

**BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF BOWLING GREEN, OHIO**

**ARTICLE I. NAME AND GOVERNANCE**

**Section 1.** Name. The name of the organization shall be the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Bowling Green, Ohio hereinafter known as the “Affiliate.”

**Section 2.** Affiliate. AAUW Bowling Green, Ohio is an Affiliate of AAUW as defined in Article V.

**Section 3.** Legal Compliance. The Affiliate shall comply with the requirements of AAUW and federal, state, and local law. The bylaws of the Affiliate shall in no way conflict with the AAUW Bylaws and/or policies.

**ARTICLE II. PURPOSE**

**Section 1.** Purpose. The purpose of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. The purpose of the Affiliate is to further AAUW purposes and policies.

**Section 2.** Policies and Programs. In keeping with this purpose, the Affiliate shall promote equity, education, and development of opportunities for women and girls that enable them to realize their full potential.

**ARTICLE III. USE OF NAME**

**Section 1.** Policies and Programs. The policies and programs of AAUW shall be binding on all members engaged in AAUW activities, and no member shall use the name of AAUW to oppose such policies or programs.

**Section 2.** Proper Use of Name and Logo. The name and logo of AAUW may be used only by members (as defined below at Article IV, Section 2) and Affiliates (as defined below at Article V, Section 1) only according to policies and procedures established by the AAUW Board of Directors; others may do so only according to written licenses.

**Section 3.** Individual Freedom of Speech. These bylaws shall not abridge the freedom of speech of any AAUW member to speak an opinion in the member’s own name.

**ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

**Section 1.** Composition. The members of AAUW at present consist of members (“Individual Members”) and college/university members (“College/University Members”).

**Section 2.** Basis of Membership.

a. Individual Members.

(1) Eligibility. An individual holding an associate’s (or equivalent, e.g., RN), bachelor’s, or higher degree from a higher education institution accredited by a regional accrediting

agency recognized by the U.S Department of Education (an “Accredited Higher Education Institution”) or other qualified educational institution located outside of the United States, as determined by the AAUW Board of Directors, shall be eligible to receive admission to AAUW membership; such membership shall be granted upon payment of AAUW dues. The provisions set forth in this section are the sole requirement for eligibility and admissibility to AAUW membership except that the AAUW Board of Directors may establish a process to assess credentials that are submitted based on degree equivalence.

(2) Appeals of Refusals of Admission to Membership. Any potential Individual Member or College/University Member who claims qualification for membership in AAUW and who has been refused admission to membership may present credentials to the AAUW Board of Directors for review. The decision of the AAUW Board of Directors shall be final.

(3) Saving Clause. No Individual Member shall lose membership due to any change in the status of the higher education institution upon which original qualification for membership was based.

(4) Life Membership.

(a) Paid. An Individual Member may become a life member (a “Life Member”) upon a one-time payment of twenty years’ annual AAUW dues, based on the amount of annual AAUW dues the year the Member elects to become a Life Member. Thereafter, the Life Member shall be exempt from the payment of AAUW national dues.

(b) Fifty-Year Honorary. An Individual Member who has paid AAUW dues for fifty years shall become a Life Member and shall thereafter be exempt from the payment of AAUW national dues.

b. College/University Members. Any Accredited Higher Education Institution or other qualified higher education institution located outside the United States, as determined by the AAUW Board of Directors, that pays annual dues to AAUW shall be eligible to be a College/University Member. Each College/University Member shall appoint one or two representatives who are eligible to be Individual Members and who shall each have the membership benefits of an Individual Member and any other benefits that accrue to representatives of College/University Members, as determined by the AAUW Board of Directors.

**Section 3.** Student Associates. The AAUW Board of Directors may permit undergraduate students enrolled in Accredited Higher Education Institutions or in other qualified educational institutions located outside the United States, as determined by the AAUW Board of Directors, to associate with AAUW, with fees (if any) and benefits as determined by the AAUW Board of Directors.

