

**Bylaws of the
Department of Entomology & Nematology
University of Florida
Updated July 13, 2007**

Preamble

The shared goals of the faculty and administration of the Department of Entomology & Nematology are to attain excellence in academic responsibilities of teaching, research, extension and service and to gain national and international recognition for these programs. These goals can best be achieved with a governance structure from the Department level to the University level that fosters collegiality, collaboration, mutual responsibility and accountability, and transparency.

Article I – Governance of the Department of Entomology & Nematology

These Bylaws establish the general principles by which the Department of Entomology & Nematology shall be governed. These Bylaws are governed by and subordinate to the Constitutions of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences and the University and the policies and directives of the University of Florida’s Board of Trustees and the Florida Board of Governors. Operating within the context of these Bylaws, the governance of the Department of Entomology & Nematology shall be shared between the administration and the faculty.

Article II – The Faculty

Section 1 – Faculty Membership

The faculty of the Department of Entomology & Nematology shall consist of individuals in tenured, tenure-accruing, and non tenure-accruing faculty positions. Faculty are defined by the University of Florida Constitution and Senate Bylaws and include the various ranks of Professor, Scholar, Lecturer, Research Scientist, Extension Scientist and Assistant In.

Section 2 – Faculty Rights

Faculty have the right to know the expectations of their job assignment and how they will be evaluated.

Faculty have the right to assemble without limit to discuss issues of concern.

Faculty have the right to open academic discourse without fear of retribution.

Section 3 – Faculty Responsibilities

Faculty are responsible for planning and conducting teaching, research, extension and service in a competent and professional manner.

Faculty are responsible for the professional development of students, including mentoring, and organizing, attending and presenting seminars.

Faculty are responsible for contributing to the operations of the Department, including building, infrastructure, social, public relations, and outreach functions.

Faculty are responsible for contributing to the governance of the Department, IFAS, the University, and their professional societies.

Section 4—Department Chair Responsibilities

The Department is headed by a Chair appointed by the Senior Vice President in accordance with the University Constitution. The Chair serves as chief executive and administrative officer of the Department. The Chair provides financial planning and policy and supervises routine operations of the Department, including faculty evaluations and evaluations of selected staff (see *Appendix A* for more complete description). The Chair is responsible to the Senior Vice President for administration of the Department and the three Deans for programmatic issues and is the agent of the Department faculty for execution of academic policy. The Chair is expected to operate the Department in the spirit of shared governance and seek faculty input, consider it, and provide feedback and rationale about final decisions. The Chair may maintain a program of teaching, research and/or extension, as time permits.

Article III –Committees

Purpose and Classification

Service on Entomology & Nematology committees is the primary means by which faculty can participate directly in the governance of the Department. Faculty, both on-campus and center faculty, shall have the opportunity to participate in the four standing committees through which the major governance of the Department occurs:

Administrative Advisory Committee, Graduate Committee, Undergraduate Committee, and Honors and Awards Committee. General rules for standing committees include:

1. Standing committees shall meet regularly. A secretary, elected from within the committee membership, shall keep and archive minutes and records (edited for confidentiality as necessary).
2. Reports of the standing committees shall be made to the faculty via monthly email messages and at each monthly faculty meeting.
3. Standing committees shall submit and archive an annual written report to the faculty (for the interval July 1 – June 30).
4. Policy recommendations developed in the standing committees shall be emailed to all faculty prior to faculty meetings at which time faculty input and discussion will be entertained.

Section 1 – Administrative Advisory Committee

The Administrative Advisory Committee is responsible for providing input to the Department Chair on matters of space, allocation of year-end matching funds, and long-range planning. The committee will review the bylaws of the Department every three years and propose modifications to the entire faculty, as necessary. The committee will serve as the hosts and planning group for interfacing with the department's External Advisory Council.

An ad hoc committee, consisting of three faculty members, will be formed from the whole committee when necessary to review faculty CRIS projects prior to external review. A separate ad hoc committee, consisting of three tenured faculty members, will be formed when necessary to perform the following duties: 1) summarize faculty evaluation of the progress towards tenure of tenure-accruing faculty at the time of their three-year mid-career review; 2) review faculty packets for tenure and promotion; and 3) review the productivity and performance of tenured faculty (at the request of the faculty member) who have received Below Satisfactory ratings on annual evaluations or the Sustained Performance Evaluation Program (SPEP) and are being required to develop an IFAS Performance Improvement Plan (PIP). Evaluation of faculty members at the time of their three-year mid-career review will follow the guidelines in *Appendix C* (Mentoring of Junior Faculty).

