

CONSTITUTION FOR THE MIDAMERICA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE 1: NAME

- 1.1** The name of this organization will be known as the “MidAmerica Nazarene University Alumni Association”.

ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE

- 2.1** The purpose of the MidAmerica Nazarene University Alumni Association (the “Association”) shall be to reinforce the value of being a Pioneer for Life and engage and involve them in shaping and supporting the future of MidAmerica Nazarene University (the “University”).
- 2.2** The Association will strive to accomplish this Purpose by:
- 2.2.1** Providing means for personal and spiritual development, fellowship, professional growth, and service among Association members, through organized Alumni activities, volunteer/service programs, continuing education, and other programs and services as may serve the interests and needs of our members.
 - 2.2.2** Working with the Alumni Director to maintain and provide a centralized source of information regarding Association members and resources available thereto.
 - 2.2.3** Actively promoting and encouraging prospective students to pursue a Christ-centered education at MidAmerica Nazarene University.
 - 2.2.4** Providing members with information regarding the activities and needs of the University and encouraging members to engage in supporting the University through prayers, volunteer work, and financial support.
 - 2.2.5** Promoting financial assistance for the University’s mission and purpose through annual and special giving projects, capital campaigns, and endowment funds.

ARTICLE 3: MEMBERSHIP

We define “alumni” as any person who has had a prior academic relationship with the University in the following ways:

- 3.1 **Graduates** - All persons who have graduated from the University or any of its diploma programs.
- 3.2 **Former Students** - All persons who have completed at least 12 semester hours (or the equivalent) at the University.
- 3.3 **Honorary Degree Holders** - All persons who have been granted an honorary degree from the University.
- 3.4 **Faculty and staff** - All current and retired members of the University's faculty or staff who have dedicated a minimum of five (5) years of full-time service.
- 3.5 **Honorary Members** - All other persons granted an honorary membership to the Association by a simple majority vote of the Alumni Council.

ARTICLE 4: ALUMNI COUNCIL

- 4.1 **Purpose** – The purpose of the Alumni Council (the “Council”) is to serve as the representative body of the Association and ensure the Association is adhering to its Purpose.
- 4.2 **Governance** – The activities of the Association shall be governed and administered under the direction of the Council. Each council member will sign a code-of-conduct agreement in compliance with the University’s code-of-conduct for faculty and students.
- 4.3 **Membership** – The Council shall consist of a minimum of nine (9) members not counting the Alumni Director of the University. The members of the Council shall consist of at least two (2) representatives from the current educational region of the University and at least one (1) representative from outside of the current educational region of the University, (1) non-traditional alumni representative, and shall include:
 - 4.3.1 The Alumni Director of the University.
 - 4.3.2 All Officers and other members of the Executive Committee.
 - 4.3.3 All members of each Committee formed by the Alumni Council.
 - 4.3.4 Other at-large members as approved by a simple majority vote of the Council.
- 4.4 **Election of Officers** – From the membership of the Council will be selected Officers and an Executive Committee as outlined in Article 5, below.
- 4.5 **Terms** – Each member of the Council shall serve for a term of three (3) years and may be reelected for up to a total of three (3) consecutive terms with a maximum limit of nine (9) years of consecutive service. Each term shall begin the month of August and end during the month of July. After serving 9 consecutive years, a one-year break is required, unless

otherwise specified in any position description below or otherwise approved by a super majority vote of the Executive Committee and ratified by the President's Cabinet of the University.

- 4.6 Removal** – A member is subject to removal by a simple majority vote of the council if (1) he or she has missed three consecutive scheduled meetings, or (2) the council member's code-of-conduct is out of compliance with the signed annual commitment form for the Council.

ARTICLE 5: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS

- 5.1** From the membership of the Council, as nominated by any Council member and ratified by a simple majority vote of the Council, will be selected Officers as follows:

5.1.1 President – The President, or his/her designee, shall set the agenda and preside at all meetings of the Council, represent the Association at alumni functions, reflect the needs and purposes of the Association, and be available for official requests of the University and Association members. The term of office is one year.