**Section 4.** Dues.

a. The annual dues and Member benefits for any category of member shall be established by a two-thirds vote of the AAUW Board of Directors. Members shall be notified of the intent to

consider a change in the dues, the proposed amount, and the rationale for the change at least 60 days prior to the vote.

b. Payment. Member dues shall be payable in accordance with procedures established by the AAUW Board of Directors.

**Section 5. Severance of Membership.** Any Member may be suspended or removed from membership for any conduct that tends to injure AAUW or to adversely affect its reputation or that is contrary to or destructive of its mission according to these bylaws, with action taken following policies and procedures adopted by the AAUW Board of Directors. In addition, a College/University Member that is no longer eligible for membership shall be removed from membership as soon as practicable after it loses its eligibility.

## **Article V. AAUW AFFILIATES**

**Section 1. AAUW Affiliate Defined.** An AAUW Affiliate (“Affiliate”) is an organization affiliated with AAUW for the purpose of supporting AAUW’s mission through Affiliate programs, fundraising, networking, and/or other activities. Affiliates are typically nonprofit membership organizations under state law and may also have been recognized as tax-exempt 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) organizations under the Internal Revenue Code. An Affiliate may use AAUW’s name and/or logo only if approved by the AAUW Board of Directors.

**Section 2. Organization.**

a. Purpose. Affiliates shall promote the purposes, programs, and policies of AAUW.

b. Bylaws. Affiliates shall develop bylaws as meet their needs. However, any such bylaws shall not conflict with AAUW Bylaws or with applicable law.

c. Structure. Affiliates may create such leadership structures as meet their needs. Each Affiliate shall provide AAUW with designated contacts for administration and finance.

**Section 3. Loss of Recognition of an Affiliate.**

a. The AAUW affiliation status of an Affiliate may be revoked for cause through affiliation review procedures specified by the AAUW Board of Directors.

b. The Affiliate shall have the right to appeal to the AAUW Board of Directors within a designated period.

**Section 4. Property and Assets.** The title to all property, funds, and assets of an Affiliate is vested in the Affiliate. An Affiliate shall have complete control of its property and assets, except that such property and assets shall not be used for any purpose contrary to AAUW’s purposes. In the event of the dissolution of an Affiliate or the termination of an Affiliate’s affiliation with AAUW, all assets of the Affiliate shall be transferred and delivered to AAUW or to another Affiliate designated by AAUW. AAUW may solicit and consider recommendations from local

leaders before making a designation.

## **ARTICLE VI. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The rules contained in the most current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Affiliate in all instances in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the AAUW Bylaws or with the requirements of AAUW or applicable laws.

## **ARTICLE VII. AAUW-MANDATED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS**

AAUW-mandated amendments shall be implemented by the Affiliate's board of directors without a vote of the Affiliate's membership and as prescribed by the AAUW Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE VIII. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

### **Section 1.** Nominating Committee.

a. Composition and Appointment. There shall be 4 members on the Nominating Committee. The Board of Directors of the Affiliate shall appoint a chair and 3 members of the Nominating Committee from the membership.

b. Terms. The committee chair, alternate chair, and committee members shall be appointed by two months prior to the annual election and shall serve until after the elections are completed.

c. Resignation or Ineligibility. In the event that any member of the Nominating Committee resigns or is proposed as a candidate for office and agrees to stand for nomination the remaining members of the nominating committee shall complete the nomination process.

### **Section 2.** Nominations.

The nominating committee shall prepare a list of nominees to be presented at the Affiliate meeting one month prior to the election, or in writing to each member at least two weeks before the election. Nominations may be made from the floor at the time of the election, provided written consent of the nominee has been obtained.

### **Section 3.** Elections.

a. Elections shall be held in which each member has one vote. Voting shall be by paper ballot in person or electronic ballot, and a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for election. When there is but one nominee for office, the vote may be taken by voice.

b. The elections shall be held at the annual meeting of the AAUW Bowling Green Ohio affiliate.

## ARTICLE IX. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

### Section 1. Officers and Directors.

a. Elected Officers and Directors. The elected officers and directors shall be president, vice president of membership, vice president of program, secretary, and treasurer of the Affiliate.

b. Appointed Officers and Directors. The appointed officers and directors shall be board members for public policy, fundraising, and other officers as shall be deemed necessary to carry on the work of the Affiliate. These officers shall be appointed by the president with the approval of the executive committee. Appointees shall serve a term of two years.

**Section 2. Duties.** Officers and directors shall perform the duties described by these bylaws. The elected and appointed directors shall facilitate and promote the purpose and mission of AAUW.

a. President. The president of the Affiliate shall:

(1) be the official representative of the Affiliate in the activities of AAUW on all levels;

(2) be responsible for bringing the bylaws of the AAUW Bowling Green Ohio Affiliate into conformity with the AAUW Bylaws after each AAUW Convention;

(3) be responsible for bringing Affiliate bylaws into conformity with the state bylaws after a state convention.

(4) perform the following duties:

(a) preside at all meetings of the Affiliate, the board of directors and the executive committee;

(b) serve as ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee;

(c) call special meetings in accordance with provisions of the bylaws of the Affiliate;

(d) appoint, with the approval of the executive committee, the chairs of all committees except the nominating committee and those provided for by election, and additional board members authorized by the bylaws of the Affiliate.

b. Vice Presidents. There shall be at least two vice presidents of the Affiliate. One vice president shall serve as chair of the committee on program development and one shall serve as chair of the committee on membership.

(1) Program Vice President. The program vice president shall serve as chair of the committee on program development and perform the following duties:

(a) preside at meetings in the absence of the president, act in the absence or disability of the president;

(b) perform such other duties as are requested by the president or the board of directors.

(2) Membership Vice President. The membership vice president shall serve as chair of the committee on membership and perform the following duties:

(a) preside at meetings in the absence of the president and the program vice president;

(b) perform such other duties as are requested by the president or by the board of directors.

c. Secretary. The secretary shall:

(1) record and keep in custody the minutes of all meetings of the Affiliate, board of directors, and the executive committee;

(2) have available for reference at all meetings a copy of bylaws of the Affiliate and a list of its officers, committee chairs and members;

(3) perform such other duties as are requested by the president or the board of directors.

(4) Have charge of correspondence of the Affiliate as is delegated by the president or by the board of directors;

(5) Keep on file all communications received and copies of all letters sent.

d. Treasurer. The treasurer, with an assistant if necessary, shall:

(1) be responsible for collecting all annual dues;

(2) forward all dues collected to AAUW and to the state at the time specified by AAUW;

(3) submit to AAUW all qualifying applications, with dues, made to the Affiliate.

### **Section 3. Terms of Office.**

a. Terms of Office. Board members shall serve for a term of two years or until their successors have been elected or appointed and have assumed office. Board members may be elected or appointed to serve for one additional terms. No member shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms. A full term is considered service in office for two years. No member shall hold more than one board position, elected or appointed, at any given time.

b. Beginning of Terms. The term of each officer and director shall begin on July 1. The incoming or continuing president may call and hold a meeting of the incoming Board of Directors and/or of the incoming Executive Committee prior to July 1, so long as any vote taken at the meeting includes only those entitled to vote in that body on the date of the meeting. No incoming member shall be entitled to vote in that body until July 1

c. Removal from Office. An officer or director of the Affiliate may be removed for any reason or no reason by a majority vote at an in-person meeting of the Board of Directors in accordance with policies and procedures adopted by the Board of Directors.

**Section 4. Vacancies.**

a. All vacancies in office, excluding the president, shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Board of Directors.

b. A vacancy in the office of the president shall be filled by the elected vice president of membership.

**ARTICLE X. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1. Members.** The elected and appointed officers and directors shall constitute the Board of Directors of this Affiliate. This Affiliate must have 5 directors and a minimum of two separate officers, one responsible for the management of the Affiliate and one responsible for the financial affairs. In addition, the Affiliate shall designate a member other than the contacts for administration and finance to record and make available upon request the minutes of each noticed Affiliate meeting and board meeting.

**Section 2. Powers and Duties.** In accordance with the bylaws, the Board of Directors shall have the general power to

a. provide oversight to ensure the proper administration of the affairs of the Affiliate; carry out its policies, financial administration, and programs; and exercise such powers and perform such acts as permitted by law, the Certificate of Incorporation, if applicable, or these bylaws;

b. appoint standing committee members and such other board and committee members as may be designated;

c. act for the Affiliate between meetings of the membership;

d. adopt rules to govern its proceedings;

e. establish task forces or special committees as needed;

f. determine date and location for any official meetings of the Affiliate;

**Section 3. Delegation of Power.**

The board may delegate to the Executive Committee such authority as it deems necessary consistent with law.

**Section 4. Meetings.**

a. Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least 3 times a year at the call of the president at such time and place as may be designated. The Board of Directors may permit any or all directors to participate in a regular or special meeting by, or conduct the meeting through, the use of any means of communication by which all directors participating may simultaneously hear each other during the meeting. A director participating in a meeting by this means shall be considered to be present in person at the meeting. An action of the board will take effect if passed by the majority of the members of the board

b. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the board may be called by the president or shall be called upon the written request of two members of the Board of Directors or five members of the Affiliate.

**Section 5. Voting between Meetings.** Between meetings of the Board of Directors, a vote may be taken at the request of the president on any question submitted to the board members in writing, provided that every member of the board shall have an opportunity to vote upon the question submitted, and all members shall sign a consent in the form of a record describing the action to be taken. Voting will close by a specified time. If all board members vote on any question so submitted, the vote, by any means permitted by state law, shall be counted and have the same effect as if cast at a board meeting.

**Section 6. Quorum.** The quorum for a meeting of the Board of Directors shall be one-third of its members.

**ARTICLE XI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section 1. Members.** The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors shall consist of the elected members of the Affiliate.

**Section 2. Powers and Duties.** Subject to the limitations of state law, the Executive Committee shall have the powers and duties prescribed by the bylaws and such duties as may be delegated to it by the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee shall act on matters that may properly come before the Board of Directors in the interim between board meetings and report to the board its work and actions. It shall have emergency power to act for the board of directors between meetings of the board and report such actions to the board of directors. It shall provide for such audit and control of funds as necessary to assure their safe keeping and complete accounting. And it shall perform such other duties, as the board may deem necessary.

**Section 3. Meetings.** The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the president and at other times at the call of the president or at the written request of two members of the



Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may conduct the meeting through the use of any means of communication by which all directors participating may simultaneously hear each other during the meeting (see state law). A director participating in a meeting by this means shall be considered to be present in person at the meeting. An action of the Executive Committee will take effect if passed by the majority of its members. The incoming or continuing president may call a meeting of the executive committee prior to July 1 for the purpose of approving appointments and making plans for the coming year.

**Section 4.** Voting between Meetings. Between meetings of the Executive Committee, a vote may be taken at the request of the president on any question submitted to the committee in writing, provided that every member of the Executive Committee shall have an opportunity to vote upon the question submitted, and all members shall sign a consent in the form of a record describing the action to be taken. Voting will close by a specified time. If all Executive Committee members vote on any question so submitted, the vote, by any means permitted by state law, shall be counted and have the same effect as if cast at an Executive Committee meeting.

**Section 5.** Quorum. The quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be a majority of its members.

## **ARTICLE XII. COMMITTEES**

**Section 1.** Standing Committees.

a. There shall be the following standing committees: fundraising; public policy; program development; and membership. There may be additional standing committees, or persons concerned with the work of the following standing committees, as shall be considered necessary by the Board of Directors.

b. Committee Functions. Committees shall perform duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

(1) The Committee on Fundraising shall be responsible for implementing the programs on Fellowships, Research and Projects, and such others as may be established by AAUW.

(2) The Committee on Public Policy shall be responsible for the public policy program of the Affiliate.

(3) The Committee on Membership chaired by the membership vice president shall be responsible the membership recruitment and orientation to the purpose and program of AAUW.

