

CONSTITUTION OF THE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SUGAR CANE TECHNOLOGISTS

As Revised and Approved on June 21, 1991
As Amended on June 23, 1994
As Amended on June 15, 1995
As Amended June 18, 2009
As Amended June 14, 2017

ARTICLE I

Name, Object and Domicile

- Section 1. The name of this Society shall be the American Society of Sugar Cane Technologists.
- Section 2. The object of this society shall be the general study of the sugar industry in all its various branches and the dissemination of information to the members of the organization through meetings and publications.
- Section 3. The domicile of the Society shall be at the office of the General Secretary-Treasurer (as described in Article IV, Section 1).

ARTICLE II

Divisions

The Society shall be composed of two divisions, the Louisiana Division and the Florida Division. Each division shall have its separate membership roster and separate officers and committees. Voting rights of active and honorary members shall be restricted to their respective divisions, except at the general annual and special meetings of the entire Society, hereinafter provided for, at which general meetings active and honorary members of both divisions shall have the right to vote. Officers and committee members shall be members of and serve the respective divisions from which elected or selected, except the General Secretary-Treasurer who shall serve the entire Society.

ARTICLE III

Membership and Dues

- Section 1. There shall be five classes of members: Active, Associate, Honorary, Off-shore or Foreign, and Corporate.
- Section 2. Active members shall be individuals residing in the continental United States actually engaged in the production or processing of sugar cane to manufacture cane sugar and co-products, or research or education pertaining to the industry, including employees of any corporation, firm or other organization which is so engaged.
- Section 3. Associate members shall be individuals not actively engaged in the production or processing of sugar cane to manufacture cane sugar and co-products or research pertaining to the industry, but who may be interested in the objects of the Society. Associate membership shall include persons engaged in the manufacturing, production, or distribution of equipment or supplies used in conjunction with production or processing of sugar cane or cane sugar
- Section 4. Honorary membership shall be conferred on any individual who has distinguished himself or herself in the sugar industry, and has been elected by a majority vote of the Joint Executive Committee. Honorary membership shall be exempt from dues and entitled to all the privileges of active membership. Each Division may

have up to 15 living Honorary Members. In addition, there may be up to 8 living Honorary members assigned to the two Divisions jointly.

Section 5. Off-shore or foreign members shall be individuals not residing in the continental United States who may be interested in the objects of the Society.

Section 6. Corporate members shall include any corporation, firm or other organization engaged in the production or processing of sugar cane to manufacture cane sugar and co-products, or any corporation, firm or other organization engaged in the manufacturing, production or distribution of equipment or supplies used in conjunction with production of sugar cane or cane sugar, who may be interested in the objects of the Society. The Corporate member shall designate a corporate contact person.

Section 7. Applicants for new membership shall make written application to the Secretary-Treasurer of the respective divisions. The Secretary-Treasurer shall scrutinize and process the application.

Section 8. Minimum charge for annual dues shall be as follows:

Active Membership -----	\$10.00
Associate Membership -----	\$25.00
Honorary Membership -----	NONE
Off-shore or Foreign Membership -----	\$20.00
Corporate Membership -----	\$50.00

Each Division can assess charges for dues more than the above schedule as determined by the Division officers or by the membership at the discretion of the officers of each Division.

Dues for each calendar year shall be paid prior to the annual meeting of the member's division. New members shall pay the full amount of dues, irrespective of when they join. Any changes in dues will become effective in the subsequent calendar year.

Section 9. Dues shall be collected by each of the Division's Secretary-Treasurer from the members in their respective divisions. Unless and until changed by action of the Joint Executive Committee, 50 percent of the minimum charge for annual dues, as described in Section 8 for each membership class, shall be transmitted to the office of the General Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 10. Members in arrears for dues for more than a year will be dropped from membership after thirty days notice to this effect from the Secretary-Treasurer. Members thus dropped may reapply for membership.

Section 11. Only active members of the Society whose dues are not in arrears and honorary members shall have the privilege of voting and holding office. Only members (all classes) shall have the privilege of speaking at meetings of the Society.

ARTICLE IV

General Secretary-Treasurer and Joint Executive Committee

Section 1. The General Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as Chief Administrative Officer of the Society and shall coordinate the activities of the divisions and the sections. He or she will serve as ex-officio Chairperson of the Joint Executive Committee and as General Chairperson of the General Society Meetings, and shall have such

other duties as may be delegated to him or her by the Joint Executive Committee. The office of the General Secretary-Treasurer shall be the domicile of the Society.