5.1.2 President-Elect – The President Elect shall fill the office of President in his/her temporary absence or his/her inability to fulfill his/her term. The President-Elect shall also work closely with the President to support and assist with general programs of the Association and support of the University, lead the orientation and installing of new Council members, represent the Association at alumni functions and other University events in the President's absence, and work to ensure a smooth transition from year-to-year of the role of President. The President-Elect term of office is one year. However, 3 years of service are required from President-Elect to Immediate Past President.

5.1.3 Immediate Past President – The Immediate Past President, after completing their consecutive terms of serving as President Elect and then President, shall strive to be a resource of encouragement, advice and counsel for the President and President-Elect, and shall represent the Association at alumni functions and other University events in the event the President and President-Elect are both unable to participate. This person may also fill vacancies on the Executive Committee on an interim basis, as needed. The term of office is one year.

5.1.4 Board of Trustees Representative – This member shall serve as an elected member of the Board of Trustees of the University for a term of two (2) years and shall be responsible to represent the views and opinions of the Association directly to the Trustees, and in return, communicate the views and opinions of the Trustees to the Council. This member shall adhere to the

same obligations and expectations of the Board of Trustees including financial support through regular donations.

5.1.5 Secretary – The Secretary shall work in direct coordination with the Alumni Director and staff of the Alumni Office to ensure the keeping the minutes of all meetings of the Council and shall cause the minutes of the preceding meeting(s) to be distributed to the Council for approval at its regular scheduled meetings. The Secretary shall also be responsible for assisting the Alumni Director and the staff of the Alumni Office in the distribution and collection of ballots for votes of any kind, for the notification of Council meetings required under this Constitution, and for the gathering and dissemination of information to and from the Alumni Office and all Association members. The Secretary shall also, within ten (10) days following the meeting of the Alumni Council in which the Board of Trustees Representative is nominated, notify the University President of the Board of Trustees nominee, whereon a vote by mail, electronic mail, facsimile machine transmission or otherwise shall be taken by the appropriate body for election.

5.1.6 Faculty (Current) Representative – This member shall serve as a Council member for a term of one (1) year and shall be responsible to represent the views and opinions of the Association directly to the Faculty, and in return, communicate the views and opinions of the Faculty to the Council.

5.1.7 Student (Current) Representatives – This member shall serve as a council member for a term of one (1) year and be a current undergrad (either traditional or non-traditional) student nominated by either the University’s student leadership (currently known as Associated Student Government) and/or the Dean of the School of Professional and Graduate Studies and be appointed by the Alumni Director. This person’s role shall be to represent the University’s students and report back to the student body on alumni activities and seek alumni input and involvement in student affairs.

5.2 Membership - The Officers of the Association shall form an Executive Committee comprised of all officers and representatives above, the Alumni Director, and also one (1) Chairperson of each Committee identified in Article 8 below.

5.3 Balance of Power - No one person shall fill more than one position as an Officer or any other seat of the Executive Committee except the Immediate Past President, who may serve any vacant role on an interim basis, as necessary and approved by simple majority vote of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 6: TIMING OF ELECTIONS, QUALIFICATION, NOMINATION, AND SELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

- 6.1 Timing of Election** – Each spring, the Alumni Director and current Council members shall submit nominations to fill upcoming Council vacancies and shall simultaneously submit nominations for the election of Officers for the upcoming academic year, as needed. Nominees to fill vacant Council positions will be considered from information and application forms submitted by Association members during the course of the year and knowledge of each individual's level of activity within the Association, the University, and their community.
- 6.2 Executive Committee Qualifications** – The only persons qualified to assume the positions of President, President Elect, Immediate Past President, or Board of Trustees Representative within the Association are those Council members who have graduated from the University. The position of Secretary will be available to any person so elected by the Council.
- 6.3 Nomination** – Officer nominations shall be made during the Spring meeting of the Council and shall be submitted to the Alumni Director for approval in cooperation with the President's Cabinet of the University, prior to contacting said nominees. Upon approval, the nominees will be notified by the Alumni Director in order to determine acceptance or denial of their nomination. Notifications are to be made by April 30, with all positions to be filled before June 30.
- 6.4 Selection** – The vote of the Council shall be ratified by the Association membership in an email ballot, distributed during the month of July. A simple majority of ballots returned by the deadline established by the Alumni Director shall determine the question of ratification.
- 6.5 Term of Service** – Officers shall serve for a term of one (1) year, with successive terms not to exceed three (3) terms in the same office unless otherwise approved by a super majority vote of the Executive Committee, unless otherwise specified herein. The Board of Trustees Representative must serve a two-year term, in conjunction with the policy of the Board of Trustees.
- 6.6 Filling Vacancies** – Vacancies on the Council during the course of a given year, for whatever reason, may be filled by a simple majority vote of the remaining Council members upon submission of nominees for approval by the Alumni Director, in cooperation with the President's Cabinet of the University. The resulting member shall complete the remaining term left by the vacating member.