The Administrative Advisory Committee shall consist of six faculty who will each serve three-year staggered terms. Three members shall be elected by paper or electronic ballot and three members shall be appointed by the Chair. Two members shall rotate off the committee every year and shall be replaced by one elected and one appointed faculty member. The Chair will serve as chair of the Committee. The two members rotating off the Committee each year will form a nominating subcommittee to solicit candidates for all standing committees. The agenda and the names of the committee members will be disseminated before each meeting with an invitation to faculty to propose items for discussion. Meeting minutes (edited for confidentiality) will be disseminated via email to the faculty after each meeting.

Section 2 – Graduate Committee

The Graduate Committee shall be chaired by a member of the graduate faculty who will be known as the Graduate Coordinator. The Graduate Coordinator will be appointed by the Chair and shall serve a period of time to be agreed upon by the Graduate Coordinator and the Chair. Six faculty, in addition to the Graduate Coordinator, will serve as members of the Graduate Committee, each serving three-year staggered terms. Three committee members shall be elected by the faculty by paper or electronic ballot after nomination by the nominating subcommittee of the Administrative Committee and three shall be appointed by the Graduate Coordinator. Two members shall rotate off the committee every year and shall be replaced by one elected and one appointed faculty

member. The Graduate Committee shall meet monthly on a regular schedule published at the beginning of each semester. An agenda shall be distributed to all faculty before each meeting. Minutes shall be archived in the Student Services office. The Graduate Coordinator, or other designated committee member in the Graduate Coordinator's absence, will make a report of the committee's actions at each faculty meeting.

The responsibilities of the committee shall include:

1. advising on the distribution of scholarships and teaching assistantships,
2. recommending enhancements and improvements to the graduate curriculum,
3. reviewing new and revised graduate courses before submission to the CALS curriculum committee,
4. recommending on graduate student admissions,
5. recommending courtesy faculty appointments,
6. recommending theses and dissertations to be nominated for IFAS, University and other national awards and honors,
7. developing policies and procedures related to graduate students and graduate studies including grievances.

Section 3 – Undergraduate Committee

The Undergraduate Committee shall be chaired by a member of the faculty who will be known as the Undergraduate Coordinator. The Undergraduate Coordinator will be appointed by the Chair and shall serve a period of time agreed upon by the Undergraduate Coordinator and the Chair. The committee shall consist of the Undergraduate Honors coordinator (if this individual is not the Undergraduate Coordinator) and four other faculty members, in addition to the Undergraduate Coordinator. Two members would be elected and two appointed by the Undergraduate Coordinator and each would serve two-year staggered terms. Committee members shall be nominated by the nominating subcommittee of the Administrative Committee and elected by paper or electronic ballot. Minutes of the Undergraduate Committee shall be archived in the Student Services office. The Undergraduate Coordinator, or other designated committee member in the Undergraduate Coordinator's absence, will make a report of the committee's actions at each faculty meeting.

The responsibilities of the committee shall include:

1. advising on the distribution of scholarships,
2. recommending enhancements and improvements to the undergraduate curriculum,
3. review of new and revised undergraduate courses before submission to CALS curriculum committee,
4. evaluation of learning compacts,
5. oversight of undergraduate research experience course (ENY4905) and honors theses (ENY4909).

Section 4 - Honors and Awards Committee

This committee may consist of faculty, students and staff. The committee will secure nominations for IFAS, University, and professional honors and awards for faculty and staff. The committee should have three to five members, including a nematologist, elected by the faculty. The committee will elect one of its members as chair. The committee will solicit nominations from the faculty, staff and students for available honors and awards. A database of awards and awarding organizations, along with nomination due dates, shall be maintained by the committee chair. Frequent dialog will be necessary and meeting will occur when timely action is needed. Minutes of the Honors and Awards Committee shall be archived in the Departmental main office. The committee chair, or other designated committee member in the chair's absence, will make a report of the committee's actions at each faculty meeting.