Section 2. The Joint Executive Committee shall be composed of the elected members of the two division Executive Committees, and is vested with full authority to conduct the business and affairs of the Society.

ARTICLE V

Division Officers and Executive Committee

Section 1. The officers of each division of the Society shall be: a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Secretary-Treasurer or a Secretary and a Treasurer, and an Executive Committee composed of these officers and four other members, one from each section of the Division (as described in Section 3 of Article VII), one elected at large, and the President of the previous Executive Committee who shall serve as an Ex-Officio member of the Division Executive Committee. The office of the Secretary-Treasurer in this constitution indicates either the Secretary-Treasurer, or the Secretary and the Treasurer.

Section 2. These officers, except Secretary-Treasurer, shall be nominated by a nominating committee and voted upon before the annual division meeting. Notices of such nominations shall be mailed to each member at least one month before such meeting. Ballots not received before the annually specified date will not be counted.

Section 3. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be appointed by and serve as a non-voting member at the pleasure of the Division Executive Committee. The Secretary-Treasurer may not hold an elected office on the Executive Committee.

Section 4. The duties of these officers shall be such as usually pertain to such officers in similar societies.

Section 5. Each section as described in Article VII shall be represented in the offices of the President and Vice-President.

Section 6. The President, First Vice-President, and Second Vice-President of each Division shall not hold the same office for two consecutive years. Either Section Chairperson (as described in Section 3 of Article VII) may hold the same office for up to two consecutive years. The terms of the other officers shall be unlimited.

Section 7. The President shall be elected each year alternately from the two sections hereinafter provided for. In any given year, the Presidents of the two Divisions shall be nominated and elected from different sections. The President from the Louisiana Division for the year beginning February, 1970, shall be nominated and elected from the Agricultural Section. The president from the Florida Division for the year beginning February, 1970, shall be nominated and elected from the Manufacturing Section.

Section 8. Vacancies occurring between meetings shall be filled by the Division Executive Committee.

Section 9. The terms "year" and "consecutive year" as used in Articles V and VI shall be considered to be comprised of the elapsed time between one annual division meeting of the Society and the following annual division meeting of the Society.

ARTICLE VI

Division Committees

- Section 1. The President of each division shall appoint a committee of three to serve as a Membership Committee. It will be the duty of this committee to pass upon applications for membership in the division and report to the Secretary-Treasurer.
- Section 2. The President of each division shall appoint each year a committee of three to serve as a Nominating Committee. It will be the duty of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Division to notify all active and honorary members of the Division as to the personnel of this committee. It will be the duty of this committee to receive nominations and to prepare a list of nominees and mail this to each member of the Division at least a month before the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VII

Sections

- Section 1. There shall be two sections of each Division, to be designated as:
1. Agricultural
 2. Manufacturing
- Section 2. Each active member shall designate whether he or she desires to be enrolled in the Agricultural Section or the Manufacturing Section.
- Section 3. There shall be a Chairperson for each section of each Division who will be the member from that Section elected to the Executive Committee. It will be the duty of the Chairperson of a section to arrange the program for the annual Division meeting.
- Section 4. The Executive Committee of each Division is empowered to elect one of their own number or to appoint another person to handle the details of printing, proof reading, etc., in connection with these programs and to authorize the Secretary-Treasurer to make whatever payments may be necessary for same.

ARTICLE VIII

Meetings

- Section 1. The annual General Meeting of the members of the Society shall be held in June each year on a date and at a place to be determined, from time to time, by the Joint Executive Committee. At all meetings of the two Divisions of the Society, five percent of the active members shall constitute a quorum. The program for the annual meeting of the Society shall be arranged by the General Secretary-Treasurer in collaboration with the Joint Executive Committee.
- Section 2. The annual meeting of the Louisiana Division shall be held in February of each year, at such time as the Executive Committee of the Division shall decide. The annual meeting of the Florida Division shall be held in September or October of each year, at such time as the Executive Committee of that Division shall decide. Special meetings of a Division may be called by the Executive Committee of such Division.
- Section 3. Special meetings of a Section for the discussion of matters of particular interest to that Section may be called by the President upon request from the respective Chairperson of a Section.
- Section 4. At Division meetings, 10 percent of the active division members and the President or a Vice-President shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IX

Management

- Section 1. The conduct and management of the affairs of the Society and of the Divisions including the direction of work of its special committees, shall be in the hands of the Joint Executive Committee and Division Executive Committees, respectively.
- Section 2. The Joint Executive Committee shall represent this Society in conferences with the American Sugar Cane League, the Florida Sugar Cane League, or any other association, and may make any rules or conduct any business not in conflict with this Constitution.
- Section 3. Four members of the Division Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum. The President, or in his or her absence one of the Vice-Presidents, shall chair this committee.
- Section 4. Two members of each Division Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum of all members of the Joint Executive Committee. Each member of the Joint Executive Committee, except the General Secretary-Treasurer, shall be entitled to one vote on all matters voted upon by the Joint Executive Committee. In case of a tie vote, the General Secretary-Treasurer shall cast the deciding vote.

