

**WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY
NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

BYLAWS

Revised May 2025



**Office of the
National Alumni Association
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2025

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NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
BYLAWS
May 2025**

PREAMBLE

We, duly constituted representatives of the established chapters of the Winston-Salem State University National Alumni Association, Incorporated, in order to form a closer union among its components and to fully implement the goals of the organization, to more specifically articulate the aspirations of our members; and to more decisively define both policies and procedures of this body, do hereby establish these bylaws. Current chapters, and chapters organized hereafter, shall be bound by these bylaws.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Winston-Salem State University National Alumni Association, Incorporated, herein referred to as the Association.

ARTICLE II - MISSION AND GOAL

Section 1. Mission

The mission of the Association shall be to: (1) create opportunities which promote unity, growth and progress of the Association and Winston-Salem State University (hereafter referred to as the University) for alumni and other supporters; (2) encourage active involvement by providing alumni services/activities of University alumni and other supporters; (3) disseminate information which communicates the academic excellence of the University to alumni, supporters, and the community at large; and (4) foster meaningful support to students, scholarships and the institution and its programs.

Section 2. Goal

The goal of the Association shall be to provide the opportunity for alumni and supporters to unite as one body for the purpose of promoting the growth and development of the University and substantive actions of the Association.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership

The Association shall be composed of individuals that meet the qualifications defined in these

bylaws.

Section 2. Classes of Membership

Membership in the Association shall include four classes. They are regular, life, honorary, and associate.

- a. **A *regular member*** shall be a graduate or former student that is financial with the Association.
- b. **A *life member*** shall be an individual member that has met the financial guidelines established for life membership.
- c. **An *honorary member*** shall be any person selected by the Association's Board of Directors for services and/or support provided to the Association and/or University; this member has non- voting status, is ineligible for elected office and is exempted from the dues structure as specified by the Association's Board of Directors.
- d. **An *associate member*** shall be an individual that did not attend the University; that is financial with the Association. This member has non-voting status and is ineligible for elected office but may serve on all committees except the nominating and election committee.

Section 3. Membership Rights

Members have the right to:

- a. receive a membership card.
- b. receive *The Battering Ram* and other Association communications.
- c. vote for elected officials of the Association and Nominating and Election Committee members, unless otherwise stated in these bylaws.
- d. attend all meetings and activities of the Association.
- e. volunteer to serve on the committees of the Association, unless otherwise stated in these bylaws.
- f. run for office in accordance with these bylaws.

Section 4. Membership Obligations

Members shall be obligated to:

- a. uphold the bylaws of the Association.
- b. pay dues as required by the Association
- c. fulfill the requirements of an office or committee.

Section 5. Disciplinary Action

- a. The cause for disciplinary action against a member shall be limited to failure to fulfill the obligations cited in Article III, Section 4, of these bylaws, and other actions detrimental to the mission and goals of the Association.
- b. Disciplinary proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with Association policies and procedures approved by the Board of Directors, which shall have final disciplinary authority over members. Policies and procedures shall guarantee due process.
- c. The severity of disciplinary action may include any of the following:
 - i. reprimand
 - ii. censure
 - iii. suspension of membership
 - iv. removal from elected or appointed office and/or committee
 - v. membership revocation
 - vi. legal action

Section 6. Membership Dues/ Chapter Assessment Fees

- a. Dues for Association members shall be in accordance with the Association's fiscal year. (July 1 -June
- b. Dues and chapter assessment fees shall be reviewed annually by the Executive Council. Any adjustments to reflect any changes in the Association's dues and/or fee structure must be presented at the Annual Membership Meeting for approval.
- c. When a change in dues and/or chapter assessment fees occurs, the change shall become effective July 1 of the next fiscal year.
- d. Chapter assessment and/or fees are non-transferable nor refundable during the fiscal year.

Article IV - TRAINING

The Association shall provide the following trainings yearly:

- a. leadership
- b. operational
- c. parliamentary procedure
- d. legal and compliance
- e. other trainings as needed

ARTICLE V - ASSOCIATION OFFICIALS

Section 1. Officers

Elected officers of the Association shall be

- a. President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
- b. All elected officers of the Association shall be bonded.