Section 5 – Ad hoc Committees

Ad hoc committees can be formed by the Chair or by faculty, as needed. Members of these committees shall volunteer for the assignment and shall elect a chair from among their members, if a chair is deemed necessary. Current ad hoc committees include:

1. Mentoring committees

A mentoring committee for a particular faculty member shall be formed by at least two members of the faculty at the Associate or Full Professor level (see *Appendix C*). The Mentoring Committee will be chosen by the faculty member. The mentee may seek advice from the Chair and faculty colleagues on selection of faculty to serve on the committee. Committee members shall meet with the mentee as often as the mentee requests, but at least once a year, individually or as a group. Committee members should review the mentee's annual evaluation packet and meet with the mentee at this time. Committee members will submit a written annual evaluation to the mentee discussing his/her progress towards tenure.

2. Peer evaluation of teaching committee

Faculty members requesting that their courses be evaluated will form a committee of two to four members of the tenured faculty (from within or outside the department, as appropriate) and the Chair. Committees will meet with the faculty member whose course is being evaluated before the semester begins to discuss the course history and provide evidence and course materials. Committee members will observe at least two lectures and at least two laboratories with prior notice, and will meet with the faculty member and the Chair for a final summary and feedback session. Each member will provide a written evaluation to the Chair who will summarize the evaluation and provide it to the faculty member. (See *Appendix D* for further guidelines).

3. Landscape committee

The landscape committee shall consist of three to five individuals with interest in landscape issues. They shall periodically review the health and quality of the Department's landscape and seek to improve it.

4. Reading room committee

This committee is formed of individuals with an interest in the reading room. It provides oversight of acquisitions and maintenance. This committee elects a chair who makes an annual report to the faculty.

5. Social committee

This committee, consisting of faculty, staff and students, organizes and implements plans for departmental social occasions to foster community among faculty, students and staff. Current social events include: Welcome Back Reception in September, Holiday party in December and Spring Picnic in March.

Article IV – Faculty Meetings

The faculty meeting is the primary means of fostering communication among all faculty within the Department of Entomology & Nematology on campus and around the state. Faculty meetings should be held once monthly on a schedule published at the beginning of each semester. Faculty and administration have the right to place items on the agenda for discussion by contacting the Department Chair. The agenda should be distributed via email at least one week before the faculty meeting. Department of Entomology & Nematology faculty serving as UF Senators and members of the IFAS Faculty Council and other IFAS faculty governing body should email short summaries to all faculty before each faculty meeting so that dialogue can be initiated on critical items currently before these governing bodies.

The faculty meeting is the most important venue for discussion of policy issues, tenure and promotion packages, changes in curriculum, new positions, and other issues relevant to our academic mission. Departmental faculty, plus emeritus, courtesy, and affiliate faculty, and student and staff representatives may speak on any issue before the faculty. Voting on most matters shall be restricted to departmental faculty. However, voting on promotion and tenure will follow IFAS and University guidelines (only tenured faculty at higher rank may vote). Discussions regarding tenure and promotion should be considered confidential. Votes taken on tenure and promotion should be by paper or electronic ballot and the results made available upon request to the tenured faculty permitted to vote.

After all candidates for new faculty positions have interviewed, the merits of each candidate will be discussed in a faculty meeting. Written input on candidate qualifications will be submitted on an evaluation form (*Appendix B*). Any faculty

member may fill out an evaluation form for candidate tenure-accruing and non tenure-accruing faculty for use by the Chair in faculty hiring decisions.

Paper or electronic ballots will be used for election of faculty to the four standing committees. The results of any paper or electronic balloting conducted should be tallied by a departmental secretary and relayed to the faculty.

The Chair will present yearly Plans of Work and Reports of Achievements at faculty meetings. Chairs of standing committees will present the annual report of their committee's actions during the year.

Article V – Ratification and Amendments

Section 1. These Bylaws shall become effective upon their ratification by the faculty of the Department of Entomology & Nematology with a two-thirds majority vote, concurrence of the Chair, and approval of the IFAS Senior Vice President.

Section 2. Proposals for amendments to these Bylaws may be made to the Chair by any member of the faculty.

Section 3. Changes in these Bylaws shall be made by a two-thirds majority vote.