ARTICLE X

Publications

- Section 1. The name of the official journal of the Society shall be the "Journal of the American Society of Sugar Cane Technologists." This Journal shall be published at least once per calendar year. All articles, whether volunteered or invited, shall be subject to review as described in Section 4 of Article X.
- Section 2. The Managing Editor of the Journal of the American Society of Sugar Cane Technologists shall be a member of either the Florida or Louisiana Divisions; however, he or she shall not be a member of both Divisions. The Division affiliation of Managing Editors shall alternate between the Divisions from term to term with the normal term being three years, unless the Division responsible for nominating the new Managing Editor reports that it has no suitable candidate. The Managing Editor shall be appointed by the Joint Executive Committee no later than 6 months prior to the beginning of his or her term. A term will coincide with the date of the annual Joint Meeting of the Society. No one shall serve two consecutive terms unless there is no suitable candidate from either Division willing to replace the current Managing Editor. If the Managing Editor serves less than one year of his or her three-year term, another candidate is nominated by the same Division, approved by the other Division, and appointed by the General Secretary-Treasurer to a full three-year term. If the appointed Managing Editor serves more than one year but less than the full three-year term, the Technical Editor from the same Division will fill the unexpired term of the departed Managing Editor. In the event that the Technical Editor declines the nomination, the General Secretary-Treasurer will appoint a Managing Editor from the same Division to serve the unexpired term.
- Section 3. The "Journal of the American Society of Sugar Cane Technologists" shall have two Technical Editors, which are an Agricultural Editor and a Manufacturing Editor. The Managing Editor shall appoint the Technical Editors for terms not to exceed his or her term of office. Any Technical Editor shall be a member of either the Louisiana or Florida Division. Each Division will be represented by one technical editor at all times unless the Executive Committee of one Division and the Managing Editor agree that there is no suitable candidate willing to serve from that Division.
- Section 4. Any member or nonmember wishing to contribute to the Journal of the American Society of Sugar Cane Technologists shall submit his or her manuscript to the Managing Editor. The Managing Editor shall then assign the manuscript to the appropriate Technical Editor. The Technical Editor shall solicit peer reviews until, in

the opinion of the Technical Editor, two responsible reviews have been obtained that either accept (with or without major or minor revision) or reject the manuscript. For articles accepted with major revision, it shall be the responsibility of the Technical Editor to decide if the authors have satisfactorily completed the major revision(s). The Technical Editor may solicit the opinion of the reviewers when making this decision. The Technical Editors shall not divulge the identity of any reviewer. The Managing Editor shall serve as Technical Editor of any manuscript which includes a Technical Editor as an author.

ARTICLE XI

Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be made only at the annual meeting of the Society or at a special meeting of the Society. Written notices of such proposed amendments, accompanied by the signature of at least twenty (20) active or honorary members must be given to the General Secretary-Treasurer at least thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting, and he or she must notify each member of the proposed amendment before the date of the meeting.

ARTICLE XII

Dissolution

Section 1. All members must receive notification from the General Secretary-Treasurer of any meeting called for the purpose of terminating the Society at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the meeting. After all members have been properly notified, this organization may be terminated at any time, at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the total honorary and active members in good standing present at the meeting. Thereupon, the organization shall be dissolved by such legal proceedings as are provided by law. Upon dissolution of the Joint Society, its assets will be divided equally between the two Divisions of the Society. Dissolution of the Joint Society will not be cause for automatic dissolution of either Division. Upon dissolution of either Division, its assets will be divided in accordance with the wishes of its members and in conformity with existing IRS regulations and other laws applicable at the time of dissolution.

ARTICLE XIII

Assets

Section 1. No member shall have any vested right, interest or privilege of, in, or to the assets, functions, affairs or franchises of the organization; nor any right, interest or privilege which may be transferable or inheritable.