ARTICLE 7: MEETINGS

- 7.1** The full Council shall hold regular meetings during the fall semester coinciding with Homecoming & Family Weekend, and in the Spring semester coinciding with Commencement Weekend each academic year. Specific dates and times shall be determined by the Alumni Director per above, and notice given by the Secretary at least 30 days prior to the meeting date.
- 7.2** From time to time, special meetings may be called by the President of the Council, as necessary, in his/her sole discretion after consultation with the Alumni Director.

ARTICLE 8: COMMITTEES

- 8.1** The Executive Council of the Association shall establish standing committees of the Council, as needed, subject to approval by the Council, which may include but are not limited to:
 - 8.1.1** Alumni Networks Committee serves to strengthen our broader network of alumni by helping recent graduates transition into becoming engaged alumni and by organizing alumni hubs as connection points for collective impact.
 - 8.1.2** Homecoming & Reunions Committee serves to enhance and expand programming during Homecoming & Family Weekend and to ensure reunions are meaningful experiences for all involved.
 - 8.1.3** Communications Committee serves to optimize all outbound messages from the MNU Alumni Office and to facilitate significant conversations between alumni and the University.
 - 8.1.4** Affinity Events Committee serves to work with the MNU alumni office to develop and promote events and activities that meet the greatest needs and interests of our alumni.
 - 8.1.5** Giving Opportunities Committee serves to develop meaningful ways for alumni to get involved in advancing the University's mission, including financial support, expertise, professional networks, volunteer service, etc.
- 8.2** Between meetings, the work of the Alumni Council shall be carried on by these committees, in collaboration with of the Alumni Director, and under the direction of the committee chairpersons, with the authority granted them by the Council, and with the assistance of the Executive Committee. In addition to any committee meetings called by the committee chairperson, the Alumni Director or the Council President may call meetings of any Council committee, as needed, to carry out the respective responsibilities and assignments of the committees.

ARTICLE 9: AWARDS RECIPIENTS, NOMINATION & SELECTION

- 9.1 Awards** – The categories of awards to be considered each year are to be known and quantified, but not limited, as follows:
- 9.1.1** Alumna of the Year Award honors a female recipient chosen for outstanding achievements not only in her career, but also for her contribution and service to the university, church, or in her local community. It may be either a traditional or non-traditional student.
 - 9.1.2** Alumnus of the Year Award honors a male recipient chosen for outstanding achievements not only in his career, but also for his contribution and service to the university, church, or in his local community. It may be either a traditional or non-traditional student.
 - 9.1.3** Carry the Torch Award honors a recipient or recipients chosen based upon humanitarian contributions to MNU, their church and their community. We recognize the recipient(s) as "Carrying the Torch for MNU" by living out MNU's three primary characteristics: Pioneering spirit, passion to serve and purposeful lives. This recipient is not required to be an alum of the university.
 - 9.1.4** Young Alumni Award Criteria: Recent graduate recipient who has demonstrated early success in their first 10 years since graduation as a traditional student. The recipient(s) may be either male or female or a couple.
- 9.2 Awards Nomination Task Force** – The awards nomination task force shall be formed by the Alumni Council, under the nomination and direction of the Alumni Director, consisting of no more than five (5) members of the Alumni Council and to be chaired by the Immediate Past President.
- 9.3 Solicitation of Nominations** – The awards task force, under the direction of the Alumni Director, will work with the Executive Committee and other University leaders and volunteers to solicit nominations for awards recipients. Solicitations may be received from including but not limited to members of the Alumni Council, current and retired faculty and staff of the University, past and current members of the Board of Trustees, past awards recipients, District Superintendents of districts comprising the University's educational region, and other friends of the University. No single individual shall submit more than three (3) nominations for any single award. Nominations will be accepted from January 1 through May 31.
- 9.4 Selection** – The awards nomination task force shall work closely with the Alumni Director to approve no more than three (3) nominations for each awards category as described above. All approved nominations will be presented to the President's Cabinet for approval and followed by submission of all Presidential approved nominees to the Alumni Council for simple majority vote. In the event there are no nominees approved by the President's

Cabinet for any single award category, the Awards Nomination Task Force will reconvene to select new nominees for that awards category.