Section 4. Faculty will have one month to review and register a vote for adoption and amendment of the Bylaws.

APPENDIX A

Department Chair Position Description

The Department Chair serves as the faculty's representative to the UF/IFAS administration, and the administration's representative to the faculty. The primary role of the chair is to develop excellence in entomology-nematology by functioning as a facilitator, guiding and overseeing the Department's personnel in providing needed services to the residents of the State of Florida.

The Department Chair provides coordination, accountability, and administrative functions for the Department in Gainesville by:

1. Providing leadership to faculty, staff, and students in carrying out the IFAS mission and the Land-Grant philosophy, fostering an appropriate tone, developing a set of policies, and promoting department programs in instruction, research, extension, and service;
2. Developing and managing human, fiscal, and physical resources in support of departmental instruction, research, extension, and service activities, within the constraints imposed by resource availability;
3. Developing and maintaining networks and relationships, both internal and external to the department, including fostering interagency, interdisciplinary, and private partnerships in support of academic functions of the Department;
4. Evaluating and rewarding excellence in all forms of scholarship.

The Department Chair also shares responsibility with Center Directors for 40 faculty at Research and Education Centers statewide, and communicates with faculty and Center Directors with respect to direction and evaluation of entomology-nematology faculty.

The Department Chair is directly accountable to the IFAS Deans for the quality and direction of departmental programs, to the IFAS Vice President for administrative matters and the overall administrative efficiency of the Department, and to the Faculty for internal program management of space, personnel, and other resources provided.

Specific Tasks and Duties of the Department Chair

1. Governance

- Facilitate development and administration of department policies, goals, and objectives
- Conduct faculty meetings
- Establish department committees
- Use committees effectively
- Delegate some administrative responsibilities to faculty and/or committees
- Facilitate development and administration of department policies, goals and objectives
- Help determine services to be supplied by the department to College, University, and State

Serve as an advocate for the department and its personnel
Monitor library acquisitions, and other resources and services that affect the quality of the department and its programs
Enhance diversity of Department and oversee compliance with affirmative action plans of the University

2. Department Programs

Communicate and facilitate vision of Department directions and programs to faculty, students, staff, and administration
Provide oversight of class scheduling
Provide oversight of graduate student activities and research
Provide oversight of department curriculum, stimulating change as needed
Support the activities of the undergraduate and graduate coordinators
Work to assure availability of space and equipment to meet needs for teaching, research, and extension efforts

3. Faculty Activities

Set tone of high professional, ethical, and scientific excellence in Department
Reward academic scholarship in all forms, including discovery, dissemination, and application of knowledge
Establish processes for recruitment and selection of faculty members
Assign faculty responsibilities such as teaching, research, committee work, etc. to faculty in Gainesville, and in collaboration with Center Directors for departmental faculty located in RECs.
Provide oversight of peer evaluation process
Facilitate coordination among faculty for statewide programs
Monitor and evaluate faculty performance in teaching, research, extension, service, and citizenship; communicate with Center Directors as necessary
Deal with unsatisfactory faculty and staff performance
Maintain communication between department and other units of the university
Reduce, resolve, and prevent conflict among faculty members
Encourage, when appropriate, faculty participation in departmental, college, and university activities, including governance

4. External Communication

Serve as interface between department and deans, and other administrators
Serve as interface between department and USDA, State Department of Agriculture, and other agencies and groups as necessary
Serve as contact for outside groups requesting information about department and programs
Provide for the completion of forms and surveys
Oversee production of department advertising and recruitment material

5. Budget and Resources

Communicate department needs to administration
Administer department budget (state and federal funds allocated by deans)

- Provide oversight of faculty contract and grant budgets
- Review travel expenditures, especially foreign travel
- Coordinate special requests to deans for funding
- Encourage submission by faculty of grant and contract proposals
- Reallocate space and support staff to meet changing needs and requirements

6. Facilities and Office Personnel Management

- Manage department facilities, including inventory control
- Initiate and supervise new construction projects and renovation, as necessary
- Provide for building security, safety, and maintenance, including grounds
- Hire, supervise and evaluate selected staff
- Supervise department personnel, record-keeping, and accounting functions
- Compile information for productivity reports