Section 2. Executive Council

The Executive Council shall consist of the elected officers, the immediate past president, the Director of Alumni Engagement, and Miss and Mr. Alumni.

- a. Authority
The Executive Council shall have the authority delegated by Association members to act for the Association between Board and Annual Membership meetings.
- b. Voting Members
Voting members shall include the elected officers and the immediate past

president. The non-voting members-Miss and Mr. Alumni, and Director of Alumni Relations, function in ex-officio capacities.

c. Meetings

The Executive Council shall meet prior to each meeting of the Board of Directors, Annual Membership Meetings, and at the call of the President.

d. Accountability

The Executive Council shall report to and be accountable to the Association.

ARTICLE VI - ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE

To qualify as a candidate for an office of the Association, the candidate:

- a. Must have graduated from or been a former student of the *University* by any of its prior known names.
- b. Must have attended a minimum of four Board Meetings, and one Annual Membership Meeting within the two years immediately prior to submitting an application for candidacy.
- c. Must have been financial and in good standing for the previous two fiscal years, with all dues paid by September 1st of each year.
- d. Must have contributed to the NAA Endowed Scholarship Fund or any other scholarship fund administered by WSSU or the WSSU Foundation, for the two fiscal years immediately prior to submitting an application for candidacy.
- e. Must have, to serve as Treasurer, demonstrated and documented General Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) experience in accounting, in addition to the qualifications in this Article.
- f. Must have actively served on any NAA standing committee for a 2-year period.

ARTICLE VII - ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

- a. Election – The election of officers shall be held in an even numbered year and shall be by secret ballot. A plurality vote shall constitute an election. In the case of a tie, a run-off election shall be held.
- b. Officers of the Association shall be installed at the Annual Membership Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - TERM OF OFFICE

- a. The term of the office shall begin July 1 following the election.
- b. All elected officers of the Association shall serve for a period of two years, ending June 30 of the elected term.
- c. All officers may be re-elected but shall not serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.
- d. Each elected officer shall hold only one elected office at any one time.

ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

Section 1: Officer Duties

- a. The *President* shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association. The President shall:
 - 1) serve as the official spokesperson on matters of the Association entrusted with the direction and administration of its policies and procedures.
 - 2) call and preside over all meetings of the Association and serve as chairperson of the Executive Council, Board of Directors, and as ex-officio member of all committees, except the Nominating and Election Committee.
 - 3) call impromptu meetings when deemed necessary.
 - 4) assign duties to elected officers as deemed necessary.
- b. The *Vice President* shall assume such duties as designated by the President and serve as vice chairperson of the Executive Council, Board of Directors and shall have oversight of all standing committees. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall assume such duties as designated by the President. In the event of resignation, disability or death of the President, the Vice President automatically becomes President for the unexpired term. This person must have graduated from or been a former student at the

University by any of its prior known names.

- c. The *Secretary* shall be responsible for the recording and distribution of all official meetings of the Association. This person maintains the records of proceedings of the Association, sends correspondence, and perform other duties as assigned by the President.
- d. The *Treasurer* shall be accountable for managing the fiscal affairs of the Association. The Treasurer shall follow financial policies and procedures, provide timely financial reports, interpret the financial status for the Executive Council, the Board of Directors, and coordinate with bookkeepers and auditors as required. The Treasurer also reports to the Association members at scheduled- meetings. The Treasurer chairs of the Finance Committee and perform other duties as assigned by the President.
- e. The *Director of Alumni Engagement* acts as the liaison between the University and the Association, assists in programs implementation, and communicates with the Association President. This individual is employed by the University.

Section 2: Resignations and Vacancies

- a. In the event of resignation, disability or death of the President, the Vice President automatically becomes President for the unexpired term. In the absence of the President and the Vice President, the Executive Council shall appoint a member (as defined in Article VI Eligibility for Office) to serve the unexpired term-and ratified by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors at its next meeting.
- b. In the event of an unexpired term or no successor was elected for Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer, the position shall be appointed by the President, based upon eligibility as defined in Article VI Eligibility for Office and subject to the approval of the Executive Council and ratified by the Board of Directors at its next meeting.

c.

