

CONSTITUTION
of
DILLARD UNIVERSITY
NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED



PREAMBLE

We, the Sons and Daughters of Dillard University, having faith in our University to continue the legacy of instilling “confidence and courage” in the hearts and minds of all who enter her gates pledge to make substantial contributions to our community, to our nation, and to the world. We believe graduates will give benevolently to the perpetuation of the University and the National Alumni Association in order to support the longevity of our Alma Mater. We further pledge to promote, support, and provide service to Dillard University National Alumni Association and do enact and establish this Constitution and accompanying By-Laws for the governance of the organization.

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the DILLARD UNIVERSITY NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED hereinafter referred to as “DUNAA.” DUNAA shall be recognized as the parent organization of all local chapters and operate under the auspices of this Constitution and By-Laws. DUNAA shall be a nonprofit organization dedicated to educational and philanthropic purposes.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

The purposes of DUNAA are declared to be:

- To assist and promote the work of Dillard University and to foster a spirit of cooperation and fellowship among alumni.
- To establish and maintain an effective relationship between the University and alumni.
- To establish and maintain an effective relationship between students at the University and alumni as well as assist in recruiting students to the University.
- To engage in educational, service and charitable activities that promote the advancement of Dillard University and contributes to the effective operation of DUNAA.
- To develop, govern, supervise and regulate the local chapters of DUNAA, established under the authority and sanction of this constitution.
- To encourage annual alumni giving to DUNAA and to the University.
- To inform members of all DUNAA and University developments.
- To promote and encourage alumni growth and development through leadership opportunities, professional networking, and social activities.
- To reward and recognize outstanding alumni for their accomplishments and achievements.
- To uphold the history, heritage, and legacy of the University as well as encourage school pride and loyalty.

ARTICLE III: GOVERNANCE

1. DUNAA was formed, under the charter of Dillard University, as an exempt entity under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRS), for public purposes, and it shall be nonprofit and nonpartisan. In 2013 the organization was granted its own 501(c)(3) status with all rights and responsibilities associated therewith.

2. Parliamentary Authority - DUNAA Constitution and By-Laws govern its proceedings. All matters not specifically referenced in the aforementioned documents are subject to the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order. All issues that are not set forth in the Constitution and By-Laws shall be subject to the Executive Board's interpretation by a Robert's Rules of Order by a simple majority.
3. The Executive Board – The Executive Board shall conduct the business affairs of the National Association. The members of the Executive Board shall consist of all elected officers of DUNAA. The chairman of the Executive Board shall be the President of DUNAA and he/she shall preside at all meetings or designate the proper officer to serve in his or her absence. Between meetings of DUNAA, the Executive Board and/or President shall act for DUNAA.
4. Board of Governors - The Board of Governors shall consist of the elected national officers of DUNAA, Immediate Past President of DUNAA, the President or designee from each active chapter, the President of the Pre-Alumni Council and the Director of Alumni Relations. The President of DUNAA shall be the Chair of the Board of Governors.
5. Term Limits - The President may serve an unlimited number of years, but shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms. All other officers may serve an unlimited number of years, but shall not serve more than three (3) consecutive terms.
 - 5.1. Tenure - The elected officers shall serve on the Board of Governors for a period commensurate with their office. The Chapter Presidents shall serve for a period commensurate with their office. All member of the Board of Governors shall be eligible to serve on the Board after sitting out one (1) term commensurate with their class of membership.
6. Officers - The officers of DUNAA shall be; President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Chaplain, Parliamentarian and Sergeant-at-Arms.
7. Terms of Office - Officers shall serve a term of office lasting two years. Officers shall serve a term of office lasting two years. The term of office begins on July 1st of the year in which the officer is elected and ends on June 30th of the second year of the term.
8. Vacancies - Any vacancy occurring in an elected office shall be filled by the President and approved by a majority of the Executive Board to serve until the original term expires.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

4.1 Categories of Membership

There shall be six categories of membership in DUNAA:

- A. Regular member – a member who remits national dues and either local chapter dues or a member-at-large fee.
- B. Recent Graduate member - a member who affiliates with DUNAA immediately following graduation from Dillard University. Recent graduates are excused from paying national dues for the fiscal year immediately following graduation and must affiliate with a local chapter or as a member-at-large.
- C. Life member – a member who remitted life membership dues in full, and either local chapter dues or a member-at-large fee.
- D. Partial Life Member – a member who remitted the first installment of life membership dues, and either local chapter dues or a member-at-large fee.

- E. Honorary Member – a member of high-esteem and achievement who has the privilege of membership without the payment of dues. The honorary member must be nominated by a member of the Board of Governors and approved by the Executive Board.
- F. Associate members - a family member of a DU graduate, a friend of a DU graduate or someone who attended Dillard for at least 1 semester who remits national dues and either local chapter dues or a member-at-large fee.

