COOK RESEARCHERS OF PLANT SCIENCE (CROPS) CONSTITUTION
Department of Plant Biology and Pathology
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Article 1. Name
The name of this Graduate Student Organization (GSO) shall be CROPS an abbreviation of “Cook Researchers of Plant Science”

Article II. Mission Statement
CROPS exists to serve all plant biology graduate students and any other graduate student interested in plant sciences at Rutgers. The goals of CROPS include: assisting with student recruitment into the Plant Biology Graduate Program, organizing the fall orientation to introduce new students to the program, representing the program at the Rutgers GSA, organizing speakers and events, and providing a casual atmosphere where plant scientists can discuss and learn about topics in plant biology

Article III. Purpose
The purpose of this organization shall be:
1. Networking within our department and among other departments at Rutgers
2. Host botanically-themed events and speakers
3. Organize social events
4. Represent our graduate program to the Rutgers GSA meetings

Article IV. Primacy of the Graduate Student Association (GSA)
This organization will recognize the primacy of the Graduate Student Association. This organization will follow the Graduate Student Association Constitution and By-Laws and any associated rules and regulations. This constitution is subordinate to the Graduate Student Association Constitution and By-Laws.

Article V. Members
All graduate students of the Rutgers University Graduate Program of Plant Biology and Pathology are eligible for membership. Membership may be extended to include any other graduate student with an interest in plant sciences at Rutgers.

Article VI. Executive Committee and Non-Executive Committee Members
Executive Committee of this organization shall be President, President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Executive Chair. Non-Executive Committee pertains Community Service Chair, Graduate Seminar Series Chair, and Workshop Series Chair. The officers are elected by majority vote at a meeting announced at least 7 days in advance of the date of the election. Executive Committee members shall vote and implement important changes pertaining to the GSO. All officers, executive and non executive shall assist in performing the following general duties:
1. Maintain membership
2. Organize meetings and events for the club
The President’s duties are:
1. To serve as the spokesperson for graduate students at the Department of Plant Biology and Pathology and to express their concerns and interests to the department’s administration, staff and students;
2. To preside at functions of the GSO and act as liaison on behalf of the GSO; and
3. To coordinate the allocation of supplemental funding sources.

The Vice President’s duties are:
1. To attend GSA and GSO meetings;
2. To supervise the proper functioning of the graduate lounge, including coordinating all GSO run events to set in the graduate lounge and assisting the Treasurer in official capacity; and
3. To assist the President and President-Elect in acting as liaison on behalf of the GSO with graduate departments, including those departments not represented by GSO.

The Secretary’s duties are:
1. To be responsible for public relations of the GSO;
2. To be responsible for all aspects communicating with student members including compiling announcements of GSO events, promoting funding opportunities available to for new events, and announcing important matters to the graduate students; and
3. To be responsible for maintaining and recording meeting minutes.

The Treasurer’s duties are:
1. To maintain all records of financial transactions and maintain receipt of expenditures;
2. To distribute graduate student activity and event funds as voted by the Executive Committee;
3. To be responsible for GSO budget allocations; and
4. To assist the president in the coordination and allocation of supplemental funding sources.

**Article VII. Constitutional Amendments**
Proposed amendments to the CROPS Constitution can be adopted by a majority vote at a meeting with 7 days prior notice.