7. Professional Development

- Foster the development of each faculty member's interests and talents, blending these efforts into a functional program
- Encourage faculty personnel development, including participation in self improvement programs, faculty development leaves, consulting, and international experiences
- Foster excellence in teaching, research, extension, and service
- Promote affirmative action
- Encourage faculty to contribute to the enhancement of the department's and institution's visibility and reputation

8. Personal Development

- Keep current with developments in field of expertise
- Contribute to productivity and reputation of the department through participation in the department's programs in instruction, research, extension, and/or service

APPENDIX C

Mentoring and Three-Year Review of Junior Faculty

1. All tenure-track faculty must select a mentoring committee composed of at least two tenured faculty members from within the Entomology & Nematology department (with additional members from outside the department, if appropriate). Faculty mentors should be chosen based on their expertise and Research/Teaching/Extension assignment.
2. Mentees should provide their mentoring committee members with their annual plan of work and report of accomplishments.
3. Mentors provide an annual written assessment of the mentee's progress towards tenure to the tenure-track faculty member.
4. A mid-career review will be conducted for faculty members in the tenure probationary period no later than the close of the third year of academic service.
5. Junior faculty will prepare a packet documenting their achievements (without external letters).
6. The packet will be emailed to all tenured departmental faculty who are invited to review the packet and provide written comments to the Chair.
7. The Chair synthesizes faculty comments and shares this assessment with the tenure-accruing faculty member.
8. The Chair's letter and the faculty assessment letter accompany the three-year packet to IFAS Administration.

APPENDIX D

Guidelines for Peer Evaluation of Teaching

. Entomology and Nematology
Peer Teaching Evaluation Program

1. **Review Team Structure:** Three members: (a) the Department Chair, (b) a department faculty member appointed by the faculty member being evaluated, (c) a faculty member appointed by the chair. Faculty (c) may be from outside or inside the department.
2. **Observation Frequency:** Classroom activities will be assessed at least twice before each promotion: once early in the pre-promotion period and once later in the pre-promotion period. The faculty member should initiate the evaluation program by conferring with the Department Chair at the beginning of the appropriate semester(s).
3. **Assessment Format:** The review team will meet with the instructor prior to the classroom visits to discuss course history, goals, organization, examination and grading policy, etc. The instructor will furnish to the review team the course syllabus, representative handouts, representative exams (including student responses to questions), course grade summaries, etc. The review team will make 2-3 visits to-the class during the assessment period, with the instructor receiving 2 days notice of visits. The instructor will notify the review team immediately if the proposed visit coincides with an exam or other event inappropriate for observation.
4. **Committee Report:** To be presented in oral and written format by the committee as soon as possible after the scheduled classroom visits. The instructor may respond, in writing, and the response will become part of the evaluation document.

Observation Team Summary

	<u>In need of Improvement</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>
1. Course level ^a			
2. Departmental “fit” ^b			
3. “Fit” as a service course for other departments ^c			
4. Course organization			
5. Syllabus			
6. Other handouts			
7. Quizzes and exams			
8. Final grade distribution			
9. Instructor enthusiasm			
10. Classroom technique			
11. Innovation			
12. Student involvement/ participation			
13. Overall course rating			

Operational Definitions

Outstanding - performance far surpasses the expected level for such activities in most respects.

Satisfactory - performance meets expected level for such activities in most respects.

In Need of Improvement - performance fails to meet expected levels for such activities in several key respects.

Footnotes

- a - Course level numbering is consistent with content and work load, course description, and student enrollment.
- b - Course complements other course offerings in department (not applicable to service courses).
- c - Course complements other course offerings in College or University.

Classroom Instruction Evaluation Form
Entomology and Nematology
Peer Teaching-Observation Program

Observation team

_____ (date)

Date of Pre-Class Visitation Session _____

Written materials provided:

Course syllabus

Comments _____

Other handouts

Comments _____

Quizzes

Comments _____

Exams

Comments _____

Final grades

Comments _____

Resources (Budget, facilities and TA's) to teach course

Comments _____

Class visitations

Organization

Comments _____

Instructor enthusiasm

Comments _____

Level of presentation and currency of material

Comments _____

Student participation

Comments _____

Effective teaching approaches

Comments _____

Distracting mannerisms

Comments _____

Other noteworthy items

Comments _____

Additional/continued comments:

Instructor's response: