

Guiding Principles for the
Young Alumni Committee

Voted in: March 5, 2008

PURPOSE

The Young Alumni Committee (YAC) is a subcommittee of the External Advisory Board of the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources. The YAC's focus is to assist the faculty and staff of Warnell in fundraising efforts, facilitate increased participation of recent graduates at Alumni events, support efforts to increase Warnell School enrollment through peer-level recruitment of potential students, and build the leadership and professional skills of young alumni and students so they are ready to assume future roles as leaders in forestry and natural resource professions.

The YAC is a subcommittee of the Warnell External Advisory Board and therefore will function according to the Advisory Board bylaws.

MEMBERS

The YAC shall maintain between 8 and 10 members, encouraging representation of each of the five majors of the school (Fisheries, Forestry, Wildlife, Soils and Water, and NRRT). Potential members shall be nominated prior to each spring meeting based on qualifications set forth herein. Each nominee will be reviewed by the committee at the spring meeting and will then be selected by a 2/3rds vote (present or by proxy) to be sent to the Dean of the Warnell School for final approval. Upon the Dean's confirmation, new members will then be asked to join by a formal letter from the YAC Chair and the Dean.

Qualifications and Expectations of YAC members are as follows:

Members must have demonstrated involvement, support, and commitment to the Warnell School.

Members must be Alumni within ten years of their most recent graduation year.

Membership terms are to be three-years voting, with the exception for members who serve as Chair-Elect in their second or third year, as this will extend their membership until completion of their term. For a period of up to three years, non-voting membership will be allowed.

Members must attend at least one scheduled business meeting each year (see meetings section). Members who miss two consecutive meetings will be asked to reaffirm interest of their membership in writing to the Chair or will be asked to withdraw from the Committee. Failure to reaffirm interest in writing before the next scheduled meeting will be grounds for immediate dismissal upon a 2/3rds vote by the committee.

Members will become representatives and spokespersons in their communities for Warnell. Members are expected to assist in the recruitment of prospective students, meet with other alumni, communicate with area legislators, attend local alumni events, and more.

Upon current gift to Warnell, donors are eligible to become nominees of the YAC. Elected members must annually contribute financially to Warnell and actively assist in the solicitation of gifts to Warnell.

Members are expected to offer ideas to help the Warnell Alumni Association and YAC initiatives more meaningful to alumni constituency.

MEETINGS

A minimum of two business meetings shall be held annually in the spring and fall. In conjunction with the Warnell Director of Alumni Relations and the Dean, the Chair shall determine the agenda for each meeting. The Executive Council may call additional meetings when deemed necessary.

OFFICERS

The Executive Council will consist of three members: the Chair, Chair-Elect, and Past Chair. Occasionally, the YAC Chair may appoint additional officers to serve as Special Events Committee Chair, assigned ad-hoc as events arise.

At each spring meeting, the Chair-Elect shall be selected and this person will take office effective after the conclusion of the meeting. The Chair-Elect will serve a one (1) year term and shall automatically succeed as Chair for a one (1) year term.

The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the YAC and shall be responsible for insuring the policies of the committee as set by the Guiding Principles Document and the Advisory Board Bylaws. The Chair will also serve as liaison between the YAC and the Warnell Alumni/Development Office. The Chair shall recommend to the committee such actions or programs directed at the aims and purposes of YAC.

The Chair-Elect shall preside at meetings in the absence or disqualification of the Chair. The Chair-Elect shall assist the Chair in furthering the aims and purposes of the YAC. In the event of inability of the Chair to serve for any reason, the Chair-Elect shall become the Chair of the YAC until further action is taken by the YAC membership. The Chair-Elect shall perform such other duties as the Chair directs.

The Past Chair will serve an advisory role, and shall perform such other duties as the Chair directs.

Any vacancy which may occur among the officers shall be filled by a special election meeting.

FACULTY AND STAFF ROLES

One (1) faculty member must serve as an official advisor to this committee. Faculty members will serve a term up to three years. The Executive Council retains the right to accept or deny the appointed faculty member.

During the spring business meeting, the appointed faculty will be reconfirmed by the Executive Council.

Staff representatives will serve as a liaison for the Warnell School providing advice and assistance.

AMENDMENTS TO THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Any voting member of the YAC may make a motion to amend this document. Following such motion, discussion of the proposed amendment(s) must occur. All reasonable efforts must be made to inform committee members of proposed amendment(s) prior to a vote to confirm or deny adoption of said amendments. Amendment(s) will be voted upon at the next scheduled business meeting.

ADOPTION OF THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND AMENDMENTS

Adoption of these guiding principles and any amendments shall be by 2/3rds vote of all members of the YAC and will be effective immediately upon adoption.

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