

THE CONSTITUTION
OF
THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
OF
ST. TIKHON'S ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

DRAFT COPY: JUNE 30, 2019

ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

[A] The name of the organization shall be "THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF ST. TIKHON'S ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY" (hereafter, "the Association"), a seminary located in South Canaan, Pennsylvania, which is under the jurisdiction of the Orthodox Church in America (OCA) (hereafter, "the Seminary").

[B] The purpose of the Association is to foster a spirit of unity, cooperation, and fellowship among its members; to encourage active and constructive ties with the administration and faculty of the Seminary; to render financial and moral assistance to the Seminary; and to work diligently and faithfully for the Gospel of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ, to the building up of the Body of Christ, the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Orthodox Church.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

[A] All persons completing either one (1) successful year of study at the Seminary as a resident student, or successfully completing at least two (2) years of the Extension program, shall be considered an alumnus and eligible for membership in the Association. Membership is subject to confirmation by the Executive Board of the Association. Only graduates of the Seminary are eligible to hold office on the Executive Board.

[B] Any person eligible for membership shall be considered in good standing upon payment of membership dues in the year prior to the General Session, in the amount of \$20. Currently enrolled seminarians are exempt from membership dues.

[C] Spouses and widows of alumni are eligible to become members of the Association, with the same requirement for being in good standing.

[D] All current faculty of the Seminary are considered honorary, voting members of the Association.

[E] The General Session of the Association shall have authority to elect other honorary, voting members of the Association by a general vote of the Session.

[F] All members in good standing shall have voting privileges. A member of the Executive Board of the Seminary Board of Trustees who is also a graduate of the Seminary shall have voting privileges, but may not hold executive office within the Association.

[G] Members are expected and encouraged to participate actively in all programs and proposals enacted by the General Sessions of the Association and implemented by the Executive Board of the Association.

[H] The General Session shall maintain the right to exclude from membership those who leave the Orthodox faith.

ARTICLE III: OFFICERS

[A] The officers of the Association shall be the President, the Vice President, the Recording Secretary, the Corresponding Secretary, and the Treasurer.

[B] The President shall preside at all meetings. He shall appoint the necessary committees and ex officio shall be a member of the same. The President or a designee appointed by him shall represent the Association at all duly called meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Seminary.

[C] The Vice President shall assist the President and shall assume the President's duties in his absence. If the President shall resign his office, decease, have left the Orthodox faith, or otherwise be permanently incapable of serving (as determined by the remainder of the Executive Board), the the Vice President shall assume the office of President and serve the remaining, unexpired term.

[D] The Recording Secretary shall take minutes at all meetings of the Association and the Executive Board. The minutes of the General Sessions shall be distributed to the rector of the Seminary and to the membership of the Association following approval of same by the Executive Board. The Recording Secretary shall send copies of all minutes to the President and the Corresponding Secretary.

[E] The Corresponding Secretary shall send copies of minutes to the membership. He shall keep an accurate mailing list of all members. He shall handle all correspondence of the Association and keep records of same.

[F] The Treasurer shall be responsible for the Association's finances and shall keep accurate records of receipts and disbursements. He shall give appropriate reports to the Executive Board and the General Session. Any bill exceeding \$200.00 must meet with the approval of the Executive Board prior to payment.

[G] In the event that any office other than President is determined by the Executive Board to have become open due to resignation, death, incapacity, or leaving the Orthodox faith, the Executive Board shall appoint a new officer to serve the remaining, unexpired term.

ARTICLE IV: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

[A] The Election of Officers shall be held at the General Session. Each officer shall be elected for a term of three years. The order for election of officers is as follows: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer.

[B] A Nominating Committee appointed by the President shall submit a full slate of candidates (one name for each office) to be voted on at the General Session at which an election is to take place. Candidates shall have given prior consent to be nominated.

[C] Additional candidates, with their express consent, may be nominated from the floor as voting begins for each of the offices.

[D] If a member wishes to nominate himself for an office but is not able to attend the General Session, he may do so in writing to the President prior to the General Session, indicating which office he desires. The President will nominate said member on his behalf, but a second will be necessary from the floor.

[E] The candidate receiving a simple majority of votes shall be considered elected. If no candidate receives a simple majority, a run-off election shall be immediately held between the two candidates receiving the most votes, and the winner of that election shall be elected.

[F] The elected officers shall assume their duties and responsibilities immediately upon election.

ARTICLE V: THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

[A] The Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers and a representative of the Seminary Administration, who shall be appointed by the Seminary Rector.

[B] The Executive Board shall administer the affairs of the Association during the intervals between meetings of the General Session. The Executive Board shall meet at least bi-annually on a schedule predetermined by the Board members.

ARTICLE VI: GENERAL SESSIONS

[A] General Sessions shall be called by the Executive Board on at least an annual basis and shall be held on the grounds of the Seminary.

[B] General Sessions and all meetings shall begin and end with a prayer.

[C] Fifteen (15) members present shall constitute a quorum. Members may be remotely present and in attendance at the General Session via live, electronic means.

[D] The Corresponding Secretary shall notify each member in advance of the date of the General Session. The agenda for the General Session shall be prepared and determined by the Executive Board at the time of notification of the General Session. Announcements of the General Session shall be made at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled date of same.

[E] Extraordinary convocations of the General Session may be called if deemed necessary by the Executive Board or at the written request of ten (10) members for such a meeting. Notice of same must be given ten (10) days prior to said meeting.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS

[A] Amendments to this Constitution may be made at the General Session. A majority vote of those present is needed for amending. Amendments shall be submitted to the Executive Board in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the General Sessions. Amendments shall be included in the agenda and sent to the membership at the time of notification of a General Session. If such notification has been given, then with the consent of the President further amendments may be proposed from the floor during that General Session.

ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES AND ADMINISTRATION

[A] Committees shall be appointed by the President and shall serve at his pleasure.

[B] At least two (2) members shall be appointed to the Nominating Committee at least one (1) month prior to a General Session at which an officer election shall take place.

[C] The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on January 1.

[D] Robert's Rules of Order shall be the Parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by this Constitution.

ARTICLE IX: DISSOLUTION

The Association may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of the existing membership either by ballot through the mail or at a meeting of the General Session. In case of dissolution, all assets and records of the Association shall be turned over to the Seminary.

ARTICLE X: APPROVAL AND RATIFICATION

This Constitution shall be in force upon approval by the Rector of the Seminary and ratification by a meeting of the General Session.