

CONSTITUTION

BLACK ENTOMOLOGISTS

(An Association Dedicated to the Advancement of Insect Science among Black People and Other Under-represented Groups)

ARTICLE I

Name and Objectives

Section 1. The organization shall be known as BLACK ENTOMOLOGISTS, hereinafter referred to as BE.

Section 2. The purpose of BE is to promote and implement initiatives, which foster inclusion and advancement of insect science among black people and other under-represented groups
Specific objectives are:

- i. Promote and enhance all phases of career preparation and development and facilitate the advancement of entomology-related careers among blacks and other under-represented groups.
- ii. Foster communication and increase contact among entomologists from under-represented groups.
- iii. Assist in the recruitment, retention, and advancement of blacks and other under-represented groups in entomology graduate programs and careers. Specific activities include minority student recruitment, training, and exchange of employment opportunities that may exist in entomology and other related disciplines.
- iv. Highlight research and professional accomplishments of individuals who are affiliated with the society.
- v. Organize meetings and social events for BE during the Entomological Society of America (ESA) annual meeting.

Section 3. Black Entomologists shall be receptive to individual from all cultural backgrounds and maintain a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity in membership.

ARTICLE II

Membership

Section 1. Classes of Membership. The classes of membership shall be Student membership and Regular membership. Regular members shall include postdoctoral fellows, those in permanent employment situations (irrespective of degree), and self-employed individuals.

ARTICLE III

Officers

Section 1. Elected Officers. The elected officers of BE shall be a President, a Vice President, and a Secretary/Treasurer. The term for these three officer positions shall be two (continuous) years. Every elected officer will serve only one term for a given office. An officer who has served a full term may be eligible for re-election to any office after a one year grace period.

ARTICLE IV

Executive Committee

Section 1. The President, immediate past President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer shall constitute The Executive Committee, whose chair shall be the President of BE.

Section 2. The Executive committee shall conduct the business of BE, subject to decisions on policy and actions by the members at an Annual Business Meeting or a special business meeting of BE or by mail or electronic ballot.

Section 3. Three members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for business transaction.

Section 4. The Executive Committee shall carry out duties that the members may delegate to it each year. Unless otherwise specified in the Constitution or Bylaws, the Executive Committee has authority to act on behalf of BE.

Section 5. Members of the Executive Committee and officially constituted committees of BE individually and collectively, shall be indemnified and held harmless by BE in any action alleging injury or damage, direct or consequential, arising out of the performance of their duties, except where such members are adjudged guilty of willful misfeasance or malfeasance in the performance of their duties.

ARTICLE V

Affiliates and Association

Section 1. Non-profit entomological or related organizations may become affiliated with BE and BE may associate itself with other nonprofit, scientifically oriented organizations. An affiliation with or association by BE shall remain in effect until terminated by BE or the affiliated or associated organization.

ARTICLE VI

Funds

Section 1. Funds of BE shall be collected, managed, disbursed and accounted for as specified in the Bylaws and as directed by the Executive Committee. The Secretary/Treasurer shall present an annual report of the account of BE to the members. Additional and/or external audits may be conducted at the request of the Executive Committee.

Section 2. No officer or committee of BE and no individual member of BE shall solicit funds in the name of BE without prior approval by the Executive Committee.

Section 3. An Endowment Fund may be maintained to include donations, bequests, and such other property or funds as may be added to it by direction by the donor and approval by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII

Publications

Section 1. BE shall publish information appropriate to BE's interest.

ARTICLE VIII

Committees

Section 1. Standing Committee. The Executive Committee shall constitute a Standing Committee to facilitate the continuity and the functioning of BE.

Section 2. Special Committees. The Executive Committee may establish Special Committees as are deemed useful to facilitate the operation of BE and to foster and promote the objectives of BE.

Section 3. Presidential Committees. Presidential Committees may be appointed as need arises by the President to facilitate the functions and operations of BE.

ARTICLE IX

Meetings

Section 1. BE shall hold Annual Meetings, including but not limited to business meetings and scientific presentations by and for members. An annual meeting shall be held on a date, at a time, and in a place decided upon by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee also may call special meetings essential to foster and promote the purpose of the association. Black Entomologists will follow a modified version of Roberts Rules of Order for its meetings:

<http://www.robertsrules.com/>

<http://www.managementhelp.org/boards/roberts.htm>

BY-LAWS

Article I

Equal Privileges

Section 1. All members have equal privileges as to discussion at meetings, service on committees, and holding office.

Article II

Officers and their duties

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the President to supervise the activities of BE. The President may form Special Committees to address special issues. The President shall work closely with other members of the Executive Committee to ensure that all obligations of BE are addressed in a timely manner.

Section 2. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall assume the duties of the President. The Vice President shall assist the President in managing the business of BE and conducting the annual meeting of BE.

Section 3. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep record of Executive Committee meetings, attend to general correspondence of BE, maintain a database of members, and perform such duties as may be assigned. The Secretary/Treasurer shall ensure that Minutes of Annual Meetings are provided to members. It shall be the duty of the Secretary/Treasurer to make necessary financial arrangements as directed by the President for the annual meeting of BE. The

Secretary/Treasurer shall collect all membership dues and donations; pay all bills incurred by BE, and perform such duties as may be assigned. An Audit Committee shall audit the Secretary/Treasurer account annually. In the absence of the Secretary/Treasurer, the President shall delegate the duties of the Secretary/Treasurer to a member of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. The Executive Committee shall conduct the business of BE between meetings. It shall take all policy recommendations to BE, and shall make available a report at the BE Annual Meeting.

Section 5. All officers of BE shall be elected by vote of the members at the Annual Meeting.

Section 6. All officers of BE shall assume office at the conclusion of Annual Meeting of the BE and shall serve for one term (2 years).

Article III

Membership dues

Section 1. Membership dues shall be determined by members of BE with final approval by the Executive Committee.

Article IV

Committees

Section 1. Standing Committees. The BE shall have an Audit Committee. The Audit Committee shall consist of three members who will audit the financial records of BE. The Chair of the Audit Committee shall be appointed by the President. Each member of the Audit Committee shall serve a three-year term that is staggered such that a member is replaced each year. The Audit Committee will review the financial records at the time of the Annual Meeting and prior to transfer of financial records to the succeeding Secretary/Treasurer. The chair of the Audit Committee shall submit a written report for approval by members present at Annual Meeting of BE.

Section 2. Presidential Committee. The President may establish committees to facilitate the development of the Annual Meeting program and to promote the functions and operations of BE.

Section 3. The Executive Committee, at any time, may establish Special Committees deemed useful to facilitate the operations of the BE and to foster and promote the purpose of the BE.

Article V

Salary of BE officers

There will be no salary or financial compensation of any kind to officers of BE.

Article VI

Amendment to Bylaws and constitution

Section 1. Changes in bylaws and constitution may be made by a two-third vote of the members present at an Annual Meeting, provided that a notice in writing has been sent to each active member at least one month before the date of the Annual Meeting at which it will be considered.