

Constitution and Bylaws  
of the  
Yale Divinity School  
Board of Alumnaal Affairs

ARTICLE I. Name

The name of this organization is the Yale Divinity School Board of Alumnaal Affairs.

ARTICLE II. Purpose

The purpose of this Board is:

- (1) to strengthen and promote the Yale Divinity School and excellence in professional and academic standards within the ministry of the church at large;
- (2) to represent the graduates of the school by communicating to the dean and faculty of the school concerns on matters of policy, curriculum, services, and student life as each affects the future of the school;
- (3) to encourage participation of graduates in the continuing life of the school through convocations, reunions, etc.;
- (4) to assist the school in recruitment of students and in securing sufficient resources to enable the continued excellence of divinity education;
- (5) to encourage the school to participate in the continuing life and education of graduated through faculty and administration gatherings with graduated both in and outside the New Haven area;
- (6) to work to promote ways of utilizing the practical experience and knowledge of graduates in the curriculum of the school, the selection of Luccock Visitors, Bainton Fellows, etc., and placement of new graduates;
- (7) to pray for the dean, faculty and staff in their calling to educate a learned ministry for our churches. And to pray for current students enrolled in the school.

ARTICLE III. Membership

Membership in this Board shall be by annual election at a meeting of all those who are deemed to be alumni and alumnae of the School by the Director of Alumnaal Affairs, the date of the election to be determined by the Board. The Board shall consist of twenty one members, who, to the greatest degree possible, will represent the diversity of backgrounds, denominations, professional pursuits, and geographical dispersal of the graduates of Yale Divinity School. The Dean of the School and all Directors, Associate Directors and Assistant Directors of Development at the School shall be ex officio members.

## ARTICLE IV. Organization

### Section 1. Officers

There shall be a President, a Vice-President and a Secretary of the Board, elected from the Board at the annual meeting of the alumni and alumnae of the School by the same electors described in Article III.

### Section 2. AYA Representation

There shall be elected by the Board members, from among their number, three representatives to the Association of Yale Alumni, each to serve a three-year term.

## ARTICLE V. Meetings

### Section 1. Annual General Meeting

Not less than once every academic year, a meeting of all alumni and alumnae of the School shall be called by the current members of the Board, for the purpose of the election of new members and new officers, the adoption of such changes to the Constitution and Bylaws as might be proposed, and the discussion of such other major concerns seen by the membership of the Board to require general consideration.

### Section 2. Board Meetings

The Board shall meet at least one other time, outside of the Annual General Meeting, in the course of each academic year, at a time or times to be determined by the Board.

### Section 3. Notice of Meeting

Notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be given to all alumni and alumnae of the School in the manner described in Section 4 below, not fewer than thirty days prior to the meeting. Written notice of Board meetings shall be given to the Board members not fewer than twenty days prior to the meeting.

### Section 4. Quorum and Voting

A quorum shall be deemed present at the Annual General Meeting if the combined number of the members of the Board and other alumni or alumnae of the School present totals twelve or more. A quorum of the Board at Board meetings shall be achieved by the presence of twelve Board members. The Board may, at its discretion, solicit votes by proxy rather than presence at the Annual General Meeting, through the mail, through the publications of the School, or by any combination thereof. The Board may also, at its discretion, limit its responsibility for canvassing on behalf of forthcoming elections to those alumni and alumnae who have been active in support of the School within the last five years, through participation in the Alumni Fund or other fund raising activities of the School, through attendance at Reunions, Convocations, Annual Meetings or other events held at or in the name of the School, or through other ways the Board shall deem them to show engagement with the work of the School. All elections and other business not otherwise provided for in this Constitution and Bylaws shall be decided by a plurality of the votes cast.

## ARTICLE VI. Term of Board Membership

Members of the Board shall be elected for three-year terms, and may be reelected once. Any Board Member who has served two consecutive full terms may not be reelected until one year has passed. All Board Members shall commence their terms immediately upon election and serve until replaced by election, resignation or removal.

## ARTICLE VII. Vacancies

### Section 1. Voluntary Resignation

When a member or officer of the Board is unable to complete a term in office and resigns in writing, the Board shall have power to elect someone to fill the unexpired term.

### Section 2. Removal from the Board

The Board, by the unanimous vote of a quorum present at a regular meeting, is empowered, if it chooses, to remove any member or officer who shall have failed to attend three consecutive meetings or who, for whatever reason, is deemed by the board inappropriate for further membership on the Board.

## ARTICLE VIII. Officers

### Section 1. President

The President shall serve a two-year term not subject to re-election for an additional term, and shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Board. The President shall have general and active management of the business of the Board, shall see that orders of the Board are executed subject to the approval of the Board, and shall have the right to appoint committees, subject to the Board's approval, and to delegate specific assignments to other officers and members of the Board.

### Section 2. Vice-President

The Vice-President shall serve a two-year term and will be designated president-elect in the second year. The Vice-President shall serve in the absence or during the disability of the President and have all the powers and perform all the duties of the President. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the office of the President, the Vice-President shall fill the unexpired term of office.

### Section 3. Secretary

The Secretary shall serve a one-year term, subject to no restrictions on reelection. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Board and shall assist the Director of Alumna Affairs in communication with the Board members and officers.

## ARTICLE IX. Parliamentary Procedure

The rules of parliamentary procedure comprised in *Robert's Rules of Order Revised* shall be the authority for all Board meetings, subject to any special rules which may be adopted from time to time by the Board.

## ARTICLE X. Amendments

This Constitution and Bylaws may be altered, amended or supplemented by a two-thirds vote of those present at the Annual General Meeting of the board with the alumni and alumnae of the School. Proposed amendments shall be widely advertised in School alumna publications prior to the vote being taken. Any such amendment shall become affective immediately unless specified otherwise at the time of its adoption.

Adopted February 12, 1992  
Amended October 15, 2002