ARTICLE X - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Members

The Board of Directors is composed of elected officers, immediate past president, regional coordinators, chapter presidents, and committee chairpersons, Miss and Mr. Alumni, the Director of Alumni Engagement, and the Senior Class President will serve as ex-officio members.

Section 2. Authority and Accountability

- a. Authority - The Board of Directors shall have the authority delegated by Association members to act for the Association at scheduled board meetings.
- b. Accountability The Board of Directors shall report to and be accountable to the Association.

Section 3. Duties

The Board shall:

- a. Exercise responsibility and fiduciary duties on behalf of the Association.
- b. Adopt policies and procedures for the transaction of Association business.
- c. Recommend membership dues and chapter dues fees to the Association.
- d. Suspend/revoke membership status in accordance with these bylaws and established agreements, policies and procedures.
- e. Approve the creation of and dissolution of chapters and committees.
- f. Define, approve, and/or realign regional boundaries in accordance with these bylaws and established policies and procedures.
- g. Establish positive relationships, collaboration, and active participation with the University.
- h. Communicate and manage the use of the official Association brand.
- i. Review recommended amendments to the bylaws.

ARTICLE XI - Meetings

- a. The Board of Directors shall meet at least three (3) times each year. At least one meeting shall be held in a city other than Winston-Salem, North Carolina.
- b. Special meetings may be called by the President or by one-third of the Executive Council. All members shall be notified at least 10 days prior to the date of the special meeting.

- c. The Annual Membership Meeting shall include all financial members and non-financial alumni and friends. The Annual Membership Meeting is held in the month of April in Winston-Salem, NC.

ARTICLE XII - CHAPTERS

Section 1. Definitions Establishment and Mergers

- a. A chapter shall be a group of five (5) or more financial members in good standing with the Association.
- b. An application to receive a charter shall be submitted to the Executive Council and shall include the following:
 - i. chapter name
 - ii. names of chartered members
 - iii. names of elected officers
 - iv. region in which the chapter shall function
 - v. chapter goals and objectives
 - vi. a schedule of at least four planned meetings during the first established year
 - vii. a copy of the petitioning chapter bylaws
 - viii. financial activity statement(s)
- c. All applications for the establishment of chapters are reviewed by the Executive Council.
- d. The Executive Council shall present recommendations to the Board of Directors to approve the establishment of a new chapter or reinstatement of a chapter. Upon approval and receipt of fees and assessments, the Association shall issue a charter to the said chapter.
- e. A request to establish a new chapter shall not be permitted if an existing chapter is active within the same county or borough.
- f. Merging chapters must be approved. Requirements for merging chapters must be clearly outlined by the applicants as defined in this Article (Article XII Sec. 1(b) (1-8) Each chapter considering merging, with the approval of its membership, should present a written request to the Association's President. This request must be presented to the Executive Council and the Board for consideration and approval.

Section 2. Elected Officers

- a. Officers are to be elected by chapter members and shall include a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and shall be bonded.
- b. Officers shall be elected according to the bylaws established by the assigned chapter.
- c. Tenure of officers shall be defined in the chapter's bylaws and shall be congruent with the bylaws of the Association.
- d. The Association President or designee shall institute the chapter and install its officers.

Section 3. Chapter Responsibility

- a. Each chapter shall pay assessments and annual chapter fee to the Association annually, by September 1, in accordance with established policies and procedures.
- b. Each chapter shall document and maintain records of all financial transactions, subject to review or audit, by the Association or its designee.
- c. Each chapter shall maintain records and reports required by the Association.
- d. Chapters shall submit a written report of chapter activities to the Association President for distribution at scheduled and annual membership meetings
- e.
- f. Each chapter president shall be responsible for communicating all Association correspondence to chapter members.
- g. Each chapter president shall respond in a timely manner to matters requested by the Association and by the designated Region.
- h. All chapters shall govern themselves by the current NAA Bylaws, the current NAA Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and the approved bylaws of their chapter. The chapter's bylaws must not be inconsistent or less stringent than the Association's bylaws.

