

Constitution of the Association of the University of Akron Retirees

Whereas, The Faculty Senate of the University of Akron in action taken on April 23 and May 7, 1998 considered and approved the proposal for creation of the Emeriti College as “an association of retired full and part-time faculty, administrators, staff, spouses and family members,” and

Whereas, the Board of Trustees of the University on June 7, 1998 approved the creation of the Emeriti College,

Therefore be it resolved that The Association of The University of Akron Retirees is hereby established.

ARTICLE I – PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION

Section 1 – the purpose of the Association of The University of Akron Retirees (hereinafter called the “Association”) is fourfold: to promote educational, social, cultural and recreational activities of interest to its members; to provide opportunities for members to assist The University of Akron and the larger community; to service as a voice for the concerns of retirees and their families in their relations with the administration, Board of Trustees and Faculty Senate of The University of Akron; and to express the concerns of retirees and their families to public officials.

Section 2 – the Association may be affiliated with the Ohio Association of College and Higher Education Retirees (OCHER). At the direction of its officers or its membership, the Association may cooperate or affiliate with other organizations to further its goals.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – All individuals who have been pensioned by the University, or retired from staff or faculty positions at the main campus or the Wayne General College campus are eligible for membership in the Association. Members shall be required to pay annual dues set by the elected officers of the Association and approved by the members at a general meeting.

Section 2 – Spouses or adults partners of members may participate as associate members in the educational, social, cultural, recreational and service activities of the Association. Upon the death of a retiree, the associate membership of a surviving spouse or adult partner shall continue, provided that person pays the dues required of a member of the Association during the following fiscal year.

Section 3 – Persons who were employed full-time at The University of Akron with at least 5 years of service may affiliate with the Association as associate members, provided that they pay the dues required of members of the Association. Associate members of the Association may attend all functions of the Association and participate in its educational, social, cultural, recreational and service activities.

Section 4 – All University of Akron retired members in good standing may vote, hold office and participate fully in the activities of the Association. The Association of University of Akron Retirees (AUAR) Associate Members, who were former employees of The University of Akron for a minimum of 5 years, may vote, hold office in the AUAR, and be members of the AUAR Board.

ARTICLE III – OFFICERS

Section 1 – There shall be an Executive Board consisting of elected officers of the Association: the President, President-Elect, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary,

Public Relations Officer, six members-at-large and two senators representing the retirees in the Faculty Senate. All Retired Presidents of The University of Akron shall be honorary Presidents of the Association and shall be entitled to all privileges of membership.

Section 2 – Unless otherwise noted, the officers of the Associated shall be elected for two years. Starting in 2005, the President and President-Elect shall be elected for a two-year term; in 2007 and every two years thereafter, the President-Elected shall be elected by the membership. The President-Elect shall become President when the term of the latter expires. If the person elected as President is unable to perform his or her duties as the result of death, resignation or removal from office, the President-Elect shall serve as President.

In 2005, the Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Public Relations Officer shall be elected for a one year term, but in 2006 and each of the even numbered years that follow, they shall be elected for a term of two years.

In addition to the members-at-large of the Executive Committee elected in alternate years starting in 2005, the Immediate Past President of the Association shall serve as a voting member of the Executive Board upon the expiration of his or her term. That person shall serve in this capacity for two years.

Section 3 – The President shall chair all meetings of the elected officers and all general meetings of the Association. The President shall prepare an agenda for the meetings he or she chairs.

The President shall represent the Association in discussions with the administration, trustees and Faculty Senate of The University of Akron. He or she may make policy recommendations to other officers consistent with the purposes of the Association. The President shall communicate decisions of the officers and membership of the Association to the Faculty Senate, officers and Trustees of the University; and to public officials, community groups and related organizations when the need arises. The President shall serve as liaison with the Director of the Institute for Life-Span Development and Gerontology to further the goals of the Association. With the consent of at least eight other elected officers, the President shall appoint members of the permanent and *ad hoc* committees except when otherwise provided by the Constitution.

Section 4 – The Powers of the President shall devolve on the President-Elect upon the resignation, removal, absence or inability of the former to perform his or her duties. In the absence of the President-Elect, that office shall remain vacant the next regular election. In the next regular election, the person chosen as President-Elect shall serve in this capacity for the remainder of the unexpired term of his or her predecessor. In the absence of the President and President-Elect, the Vice President shall chair meetings of the elected officers and general meetings of the Association. The Vice President shall prepare an agenda for the meetings that he or she chairs.

Section 5 – The Treasurer shall collect and deposit dues and all funds received from The University of Akron for the support of the Association, disburse monies pursuant to decisions of the officers or members of the Association, and maintain current and accurate financial records. He or she shall report regularly to elected officers and members, the income, expenditures and assets of the Association. The Treasurer shall deliver a financial report to the general meeting of the Association.

Section 6 – The Recording Secretary shall prepare a record of all meetings of the Association.

Section 7 – The Corresponding Secretary shall forward the communication of the Association and its officers to groups within and without the University when appropriate or necessary. The Corresponding Secretary shall maintain both the membership and mailing lists, and he or she shall forward notices of meetings, election materials and election results to members of the Association.