(4) The Committee on Program Development shall consider the program Issues of AAUW and shall recommend to the Affiliate the selection of Issues to be implemented. It shall provide policy guidance for the continuing program concerns of the branch and shall also consider future AAUW program issues.

(5) Additional Standing Committees. There shall be such additional standing committees as deemed necessary upon recommendation of the board of directors.

c. Qualifications, Duties, and Terms of Committee Chairs. The chairs of all committees, except the nominating committee and those provided by election, shall be appointed by the president with the approval of the executive committee. Chairs shall select the members of their committees in consultation with the president. Chairs shall serve as channels of communication in their respective fields with the state and shall make such reports as their counterpart's request.

d. Qualifications, Duties, and Terms of Committee Members. Committee members shall be selected who possess relevant credentials and/or expertise for the committee tasks. Duties shall be outlined based on committee purpose and at the discretion of the chair.

**Section 2.** Special Committees and Task Forces. Special committees and task forces may be authorized by the Board of Directors, as necessary. The chairs and members of such committees shall be appointed by the president and approved by the board or, as appropriate, by the Executive Committee.

**Section 3.** Reports. All committees shall provide written reports to the Affiliate's Board of Directors for the annual meeting and such other times as requested.

**Section 4.** Quorum. The quorum for a meeting of any committee shall be a majority of its members.

### **ARTICLE XIII. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION**

**Section 1.** Administration. The Affiliate's Board of Directors shall have responsibility to

a. oversee the administration of finances, including preparation of the budget;

b. oversee the management, acquisition, and disposition of Affiliate's property and equipment in accordance with the bylaws;

c. set policies and procedures to maintain financial records as required by AAUW and consistent with generally accepted accounting principles and federal, state, and local laws.

**Section 2.** Fiscal Year. The fiscal year shall be July 1 through June 30.

### **ARTICLE XVI. MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1.** Annual Meeting. The Affiliate shall have at least one regular meeting each year to the month of March, to be known as the AAUW of Bowling Green, OH Annual Meeting to conduct the business of the Affiliate. The Annual Meeting may include the election of board members;

the receiving of reports of officers, directors, and committees; and the transaction of any other business as may properly come before it. The time and date of the Annual Meeting shall be set by the Affiliates' Board of Directors.

**Section 2.** Special Meetings. Special meetings of the membership may be called by the president, two members of the Board of Directors, or by written request of five members of the Affiliate.

**Section 3.** Notice. Written or printed notice, or electronic notice if permitted by law, stating the place, day, and hour of each annual and special meeting and the purpose for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered at least seven before the date of the meeting to all members

**Section 4.** Voting.

a. Each member of the Affiliate in good standing shall be entitled to vote on any item of business .

b. Members shall be entitled to vote on noticed business items by paper ballot, or electronic ballot, as deemed appropriate by the executive council. Such vote may include election of the Board of Directors, amendments to the bylaws, and any other noticed business. Members voting by these methods are considered to be present at the meeting.

c. 20% percent of the members entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum.

d. The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for the adoption of noticed business, except that a two-thirds vote shall be required to adopt amendments to these bylaws.

## **ARTICLE XV. INDEMNIFICATION**

To the maximum extent allowable by law, the Affiliate may, as determined from time to time by the Board of Directors, indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, by reason of the fact that she/he is or was a member of the Board of Directors, officer, or committee member of the Affiliate. Every member of the Board of Directors, officer, or committee member of the Affiliate may be indemnified by the Affiliate against all expenses and liabilities, including counsel fees, reasonably incurred or imposed upon such members of the board, officer, committee member, chief executive officer, or employee in connection with any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding with respect to which she/he may become involved by reason of her/his being or having been a member of the board, officer, or committee member of the Affiliate, or any settlement thereof, if she/he acted in good faith and in a manner she/he reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the Affiliate and, with respect to any criminal proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe her/his conduct was unlawful, unless she/he is adjudged in such action, suit, or proceeding to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the

performance of a duty. The foregoing right of indemnification shall be in addition and not exclusive of all other rights to which the member of the board, officer, or committee member is entitled.

*By-laws last revised by the Affiliate December 12, 2020.*