Section 4. Active Chapters.

Chapters shall be declared active upon meeting all conditions defined by this Article.

Section 5. Disciplinary Action

- a. Cause for disciplinary action against a chapter shall be failure to fulfill obligations as cited in this Article, and for other actions detrimental to the mission and goals of this Association.
- b. Disciplinary proceedings shall be conducted by the President or designee in accordance with established policies and procedures of the Association
- c. Depending on the severity of the violations, the chapter may be:
 - i. censured and retrained
 - ii. suspended from the Association
 - iii. removed from the Association
 - iv. subject to legal actions with suspension
- d. Policies and procedures shall guarantee due process
- e. Disciplinary actions require a two-thirds vote of approval by the Board of Directors

Section 6. Chapter Reinstatement

A chapter which has been suspended or revoked may be reinstated by a two-thirds vote of approval by the Board of Directors provided the chapter meets all the conditions outlined in Article XI, Sections 1-3.

ARTICLE XIII- REGIONS AND REGIONAL COORDINATORS

Section 1. Definition

- a. Regions shall consist of groups of chapters which have been geographically designated by the Executive Council and approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.
- b. The Regional Coordinator is an active Association member responsible for providing strategic oversight, guidance, and support to chapters within a designated region. He or she serves as a liaison between local chapters and the NAA ensuring alignment with goals, fostering collaboration, and facilitating effective communication and resource sharing.

c. A Regional Coordinator must be a financial member in good standing, for the previous two years, with the Association and a chapter within the region they represent.

Section 2. Regional Boundaries

Regional boundaries shall be determined by the Board of Directors and must have a two-thirds vote of approval by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Purpose

The purpose of bringing chapters together in a region shall be to facilitate communications, coordinate activities, create new chapters, and to strengthen and rejuvenate existing chapters.

Section 4. Elections

Regional Coordinators shall be elected by chapters of the designated region during the same year elections are held for the officers of the Association. Regional Coordinators must be financial and in good standing with the Association.

Section 5. Tenure

Regional Coordinators shall be limited to a term of two years, and may be re-elected but shall not serve more than two consecutive terms

The tenure of the office shall coincide with the tenure of the officers of the Association and shall be limited to two elected consecutive terms.

Section 6. Accountability

Regional Coordinators shall be accountable to the Board of Directors, the Association and Region they represent.

Section 7. Responsibilities

A Regional Coordinator shall:

- a. Serve as a member of the Board of Directors and perform any other duties as requested or assigned by the President.
- b. Develop financial and operational procedures for approval and adoption by the Region as required

- c. Serve as a supportive resource to develop strategies in the recruitment and retention of alumni
- d. Provide supportive organizational strategies for chapter development to ensure compliance with the NAA. Bylaws. Troubleshoot issues within the region and offer guidance to chapters.
- e. Implement programs to foster financial support for the NAA and the University
- f. Identify, create, and assist in organizing new chapters growth and development in the region
- g. Facilitate election and installation of officers in the region
- h. Participate in nationally sponsored events, programs, and mandatory leadership trainings.
- i. Communicate regional activities to the Executive Council, the Board of Directors and other media outlets within the Association.

Section 8. Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

The purpose of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is to ensure and promote consistency within chapters of all regions in accordance with the NAA bylaws and policies.

- a) The agreement is renewed every two years and must be signed by all chapter presidents in the region and submitted to the NAA before September 1st.
- b) Amendments to the MOA shall be made in odd number years. All proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing and referred to the NAA Bylaws Committee for study and recommendations.

Section 9. Forming a New Region

- a) Five or more chapters within a geographically designated area may request the establishment of a new region from the Executive Council.
- b) Application to establish a new region shall identify the names of the chapters submitting the request and signatures from the presidents and secretaries of the designated chapters.

