

A Constitution Designed for All O.U. Alumni

FOR several years, various O.U. alumni leaders have expressed an interest in making certain changes in the constitution which governs the Alumni Association, bringing this 1932 document up-to-date. The Executive Board, by unanimous action, now recommends that these new proposals be put into effect to provide a broader base for alumni leadership; to modernize the Association, giving more recognition to specialized interests among alumni of a highly diversified institution; to encourage more participation in University and alumni affairs among graduates of all levels and all lines of specialization, and to make it possible for the Association to provide a greater service to its members.

Three major additions to the constitution concern out-of-state members for the Executive Board, formation of an alumni council and constituent societies. The alumni council would serve as an advisory group of representatives from all active groups working for the best interest of the University. Constituent societies, an idea adapted from the alumni associations of Big Ten schools, would strengthen the efforts of all related groups. It is hoped that alumni of the various schools and colleges within the University, who are organized, may affiliate with the general association and be recognized as constituent societies receiving automatically all the services and privileges of other active alumni members.

A change in the by-laws recommends an increase in life membership dues from \$80 to \$100. Another change would set aside 70 per cent of all life membership payments to be added to the O.U. Life Membership Trust Fund which is held by the University Foundation. This is an endowment-type fund, the earnings from which are used to pay the expenses of services and publications provided life members of the Association. The other 30 per cent of life membership money collected is deposited to current operating expenses of the Association. The present distribution is now 80 and 20; the change to 70-30 would bolster the increased current operating fund and help pay expenses of higher costs of printing and postage.

Every paid member of the Association is urged to vote in favor of the new constitution and by-laws by using the ballot that appears on page 22. Ballots must be received on or before September 1 at the Alumni Office, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma. Each ballot must be signed to be valid. Both husband and wife, if paid members, are entitled to vote. Both may use the ballot, showing a double vote, but both must sign.

Changes in the following proposed constitution and by-laws appear in bold face type.

PROPOSED NEW CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I—Name

Section 1: This organization shall be known as the UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE II—Purpose

Section 1: The purpose of this Association is to promote the interests of the University of Oklahoma, to encourage a continuing interest in the University among alumni and former students, and to foster acquaintance and good fellowship among graduates and former students through programs of information, education and service.

ARTICLE III—Membership

Section 1: **All graduates and former students of the University of Oklahoma are and shall be considered "alumni" and members of this Association. Active members shall be those who have paid the regular dues, as prescribed in the by-laws, and only active members shall be eligible to hold office or to vote.**

Section 2: Members of the faculty and staff of the University of Oklahoma shall be eligible to hold active membership in the Association.

Section 3: **Any person who has demonstrated an interest in promoting the objects and purposes of the University of Oklahoma and the Association may become an active member with approval of the Executive Board and upon payment of regular dues.**

Section 4: **Honorary membership may be granted by vote of the Executive Board to persons who have rendered distinguished and meritorious service to the University of Oklahoma. Such membership shall be on year-to-year basis.**

ARTICLE IV—Meetings

Section 1: Meetings of the Association for the consideration of matters pertaining to the University may be held at the call of the Executive Board as hereinafter provided.

ARTICLE V—Officers

Section 1: The officers of this Association shall be a President, two (2) Vice Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer who shall be elected by the Executive Board of the Association at its annual meeting at Commencement time. The officers so elected shall serve for terms of one (1) year and until their successors are elected, discharging all of the duties that ordinarily pertain to such offices, and such other duties as may be prescribed by this Association or by the Executive Board. The Secretary shall serve as Executive Secretary of the Association and the Treasurer shall serve as Executive Director, unless otherwise directed by the Executive Board. Any person eligible for membership in the Association shall be eligible for election as an officer thereof. (Continued)

ARTICLE VI—Executive Board

- Section 1: Board shall consist of President and Vice Presidents, last five past Presidents, and the following members elected by active members of the Association by referendum ballot: One member residing in each Alumni District of Oklahoma as specified in the by-laws; 21 members-at-large, 2/3rds of whom shall be residents of Oklahoma and 1/3rd of whom may reside outside the state.
- Section 2: Board members shall be elected for three (3) year terms, 1/3rd of the members retiring each year, and members may not be elected for consecutive terms. A vacancy may be filled by the Executive Board for the unexpired term. The Board shall meet twice a year and on call of the President.
- Section 3: Existing Executive Board members shall serve out terms for which they are elected and shall have authority to fill vacancies created by expansion of Executive Board membership under this constitution.
- Section 4: The Executive Board shall employ an Executive Director and Executive Secretary and other such employees as may be necessary and shall fix their duties and responsibilities as well as their salaries.
- Section 5: Ten members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 6: The policy-making authority of the Association shall be vested in the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VII—Constituent Societies

- Section 1: Constituent societies and associations may be encouraged and supported and may become affiliated with the Association upon approval and ratification of the Executive Board. Only active members of the Association shall be eligible to hold office or to vote in the constituent societies. Constituent societies may adopt constitutions, pass by-laws, elect officers, designate committees, and otherwise function as an organization provided that nothing so done shall be in conflict with this constitution.

ARTICLE VIII—Alumni Council

- Section 1: The Alumni Council shall consist of members of the Executive Board, plus the President of the O.U. Dad's Association, the President of the Mother's Association, the Chairman of the Trustees of the University of Oklahoma Foundation, the Chairman of the Alumni Development Fund Board of Directors, representatives of all approved constituent societies and other alumni leaders in the Alumni Development Fund, organized clubs and other organized activities as may be invited by the Executive Board, provided that the total membership of the Alumni Council shall not exceed 100. The Alumni Council shall meet once each year at a time to be determined by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE IX—Amendments

- Section 1: This Constitution may be amended by a majority

of alumni members' votes returned in a mail ballot.

- Section 2: Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by action of the Executive Board or by a petition signed by 50 active members of the Association.
- Section 3: The By-laws may be amended at any regular or called meeting of the Executive Board, at which a quorum is present, by vote of 2/3rds of Executive Board members present.

BY-LAWS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION

RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

- Section 1: All members shall have the right to attend meetings of the Association, to participate in class reunions, homecoming, alumni institutes and other special events; to have their names included in the official alumni records maintained by the Association. However, only active members of the Association may vote or hold office.
- Section 2: Active members shall have all the rights and privileges of inactive members, and in addition shall be entitled to receive publications and other services as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Executive Board.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

- Section 1: Active members of the Association may be on either annual or life membership basis.
- Section 2: Any person eligible for membership in the Association may become an annual active member by paying \$5 to the Association, or \$6 for a joint husband and wife annual active membership.
- Section 3: Any person eligible for membership in the Association may become a Life Member by paying to the Association \$100, payable in advance, or at the rate of \$5 a month until a total of \$100 has been paid. When desirable, the officers of the Association may adjust the rate of payment. Of the amount paid for a life membership, the first 30 per cent is to be placed in the current operating fund of the Association, the remaining 70 per cent shall be deposited in the O.U. Life Membership Trust Fund of the University of Oklahoma Foundation, Inc., and subject to the rules thereof. Payment of a life membership entitles both husband and wife to be life members of the Association where both are otherwise eligible; however, only one subscription to Association publications shall be provided such joint memberships.

ALUMNI PUBLICATIONS

- Section 1: Active members of the Association shall receive the *Sooner Magazine*, *The Sooner News-Makers*, *Bud Wilkinson's Football Letter*, and other publications issued by the Association.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Section 1: The Executive Board shall be elected by the active

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members of the Association by referendum ballot, and shall serve for terms of three years each with 1/3rd of the members being elected each year.

Section 2: One member of the Executive Board shall be elected from each of the following Alumni Districts in Oklahoma:

District 1: Counties of Pawnee, Tulsa, Washington, Nowata, Rogers, Craig, Mayes, Ottawa, Delaware and Osage.

District 2: Counties of Wagoner, Cherokee, Adair, Okmulgee, Muskogee, Sequoyah, McIntosh and Haskell.

District 3: Counties of Carter, Love, Marshall, Bryan, Choctaw, McCurtain, Pushmataha, Atoka, Pittsburgh, Latimer and Leflore.

District 4: Counties of Creek, Lincoln, Okfuskee, Hughes, Seminole, Pottawatomie, Pontotoc, Coal and Johnston.

District 5: Counties of Payne, Logan, Oklahoma, Cleveland, McClain, Garvin and Murray.

District 6: Counties of Blaine, Kingfisher, Canadian, Caddo, Grady, Comanche, Stephens, Cotton and Jefferson.

District 7: Counties of Ellis, Dewey, Roger Mills, Custer, Beckham, Washita, Harmon, Greer, Kiowa, Jackson and Tillman.

District 8: Counties of Cimarron, Texas, Beaver, Harper, Woods, Alfalfa, Grant, Kay, Woodward, Major, Garfield and Noble.

Section 3: Twenty-one members of the Executive Board shall be elected at large, without regard for place of residence, except 2/3rds of the members so elected shall be residents of Oklahoma and 1/3rd may reside outside the state.

Section 4: Any vacancies occurring on the Executive Board

shall be filled by the remaining members of the Executive Board for the unexpired terms.

Section 5: Nominations: A nominating committee of five members shall be appointed by the President of the Association. The nominating committee shall meet prior to March 15th each year and select three candidates for each vacancy on the Executive Board.

Section 6: Election: In accordance with such provisions as the Executive Board shall make, ballots shall be printed containing the names of all nominees and shall be mailed to each active member of the Association, the same to be in the mails on April 15th of each year. All ballots shall be returned to the Executive Secretary of the Association not later than May 15th and all ballots so returned shall be counted under the direction of the Executive Board. New members of the Executive Board and new officers of the Association take office at the Commencement meeting of the Executive Board.

Section 7: Meetings: The Executive Board shall meet annually prior to the Commencement Exercises and at the Fall Homecoming, and at such other times and places as may be specified by the President. The newly elected Executive Board shall meet each year for the purpose of electing officers of the Association for the ensuing year.

Section 8: Employees: It shall be the duty of the Executive Board to employ the Executive Director as chief administrative officer of the Association and such other employees as the Executive Board shall find necessary, including the Executive Secretary and Editor of Alumni Publications, to determine their duties and authority, and to fix their salaries.

Section 9: General Powers: All administrative control of the Association shall be vested in the Executive Board, and the Board is authorized to act for the Association in all matters not expressly provided for in the constitution. On all matters of general policy, the Board shall, at its discretion, submit the question to the members in a mail ballot.

University of Oklahoma Alumni Association Proposed New Constitution and By-laws

I _____ (name) _____ (address)
_____ the proposed constitution and by-laws
(approve-disapprove)

Mail to Alumni Office, University of Oklahoma, Norman, on or before September 1.