

# **CONSTITUTION OF THE ALUMNI COUNCIL OF DARTMOUTH COLLEGE**

*(As Amended and Approved May 17, 2024)*

## **ARTICLE I NAME AND MISSION**

This body shall be called the ALUMNI COUNCIL OF DARTMOUTH COLLEGE (“the Council”), with the following mission:

To sustain a fully informed, representative, and engaged exchange of information and sentiment between alumni and their College, and to enhance and inspire alumni involvement that furthers the mission of the College.

## **ARTICLE II PURPOSES**

The purposes of the Alumni Council shall be:

1. To carry out the Mission and Core Responsibilities of the Council (“Core Responsibilities” attached hereto).
2. To serve as a representative organization of Dartmouth alumni acting in the best interest of Dartmouth College.
3. To serve as the primary forum for the discussion of issues and concerns relative to the alumni body and Dartmouth College.
4. To carry out the responsibility assigned to it under the Constitution of the Association of Alumni of Dartmouth College with respect to the nomination of Alumni Trustees for positions on the Board of Trustees of the College.
5. To act as a clearing house for, and principal spokesperson of, alumni sentiment to the administration and as an avenue of approach by which the administration may have access to the alumni collectively.
6. To act as a resource for alumni providing service and talents to Dartmouth College.
7. To encourage and maintain a relationship with the Board of Trustees of the College, providing regular expression of alumni concerns and assisting the Board in evaluating and assessing programs and policies.
8. To communicate effectively information about the College and the Council to the alumni body.
9. To initiate projects and carry on such other undertakings as are reasonably within the province of alumni activity, or to provide for their being pursued.

## **ARTICLE III OFFICERS**

1. The Officers of the Council shall be a President and a President-elect.
2. The President-elect shall be elected annually by the Council for a term of one year and shall automatically become President the following year. At the time of their election, the President-elect shall be a Council member who has served at least two years. The

President or President-elect shall carry over as a full member of the Council as long as necessary to serve a full term in the office of President. If the President-elect is unable to serve as President, the vacancy in that office shall be filled in accordance with the regular procedure for filling vacancies.

3. The duties of the officers shall be such as usually appertain to the respective offices.

#### **ARTICLE IV COMMITTEES**

1. Executive Committee.
  - a. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the President, the President-elect, and the Chairs of the other standing committees of the Council. The Executive Committee shall be chaired by the President of the Council or the President's designee.
  - b. The Executive Committee shall set the agenda for the Council and plan and design Council meetings in consultation with the Alumni Relations Office. It will be responsible for regularly reviewing the effectiveness of Council operations and this Constitution and recommending changes where appropriate. In addition, during intervals between meetings of the Council, the Executive Committee shall exercise the powers of the Council, except that it shall not have the right to amend this Constitution.
2. Nominating and Alumni Trustee Search Committee.
  - a. There shall be a Nominating and Alumni Trustee Search Committee (hereinafter "The Nominating Committee") consisting of ten members including the President, the President-elect, the immediate past chairman of the Nominating Committee, the current chairman of the Nominating Committee, and six other Council members to be elected for terms of three years by the Council, two per year, from a slate of at least four candidates. These candidates shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee from Council members who have served no more than two years of their current terms on the Council. The elected members of the Committee shall serve three-year terms and shall, if their terms as Council members expire after one or two year(s) on the Nominating Committee, carry over for one or two year(s) as a Nominating Committee member but not as a Council member. If needed to keep the Nominating Committee membership at ten members, the Committee may make appointments from Council members for one, two, or three year terms.
  - b. The Nominating Committee shall make: (i) two nominations for the President-elect and (ii) one nomination for each vacancy for at-large Council membership. It shall also make the nominations for membership on the Nominating Committee (see Subsection A above), for the Alumni Liaison Committee (see Section 3 below), and for Alumni Trustee as provided in Article VIII of this Constitution.
  - c. The Chair of the Nominating Committee of the Board of Trustees of the College may sit with the Nominating Committee of the Council as a non-voting ex officio member at such times as the Nominating Committee is dealing with the subject of nominating candidates for the position of Alumni Trustee.
3. Alumni Liaison Committee. The Alumni Liaison Committee shall be a committee of the Council, consisting of the President, the President-elect, and immediate past-President of the Council, the Presidents of the Association of Alumni during their term on the

Alumni Council, three current Council members elected by the Alumni Council for staggered three-year terms, and three members of the Association of Alumni elected by the Alumni Council for staggered three-year terms. A representative of the Trustee Advancement Committee may also serve on this committee.

4. Other Committees: The Council may have other standing committees. The President may also, from time to time, appoint ad hoc committees for special purposes.
5. Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Committees. The Vice-Chair of each standing committee, except the Executive Committee and the Alumni Liaison Committee, shall at the beginning of the next Council year become chair of their respective committee for a term of one year without further action by the committee or the Council. Each such committee shall, on the nomination of its respective chair and vice-chair, elect its own vice-chair at the fall meeting of the Council. Such vice chair must at the time of such election be in the second year of their Council term. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall be a member of the Nominating Committee at the time of election, and, if such Chair assumes such office at the end of their term on the Council, they shall carry over as a full member of the Council during their term of service as Chair. The President shall serve as Chair of the Executive Committee and shall appoint the chair of ad hoc committees.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **COUNCIL YEAR—MEETINGS**

1. The Council year shall begin July 1 of each calendar year.
2. The Council shall meet not less than twice annually, once each in the fall and spring, at places and on dates set by the College in conjunction with the Executive Committee, provided that at least one meeting in each Council year shall be held in Hanover, New Hampshire.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **MEMBERSHIP AND METHOD OF SELECTION**

1. All voting members of the Council must be voting members of the Association of Alumni of Dartmouth College.
2. Unless otherwise provided, the terms of all newly-elected members of the Council shall commence on the first day of the Council year immediately following their election. Each member shall serve a three-year term.
3. The Council shall consist of the following membership:
  - a. One member elected by each of the sixty most recent graduated classes of the College.
  - b. One member elected from the sixty-first and older graduated classes of the College by the presidents of those classes.
  - c. One representative elected by the respective membership of each of ten metropolitan clubs as designated by the Communities Executive Council in consultation with Alumni Relations.

<sup>1</sup> Art. I of the Constitution of the Association of Alumni of Dartmouth College provides:

1. Every person who has ever matriculated as a full-time student in pursuit of a Dartmouth degree at the under-graduate College or at the Geisel School of Medicine, the Thayer School of Engineering, the Tuck School of Business, or the Guarini School of Graduate and Advanced Studies shall become a member for life on the normal Commencement date for their Class.
2. Every other person who has enrolled as a Dartmouth student in pursuit of a Bachelors, Masters, or Doctors degree shall become a voting member of the Association for life on the date such degree is received.

Any other person shall be an honorary member of the Association if he or she has received an honorary degree from Dartmouth College, been officially adopted by a Dartmouth Class, or been voted honorary membership at an annual meeting of the Association. Such an honorary member shall be a non-voting member of the Association and shall not be eligible to serve as an alumni trustee.

- d. Five at-large U.S. regional representatives selected by the Communities Executive Council in consultation with Alumni Relations.
  - e. Three at-large international representatives selected by the Communities Executive Council in consultation with Alumni Relations.
  - f. One representative of class associations to be determined by the Class Officers Association Executive Board.
  - g. Two representatives of each of the following graduate alumni bodies: Tuck School of Business, Geisel School of Medicine, Thayer School of Engineering, and Guarini School of Graduate and Advanced Studies at Dartmouth.
  - h. One representative of the District Enrollment Directors.
  - i. Two representatives of each Affiliated Alumni Group that has been officially recognized by the College's Office of Alumni Relations.
  - j. Six persons elected at-large by the Council, two each year.
  - k. The President of the Association of Alumni.
  - l. The President of the Council, if their other Council membership at the time of election expires before completion of their Presidential term.
  - m. The President-elect of the Council, if their other Council membership expires before completion of their term as President-elect.
  - n. The Immediate Past-President of the Council, who will also serve as the Chair of the Alumni Liaison Committee.
  - o. The Chair of the Nominating Committee, if their Council membership expires before completion of their term as Chair.
  - p. One officer of the Communities Executive Council.
  - q. The Chairs of the Dartmouth Alumni Awards Committee and the Young Alumni Distinguished Service Award Committee, to be selected by their individual committees.
4. The Council shall have the following non-voting liaison representatives:
    - a. One person selected from the General Faculty of Dartmouth College for a three-year term.
    - b. Four undergraduate students appointed by alumni relations and student involvement for two-year terms to coincide with their respective junior and senior years.
  5. A person who has served a full term as a Council member shall not be eligible to serve the same constituency again for nine years after their earlier term expires.

## **ARTICLE VII VACANCIES**

1. In the event that the President's position becomes vacant during the elected term, for any reason, the President-elect shall fill that position for the remainder of the vacated term. The Council shall, in accordance with Article IV, 2B, by election at a Council meeting or by mail or email ballot, fill any vacancy that may occur in the President-Elect position during the elected term. Any person elected to fill such a vacancy shall serve in such position for the balance of the term of the person whose vacancy he or she is filling.
2. The Executive Committee shall, by election at an Executive Committee meeting or by mail or email ballot, take the following actions:
  - a. In the event a committee has fewer than the total number of members stipulated in this Constitution, make appointments necessary to fully constitute the committee. Any person appointed to fill such vacancy shall serve in such position for the balance of the term of the person whose vacancy he or she is filling.
  - b. Fill any vacancy that may occur, during their elected terms, among members serving Council committee positions that are filled by Council election. Any person elected to fill such a vacancy shall serve in such position for the balance of the term of the person whose vacancy he or she is filling.
3. Vacancies occurring during their elected terms among other members of the Council shall be filled by the organizations or bodies that originally elected such members.

### **ARTICLE VIII**

#### **ALUMNI TRUSTEE NOMINATIONS**

1. The Council shall designate candidates for nomination as Alumni Trustees.
2. The Nominating Committee shall be responsible for (i) reviewing and evaluating the qualifications of alumni proposed as candidates for nomination for the position of Alumni Trustee, and (ii) recommending to the Council the name(s) of candidates for nomination for Alumni Trustee vacancies.

### **ARTICLE IX**

#### **ALUMNI PETITIONS**

1. Any twenty-five or more voting members of the Association of Alumni of Dartmouth College may, by signing a written petition, present an issue to the Council for its consideration. Such issue must be relevant to the purposes of the Council as set forth in Article II of this Constitution. The Executive Committee shall have the power to determine the relevancy of any such issue.
2. Any such relevant issue shall be considered by the Council at its next meeting, provided that the petition has been presented to the Council through its President at least sixty days prior to such meeting. Representatives of the signers of the petition may be present at the meeting to present and discuss the issue raised by the petition.

### **ARTICLE X**

#### **QUORUM**

A majority of the membership of this Council shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended at any meeting of the Council by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, provided that the proposed amendment has been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed or emailed to members no later than thirty days prior to the Council meeting.

## **ATTACHMENT**

### **Core Responsibilities:**

#### **To achieve its mission, the Alumni Council must:**

- Actively learn and know the current state of the College and its future goals, and communicate that knowledge to all alumni;
- Diligently learn alumni sentiment and help the College to fully understand and fully consider this sentiment;
- Nominate competent, qualified, independent alumni candidates to serve on the Dartmouth Board of Trustees;
- Recognize, encourage, and facilitate alumni service.
- And in doing so, it must:
- Think and act independently of the College and its administration;
- Preserve the right of all Dartmouth alumni to express opinions (whether critical or supportive), ask questions of, praise, and seek change within the College;
- Be accountable to all alumni to be honest, open, and balanced in its deliberations and communications.