- i. Upon receiving an application to form a new region, the Board may grant a one-year temporary approval.
- ii. During the one-year temporary approval period, the (new) region shall
 - a. elect a regional coordinator,
 - b. hold at least two meetings,
 - c. establish goals and objectives,
 - d. develop and submit a copy of the Standard Operation Procedures (SOP) for review by the NAA
 - e. have all chapter presidents sign the current NAA Memorandum of Agreement
- iii. Following compliance with conditions outlined by this Article, the Board of Directors shall grant full approval for the region.

ARTICLE XIV - COMMITTEES

All standing committee chairs shall be accountable for developing committee policies and procedures prior to the Fall Board meeting and notify all committee volunteers. Each year committee members shall review policies and procedure and submit changes to the Executive Council for approval.

Section 1. Standing Committees

There shall be fourteen (13) Standing Committees. Chairpersons of each standing committee shall be appointed by the Association President for a term of two (2) years. Each committee shall be composed of a minimum of three (3) Association members.

Standing Committees include the following:

- a. Annual Giving - This committee shall collaborate with the University to promote alumni giving. It shall also plan and execute a campaign to generate funds through alumni and chapter giving for endowed and non-endowed scholarships.
- b. Bylaws - This committee shall interpret these bylaws, receive, prepare, review, and recommend proposed amendments of these

bylaws to the Board of Directors and Association members at the Annual Membership Meeting. This committee shall be responsible for reviewing and approving chapter bylaws for the purpose of determining uniformity prior to use.

- c. Finance - This committee shall be responsible for developing policies and procedures for the management, receipt, disbursement, and investment of Association funds. This committee shall also provide recommendations to the Executive Council and the Board of Directors on fiscal matters and shall develop the Association's annual budget for presentation and approval. The committee will recommend fiscal matters to the Executive Council and Board of Directors and respond promptly to the bookkeeper and auditors when needed. It will also develop the annual budget for the Association's presentation and approval.
- d. Fundraising – This committee is responsible for planning and implementing fundraising events, and initiatives to financially support NAA operational and budget expenses.
- e. Hall of Distinction - This committee is responsible for selecting awardees for this esteemed award. It is comprised of former national presidents and three ex-officio members.
- f. Membership- This committee shall formulate plans to recruit and retain members of the Association; and provide programs and activities which stimulate the University's student body to become active participants in the Association.
- g. Political Awareness- This committee shall inform the Association of legislative developments affecting Winston-Salem State University and collaborating with the University lobbyist to report a plan of action to the Association.
- h. Presidents' Council – This committee is responsible for providing advice and counsel to the President. It is comprised of former national presidents.
- i. Public Relations - This committee shall be responsible for keeping the news media informed of pertinent Association activities that have been approved by the Association President and developing programs/ activities which include community support.

- j. Scholarship -This committee shall be responsible for developing application procedures and guidelines, which must be approved by the Board of Directors. This committee shall also be responsible for identifying scholars and presenting scholars to the Association for approval.
- k. Students Today Alumni Tomorrow (STAT)- This committee shall assess student needs of the Association, plan strategies, and initiate programs to encourage active participation of future Association alumni. This committee's activities shall include all levels of student enrollment, not limited only to the Senior Class of Winston-Salem State University.
- l. Special Events- This committee shall plan and initiate activities for the Association to include, but not be limited to, Homecoming activities, Miss and Mr. Alumni Contest and Crowning Ceremony. The Director of Alumni Engagement shall serve as the University's liaison.
- m. University Liaison- This committee shall inform the Association of developments at Winston-Salem State University, develop collaborative relations, and inform the Association regarding specific needs of the various University departments. For example, this committee shall inform the Association of legislative developments affecting Winston-Salem State University and present a plan of action to the Executive Council, the Board of Directors and Association when warranted.

Section 2. Nominating and Election Committee

The committee consists of one elected member from each active region. In the event of multiple nominees from a region, an election will determine the regional representative. The President will cast the deciding vote for all ties. The chair of this committee is elected from among these members at the Annual Membership Meeting which is held in odd-numbered years.