4.2 Eligibility for Membership

- A. Members shall remit both national and local dues or the member-at-large fee to be eligible for regular, partial life membership, or associate membership.
- B. Life members shall remit local chapter dues or a member-at-large fee to be eligible for membership.
- C. Recent graduate members shall remit local dues or the member-at-large fee to be eligible to membership.
- D. Members who reside within 50 miles of the city/state where the local DUNAA chapter is seated may affiliate with the chapter.
- E. Members who reside more than 50 miles of the city/state where a local DUNNA chapter is seated may affiliate as a member at-large or a member of the local chapter of their choice.
- F. Graduates of Dillard University, Straight College, New Orleans University, Flint-Goodridge Hospital and Flint Medical College and School of Pharmacy shall be eligible for regular, life membership, and partial life membership in DUNAA.
- G. Dillard University honorary degree recipients or person of high-esteem and achievement whose membership in DUNAA is approved by the Executive Board shall be eligible for honorary membership.
- H. Former students of Dillard University, Straight College, New Orleans University, Flint-Goodridge Hospital and Flint Medical College and School of Pharmacy who completed at least 15 credit hours and withdrew in good standing shall be eligible for associate membership.
- I. Family members or friends of an alumnus whose application for membership is approved by the DUNAA Executive Board shall be eligible for associate membership.

ARTICLE V: CHAPTERS

Chapters comprised of DUNAA members shall be established in local communities with the approval of the Executive Board. Chapters shall maintain a minimum of five (5) members and subscribe to the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of DUNAA.

1. Establishment of a New Chapter

Groups of five or more Dillard University alumni who reside within 50 miles of the designated geographical area may establish a chapter by submitting an application for a new DUNAA Chapter to the 2nd National Vice President and receiving the approval of the National Executive Board. A newly established chapter shall satisfy the requirements outlined in the DUNAA Operations Manual, current edition.

2. Governance - The Constitution, By-laws, policies and programs of chapters shall conform with the Constitution, By-laws and policies of DUNAA, as interpreted by the National Executive Board.
3. Obligations - Each Chapter shall remit by July 1st of each fiscal year a chapter assessment fee established by the Executive Board. Each chapter shall remit within 10 business days of receipt, national dues including payments for life membership dues, received at the local level.

ARTICLE VI: DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

The Director of Alumni Relations, employed by the University, shall serve as the official point of contact from the University to the DUNAA. The President shall at the commencement of his/her term, communicate with the Director of Alumni Relations the expectations of DUNAA.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

1. General Membership Meetings. There shall be at least two scheduled meetings of DUNAA per year. One meeting shall be held in the fall and the second meeting shall be held in the spring.
2. Quorums
 - 2.1. Quorum of DUNNA - A minimum of twenty (20) active members of DUNAA shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of having a General Body Meeting.
 - 2.2. Quorum of the Board of Governors - A minimum of twelve (12) members of the Board of Governors shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of having a Board of Governors Meeting.
 - 2.3. Quorum of the Executive Board - A simple majority of the Executive Board members shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of having an Executive Board Meeting.
3. Board of Governors Meetings - There shall be at least four scheduled Board of Governors meetings of DUNAA per year.
4. Notice - All active members of DUNAA shall be notified via mail, electronic mail or telephone, thirty (30) days or more prior to any regularly scheduled national meeting. The President of DUNAA may call an emergency meeting as necessary.
5. Voting - All active members of DUNAA shall be entitled to exercise one (1) vote per item during any meeting.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

8.1 - Proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be presented to Executive Board for consideration then to Board of Governors for review and consensus prior to being mailed or electronically mailed to the membership. Amendments to this Constitution shall be made by a two-thirds vote of all votes cast.

8.2 - The President of DUNAA shall transmit the approved revision(s) to the Director of Alumni Relations, the President of the University, University Librarian/Archivist, and the University Historian.

ARTICLE IX: DISSOLUTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS

9.1 - Upon the dissolution of DUNAA, the Executive Board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of DUNAA, dispose of all of the assets of DUNAA exclusively for the purpose

of DUNAA to Dillard University which shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Governors shall determine.

ARTICLE X: BY-LAWS

10.1 - The Executive Board, with impute from the Board of Governors, is hereby empowered to enact By-laws with the provisions of this Constitution.

Table of Revisions and Approved Amendments

Revised: May 14, 1983
Revised: October 22, 1983
Revised: October 20, 1984
Revised by Committee: February 2001 & August 2003
Approved by Executive Committee: October 2003
Ratified: May 2004
Amended: April 2011
Ratified: November 2012
Amended: November 2014
Amended: May 2015
Amended: November 2020
Revised: June 2023