- 9.5 Recognition** – Honorees are to be recognized during the annual Homecoming activities of the University, or at such other place and time as is deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee.
- 9.6 New Awards Creation** – Suggestions or recommendations for any new award category or recognition shall be presented to the Alumni Director for consideration by the Executive Committee. Approval to create any new award or recognition shall require a simple majority vote of the Alumni Council subject to ratification by the President’s Cabinet of the University.

ARTICLE 10: ALUMNI HUBS

- 10.1 Definition** – Alumni Hubs (“Hub” or “Hubs”) are established and authorized by the University Alumni Council. The Council will explore the development of a Hub anywhere in the United States where 50 or more Alumni reside within a 50-mile radius of each other.
- 10.2 Purpose** – Hubs exist to: (1) provide annual programming that addresses the social, professional, and spiritual needs and interests of Alumni residing in a particular location outside the Kansas City area and to (2) advance the mission, stature, and impact of the University, whether through prayer, recruitment of new students, technical expertise, and/or financial support.
- 10.3 Governance** – The development, establishment, and authorization of the Hubs is governed by the Council as set forth herein and any other governing documents ratified by the Council.
- 10.4 Membership** – Membership in a specific Hub is available to individuals that are: (1) Alumni of the University, as defined in Article 3 of the Constitution, and (2) and reside within the 50-mile radius established for each Hub.
- 10.5 Management** – Each Hub will have the autonomy to create their own management structure, provided that: (1) such structure is approved in advance by the Council, and (2) each “manager” must sign and acknowledge that they will abide by the documented guidelines established by the Council (collectively the “Governance Agreement”).
- 10.6 Dissolution** – The Council, in its sole discretion and with advanced notice, may dissolve any Hub for any reason, including but not limited to failure to sustain adequate membership or failure to comply with the Governance Agreement.

ARTICLE 11: AMENDMENTS

- 11.1 All proposed amendments to these Constitution shall be approved by the Alumni Council. The Secretary shall work to assist the Alumni Director and the staff of the Alumni Office to cause the proposed amendments to be produced in an official ballot of the Association, whether physically and delivered by mail or digitally and delivered electronically to Association members at least 30 days prior to the taking of a vote.
- 11.2 A super-majority of distributed ballots shall be required to adopt any and all proposed amendments of the Constitution.

ARTICLE 12: FINAL AUTHORITY

- 12.1 The Constitution and any duly adopted amendments shall constitute the governing rules for operating the Association and all conduct taken by or on behalf of its members. Any dispute or conflict arising from the interpretation of the Constitution shall be resolved by a super-majority vote of the Executive Committee under the direction and supervision of the Alumni Director. If any such dispute or conflict involves, directly or indirectly, the actions or inactions of the Alumni Director, the Executive Committee by and through its President shall consult with the Vice President for University Advancement and the University President.

RATIFICATION

Ratified by a super-majority vote of Council members on May 6, 2022 and approved by the President’s Cabinet on May 10, 2022.

Attested by the following Council Members:

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| Ben Allison | Abby Kovalcik |
| Paulo Barros | Brian King |
| Jim Baxter | Ronda Lilienthal |
| Sheila Bird | Rhonda Nyhus |
| Allen Brown | Paige Parker |
| Ryan Butler | Joy Randle |
| Sondra Cave | Joey Rosales |
| Christy Ford | Troy Snyder |
| Alexis Gonzalez | Andrew Speicher |
| April Hansen | Jill Speicher |
| Shelley Hayes | Presley Stuber |
| Joyce Hobbs | Chip Tollie |
| Jill Kenney | Vern Wesley |
| Jay Ketterling | |