The immediate past nominating chair shall serve as an ex-officio member to this committee.

Members of the committee shall serve for a two-year term, nor more than two consecutive terms. The term of office shall begin July 1 following the election of this committee.

- a. Accountability - The nominating committee shall be accountable to the Board of Directors and the membership of the Association.
- b. Responsibility - The nominating committee shall:
 - i. create procedures and implement policies for nominations and elections as approved by the Board of Directors
 - ii. electronic or onsite balloting procedures must be developed by the nominating committee and presented to the Board of Directors for approval at the Fall Board meeting.
 - iii. contact all Association members requesting names of candidates for elective office by Dec 31 of the election year
 - iv. receive nominations for elective positions postmarked by January 15 of the election year.
 - v. prepare a slate of at least two (2) nominees for each elective office and at least three (3) nominees for the nominating committee by Feb. 15
- c. Distribute by March 1 of the election year, candidate profiles and voting instructions to financial Association members on record as of February 25th.
- d. Ballots
 - i. When mailed, all returned ballots must be postmarked by March 25 of the election year.
 - ii. The nominating and election committee shall count ballots one week prior to the Annual–Membership Meeting–and notify candidates–of the results immediately afterwards. Results will be presented at the Annual Membership Meeting of the election year. Write-in candidates are not considered for office.
 - iii. All returned ballots shall be retained by the Association for a period of six (6) months following election.
 - iv. Any election protest must be submitted to the Nominating and Election Committee in writing no later than five (5) days following the official reporting of the results.

ARTICLE XV – REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section 1. Impeachment of National Officers

The Association, by a 2/3 vote of approval from the financial members (see Article III Section 2 (a-b)) in good standing, shall have the power to remove from office any nationally elected officer for neglect of duty, misconduct, or actions prejudicial to the best interest of the Association, provided all charges shall be submitted to the Board of Directors in writing at least thirty (30) days in advance of the hearing. The accused must have been provided with a copy of the charge(s) thereof and given a fair and impartial hearing and the right of confrontation by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall report on its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the general body for its consideration and disposition.

Section 2. Removal from the Board of Directors

- 1) Causes for removal from the Board of Directors:
 - a) Missing three unexcused consecutive scheduled meetings
 - b) Neglect of duty
 - c) Conduct unbecoming of an officer of the Association
 - d) Actions prejudicial to the best interest of the Association
- 2) Procedures for removal from the Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to remove any person from the Board with a two-thirds vote of approval from the Board members present, provided that all charges are submitted in writing to the Board at least thirty (30) days prior to the vote.

ARTICLE XVI - FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Association shall be July 1 to June 30.

ARTICLE XVII – QUORUM

A quorum constitutes one-third of the total financial membership to conduct business at the Annual Membership Meeting.

A quorum constitutes 2/3 of the Directors present at the Board of Directors meetings.

Article XVIII – Majority

The majority of financial members present (see Article III Section 2)(a-b) in good standing shall be able to transact business, provided that the President or the Vice President and Secretary are present to keep record. In the absence of these officers, the body may appoint a temporary chairperson and secretary to conduct the business of the Association.

ARTICLE XIX - OFFICIAL ORGAN

The Battering Ram shall be the official organ of the Association.

ARTICLE XX - AMENDMENTS WITH NOTICE

Amendments to these bylaws shall be held in odd numbered years. All proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Bylaws Committee for study and recommendations by December 31 in even numbered years. All proposed amendments approved by the committee must be received by the Association President by March 1.

The Association shall disseminate such amendments to financial members in good standing of the Association 30 days prior to the Annual Membership Meeting. Such amendments shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote of approval by the financial members in good standing present at the Annual Membership Meeting. No proxy votes shall be allowed. (Members must satisfy Article III, Section 2)(a-b).

ARTICLE XXI- PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

These bylaws are the governing authority.

The rules contained in the current edition of ROBERT’S RULES OF ORDER shall be the authority for the Association on all questions or procedures of parliamentary law not covered by these bylaws.