Section 8 – The Public Relations Officer serves as liaison with organizations with similar interests in other colleges and universities. He or she may also assist the President by attending public functions in behalf of the Association.

Section 9 – The Executive Board shall make policy, approve expenditures and further the purposes of the Association.

Section 10 – In the event of a vacancy in any of the offices as a result of death, resignation or removal, the remaining officers may appoint a member of the Association to that position to complete the unexpired term. That individual will serve in the office to which he or she is appointed until the next election. However, the President-Elect shall become President if the latter office is vacated. If a vacancy occurs in the office of President Elect, that vacancy shall not be filled until the next regular election. At that time the person chosen as President-Elect shall serve in this capacity for the remainder of the unexpired term of his or her predecessor.

ARTICLE IV – COMMITTEES

Section 1 – The elected officers of the Association shall create all standing and *ad hoc* committees in addition to those set forth in the Constitution. The membership of all standing committees shall be established by the end of September following the election of the President.

Section 2 – The following shall be the standing committees of the Association:

1. Finance Committee
2. Political Action/Affiliates Committee
3. Program Committee
4. University and Community Service Committee
5. Membership Committee

Section 3 – Unless otherwise specified, the terms of all elected officers shall be two (2) years, and new terms shall commence on July 1st of the year in which the election is held.

ARTICLE V – MEETINGS OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

Section 1 – The elected officers of the Association shall meet monthly, unless meetings are postponed or cancelled upon agreement of a majority of those officers. Additional meetings may be called by the President or upon request of at least seven officers. All meetings shall be open to the membership as specified by the articles of the Ohio Open Meetings Laws.

Section 2 – The elected officers shall not vote on any policy matter or dues increase recommendations unless at least seven of their members are present or are polled.

Section 3 – The elected officers shall schedule two or more general meetings each year for all members of the Association. There shall be a fall and a spring meeting; the meeting in the fall shall be designated as the “annual meeting” of the Association. Notice of such meeting shall be mailed to all members of the Association at least two weeks before they are held.

At the general meetings, reports shall be provided by the President, Treasurer and committee chairs. Any member of the Association may raise questions or introduce motions for consideration by the membership. Specific decisions previously taken by the officers may be modified or rejected by those present provided at least 50% of the members of the Association are in attendance.

Section 4 – Upon request of six or more members of the Association, a special meeting of the membership shall be called to discuss pressing matters of business, including proposed constitutional amendments and the removal of officers. Notice of the meeting shall be mailed to all members at least two weeks before it is held, and the call for the meeting shall be accompanied by a brief statement explaining why it has been scheduled.

Section 5 – All meetings of the elected officers and members shall be conducted in accordance with general accepted rules of parliamentary procedure as set forth in Roberts Rules of Order, with a Parliamentarian appointed by the President.

ARTICLE VI – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1 – Nominations for elected officers shall be made by a nominating committee consisting of those members of the Executive Board whose terms are not expiring in the year in which the election is held. Nominations for any elected office may also be made by petition of two or more members of the Association, which shall be submitted to the nominating committee. A call for nominations shall be made by the nominating committee through a notice mailed to all Association members at least two weeks before a ballot is prepared.

Section 2 – Ballots for elected officers shall be mailed to all members of the Association. Persons shall be elected to office if they receive a plurality of all votes cast by the members of the Association. Ballots shall be counted by an election committee composed of three members of the Association who are not running for office and who are appointed by the Executive Board. Results of the election shall be sent to all members of the Association and announced at the meeting of the current officers.

Section 3 – Unless otherwise specified, the terms of all elected officers shall be two (2) years, the new term shall commence on July 1st of the year in which the election is held.

Section 4 – The first election for officers shall be held according to a schedule approved by eligible members of the Association at a general meeting of the same.

ARTICLE VII – RECALL OF OFFICERS

Section 1 – A motion for the recall and removal of elected officers prior to the expiration of their terms may be considered at a general or special meeting of the Association. The reasons for recall shall be explained by those introducing or sponsoring the motion, and the officer(s) affected by such action shall have an opportunity to explain or defend their position prior to a vote of those present at the meeting.

In the event that a majority of those present at the meeting vote in favor of a recall motion, the question shall be submitted to all members of the Association by mail ballot. The ballot shall be sent to all members of the Association with the question: “Shall (name of person) be removed from the office of _____ prior to the next election?” The members shall have at least ten (10) days to return their ballots to a committee of tellers selected by those present at the meeting at which the motion to recall was approved. A majority of all votes cast by the members shall be necessary for the recall and removal of an officer.

Section 2 – No person who has been removed from office shall be appointed to any position by the elected officers during the term for which he or she has been elected.

ARTICLE VIII – ADMENDMENTS

Section 1 – This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds voted of the members of the Association present at a general or special meeting, provided that a majority of members voting at a subsequent meeting approve the amendment.

Section 2 – Unless otherwise stipulated, an amendment shall become effective on the date on which it is adopted.

ARTICLE IX – EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE CONSTITUTION

Section 1 – This constitution shall be valid upon the approval of two-thirds of the eligible members of the Association who attend a meeting called for that purpose.

Section 2 – the constitution shall be effective on the date on which it is approved or at such time as the eligible members shall decide.

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