



# Yale Divinity School

## Alumni Association Constitution

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### HISTORY

In 1895, a small committee of Divinity School alumni and one faculty member submitted a constitution to formally organize the alumni of Yale Divinity School. The constitution was adopted on May 20, 1896, and the first meeting of the Alumni Association was held on May 19, 1897. In the decades that followed, alumni involvement increased and several local chapters of the Alumni Association were formed. In June of 1934, YDS adopted a new constitution instituting a formal Alumni Council. The provisions of the 1934 constitution guided the evolution of the alumni council until 1992, when a new constitution and bylaws were approved. Subsequent amendments were adopted in October 2010 and October 2016.

### ARTICLE I. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Yale Divinity School Alumni Association.

### ARTICLE II. Purpose

The Yale Divinity School Alumni Association celebrates and promotes a community of active alumni to support, serve, and advance the mission of Yale Divinity School.

### ARTICLE III. Membership

The membership of this Association shall be made up of individuals who have spent at least one term as degree candidates at Yale Divinity School.

### ARTICLE IV. Meetings

Section 1. The Association shall meet annually to hold elections and consider such business as may properly come before it. Twenty-five (25) members present at the annual meeting, duly called, shall constitute a quorum. Additional meetings may be called by the President, or by a majority of the Board. All business shall be decided by a majority vote.

Section 2. Notice of each meeting shall be sent to the membership at least 30 days in advance.

### ARTICLE V. Officers, Board, and Functions

#### Section 1. Officers

The Officers of the Yale Divinity School Alumni Association shall be a President, Vice-President, and Secretary. The term of office shall be two years. Officers shall take office immediately upon election.

October 18, 2018

## Section 2. *The Board*

The Board of the Yale Divinity School Alumni Association shall reflect the broad diversity of the alumni of the school, and shall consist of the Officers of the Association, the immediate Past-President, and 18 members-at-large, all of whom shall have voice and vote. The Dean of the School and all Directors of Alumni Relations and Development at the School, the Chair of Class Agents, and up to six delegates to the Association of Yale Alumni shall be *ex officio* members with voice only. Each member-at-large shall be elected for a three-year term, six being elected each year. Elected members shall take office immediately upon election. A member-at-large may serve up to two full consecutive terms as well as any unexpired term, after which they may not be elected again until at least one year has passed.

## Section 3. *Delegates to the Association of Yale Alumni*

The President shall appoint, with the concurrence of the Board, up to six delegates to the Association of Yale Alumni selected from the membership of the Association.

## Section 4. *Nominations*

The President shall appoint, with the concurrence of the Board, a Nominating Committee composed of at least three of its members. Any member of the Association may recommend candidates for consideration by the Nominating Committee. As part of the call to the annual meeting, the Nominating Committee shall present to the Association membership a slate of nominees to fill any vacancies among the positions outlined in Article V.

## Section 5. *Committees*

The President shall appoint, with the concurrence of the Board, such committees as may be desirable to carry forward the purpose of the Association. Members of the Association not currently serving terms on the Board may assist in the work of these committees.

## Section 6. *Meetings*

The Board of the Association shall meet at least annually and at the call of the President with due notice. The Board shall transact business in the name of the Association between meetings of the Association. On request in writing from four or more of its members, the President shall convene a meeting of the Board. A majority of its members shall constitute a quorum of the Board. All business shall be decided by a majority vote.

## Section 7. *President*

The President shall lead the Association and the Board, presiding at all meetings and insuring that the decisions of the Board are faithfully executed. The President,

when elected, shall serve a single two-year term and shall vacate the position of member-at-large upon election.

Section 8. *Vice-President*

The Vice-President shall assist the President, presiding at meetings in the absence of the President. The Vice-President shall serve a single two-year term and may also serve concurrently as an elected member-at-large. If the Vice-President is unable to complete the two-year term, the President, with the concurrence of the Board, may appoint an acting Vice-President from the Board to serve until the next Annual Meeting.

In the event that the Office of the President has been vacated before the completion of a two-year term, the Vice-President will automatically become Acting President for the duration of the incomplete term.

Section 9. *Secretary*

The Secretary shall insure that the minutes and all other records of the Association are kept and preserved. The Secretary may serve consecutive two-year terms and may serve concurrently as an elected member-at-large. If the Secretary is unable to complete the two-year term, the President, with the concurrence of the Board, may appoint an acting Secretary from the Board to serve until the next Annual Meeting.

Section 10. *Vacancies*

In the event that the position of an officer or elected member is vacated, the Nominating Committee shall select a successor and present the nominee to the Association membership as described in Article V, Section 4.

The Board may remove any officer or member of the Board with a unanimous vote by a quorum present at a duly called meeting.

ARTICLE VI. Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those present at the Annual Meeting of the Association, duly called, provided that copies of the proposed amendments have been distributed to the membership at least 30 days in advance of the meeting.

Adopted February 12, 1992

Amended October 12, 2010

Amended October 20, 2016

Amended October 18, 2018

October 18, 2018