Glossary

Amend - a change or addition to the terms of a document-

Amendment - a revision or change proposed made in a bill, law, or constitution.

Annual Membership Meeting – a yearly gathering of Association members that is generally held in April.

Associate Member - a financial non-graduate, spouse, or friend of the Association. This member may serve on all committees except the nominating committee. This member is a non- voting member.

Board of Directors Meeting – A meeting held each year with members of the Board of Directors as defined by these bylaws. At least one of the meetings is held in a city other than Winston- Salem, North Carolina

Bylaws - all rules of an organization of such importance that they cannot be changed in any way without previous notice.

Censure - severe disapproval of someone or something, typically in a formal statement.

Committee - three or more financial members that volunteer or are appointed or elected by the Association.

Congruence – agreement, consistency. For example ... chapter bylaws congruent with the bylaws of the Association

Detrimental – causing harm, damaging, disadvantageous, negative, or unfavorable. For example, actions detrimental to the mission and goals of the Association

Executive Council - a group of people chosen as an administrative assembly.

Financial - Local chapter that has met all financial obligations set by the Association, fully paid life member, life member in the process of completing financial obligations established for life membership, or fully paid association regular member.

In Good Standing - A chapter or member who is not the subject of any form of sanction, suspension or disciplinary action by Winston-Salem State University or the National Alumni Association.

Majority – more than half of the votes cast

Mission - the specific goal, function, or duty of an organization

One/Third Majority- is one third of the votes cast

Organ - means of communicating ideas or opinions, such as periodicals, pamphlets, and newsletters.

Oversight – means to ensure committees function efficiently to fulfill their duties.

Plurality - In an election, a candidate has a plurality when he or she has a larger vote than any other candidate. In an assembly a plurality never elects except by virtue of a rule to that effect

Preamble - a clause at the beginning of a constitution stating the reason and purpose of the organization.

Present – In person or virtual (for example: phone, computer)

Proxy – the authority given by one person to another to vote in his or her place. No proxy shall be allowed.

Quorum - the number of members that must be present to transact business legally. The quorum refers to the number present, not to the number voting.

Suspension - the holding back of a judgment or keeping undecided.

Two/Thirds Majority - is two-thirds of the votes cast.

Constitution and Bylaws

WSTC Original Handbook 1955

Revised 1959

Revised 1964

Revised 1971

Revised 1982

Revised 1991

Revised 2003

Revised 2007

Revised 2009

Revised 2013

Revised 2017

Revised 2021

Revised 2025

2013 Bylaws Committee Members

Dr. Patti Sanders-Smith, Interim Chair – Greenville,
NC Catherine Pettie Hart - Atlanta, GA
Barbara Williams - Southern Regional Coordinator -
Fayetteville, NC
Victor Bruinton – Immediate Past President – Raleigh, NC
Gordon Everett – President - Gambrills, MD (Ex-officio)

2017 Bylaws Committee Members

Catherine Pettie Hart - Chair - Atlanta, GA
Kay Harris – Raleigh, NC
Calsine Pitt - Richmond, VA
Robert Rawls - Vice Chair - New Brunswick, New
Jersey
Murdock Williams - Atlanta, GA
Victor L. Bruinton - President - Raleigh, NC (Ex-officio)

2021 Bylaws Committee Members

Cavette
Buford
Kay Harris
Karen
Hicks
Winfred
Mack
Calsine
Pitts Tasia
Wilson
Mo Wright - Chair

2025 Bylaws Committee Members

Cassandra Herndon - Apex, NC
Catherine Pettie Hart – Atlanta, GA (Ex-officio)
Winfred Mack – Atlanta, GA
Dr. Deborah Daniels – Winston Salem, NC
Priscilla Green – Winston-Salem, NC
Valerie Merrit – Magnolia, NC
Frank Bumpas – Roxboro, NC
Victor L. Bruinton – Raleigh, NC (Ex-officio)
Burnetta Smith – Wendell, NC
Kay G. Harris - Chair- Raleigh, NC