Directors.

Section D

An Alumni and Friends Committee shall be the governing body of the Alumni and Friends membership.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS

Proposed amendments to the bylaw's must be submitted to the National PAS Executive Committee. Proposed amendments may come from the PAS Board of Directors, or a state or local association at least 120 days prior to the opening date of the National Conference. Once proposed amendments are approved by the PAS Board of Directors, the PAS Executive Director shall notify all local and state organizations at least 60 days prior to the conference. Amendments shall be voted on by all delegates at the National Conference and must receive a majority vote of all delegates present.

ARTICLE X FISCAL TERMS

Section A.

The fiscal year shall be September 1 through August 31st.

Section B.

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Dues for active members are payable at the start of a new fiscal year. Membership dues shall align with the National PAS fiscal year.

2.1 ARTICLE XI INSPECTION OF BOOKS

Books and records of the National PAS may be inspected by any member or member's agent (e.g. chapters, advisors, state associations, lawyers, etc.) at any reasonable time. This includes, but is not limited to, budgets, minutes of meetings, financial records, etc.

Requests for books and records shall be made available upon request for current members in good standing to the National PAS Executive Director.