

**BYLAWS OF THE ADIRONDACK, NEW YORK BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN (AAUW)**

ARTICLE I. NAME AND GOVERNANCE

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the Adirondack, New York Branch of AAUW, hereinafter called the branch.

Section 2. Governance. The AAUW Bylaws shall govern this branch in all practices, and the bylaws of this organization shall in no way conflict with the AAUW Bylaws.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this branch shall be further AAUW's mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

ARTICLE III. USE OF NAME

Section 1. AAUW Policy. The policies and program of AAUW shall be binding on all members and the branch and no member or the branch shall use the name of AAUW to oppose such policies or program. Established channels may be used to change a policy or program.

Section 2. Freedom of Speech. The freedom of speech of the individual member to speak a personal opinion in the member's own name is not abridged.

Section 3. Violations. Violation of the use of AAUW's name shall result in action taken in Accordance with AAUW policy.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. Membership

- a. Individuals who meet the criteria for membership as described in the AAUW Bylaws, Article IV, and who have paid dues (national + state + branch dues) are eligible to be admitted to membership in this branch. The provisions set forth in this section are the sole requirements of eligibility and admissibility for membership. Refusal to admit an eligible person shall result in loss of recognition of a branch. The branch member shall be entitled to vote, hold office and participate in all branch activities and programs and receive the publications distributed to all branch members.
- b. A member-at-large (MAL) of AAUW may become a member of the branch upon payment of branch and state dues.
- c. A member may be suspended or dropped from membership for any conduct that tends to injure AAUW or to affect adversely its reputation, or that is contrary to or destructive of its mission according to AAUW policies and procedures.
- d. An undergraduate student enrolled in a regionally accredited education institution shall be eligible for student affiliation with the branch upon payment of fees established by AAUW state and branch boards of directors. Student affiliates may attend branch and state meetings

and receive the publications distributed to all members. Affiliates may not vote nor hold office.

Section 2. Dues

- a. Changes in branch dues shall be determined at the annual meeting by two-thirds vote of those present and voting, provided notice has been given to the members 7 days prior to the meeting.
- b. Paid Life Members of AAUW, as defined in the AAUW Bylaws, are required to pay branch dues to become members of the branch.
- c. Fifty-year Honorary Members of AAUW are exempt from paying AAUW, state and branch dues.
- d. A member of one of the national associations or federations of IFUW, whose current dues have been paid and who is spending a period of a Year or less in the USA, may attend branch meetings without vote.
- e. New members may join at any time. Dues are payable upon joining. The national and state portion of the dues paid by new members for less than a full year is determined by AAUW and state policy. The branch board of directors may set a reduction in branch dues.
- f. Payment of additional dues shall be waived for a transferring member whose current dues have been paid to another branch.
- g. The annual dues of branch members shall include National dues, state dues, and branch dues. The current dues structure will be available from the current branch Treasurer or current Membership Co-Vice-Presidents. Student affiliates shall pay the current established fee.
- h. Dues are payable on or before July 1. After notification of nonpayment, a member still in arrears after July 31 shall be dropped.
- i. Dues of new members paid after March 15 shall be at the rate for the next full year and no additional payment will be required in that full year.

ARTICLE V. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominations

- a. There shall be a nominating committee of three (3) members, elected or appointed as follows: one (1) of whom shall be elected at the Annual Meeting in odd years. Two (2) shall be appointed by the board of directors at the first board meeting of even years.
- b. The term of service on the nominating committee shall be for two (2) years for a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms.
- c. The names of the nominees for elected office shall be published and sent to every member at least seven (7) days before the annual branch meeting.
- d. Nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee.

Section 2. Elections

- a. Elections shall be held at the annual branch meeting.
- b. Elections shall be by ballot unless there is only one nominee for a given office, in which case the election may be by a voice vote. Election shall be by a majority vote of those voting.

- c. Mail ballots or electronic voting may be used for elections, provided the number of members voting meets the quorum stated for meetings in Article X.

ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers

- a. The elected officers for the branch shall be a president, or official representative, or co-presidents, vice presidents, or co-vice-presidents, recording secretary, treasurer and one nominating committee member. Only members of AAUW shall hold these offices.
- b. The appointed officers shall be for corresponding secretary, Educational Fund, Legal Advocacy Fund, public policy, newsletter editor, diversity, and such other officers as shall be deemed necessary to carry on the work of the branch. They shall be appointed by the president with the consent of the board.
- c. Officers shall serve for a term of 2 years or until their successors have been elected or appointed and assume office. Term of office shall begin on July 1.
- d. No officer shall hold more than office at a time, and no elected officer shall be eligible to serve more than 3 consecutive terms in the same office.
- e. All vacancies in office shall be filled for the expired term by the board, with the exception of a vacancy in the office of president, which shall be filled by the vice presidents in the order listed.
- f. Each office may be filled by an officer or co-officers.
- g. The following officers shall be elected in even years: The president, or one co-president, membership vice-president, or one membership co-vice-president and recording secretary. The following officers shall be elected in odd years: Program vice-president, or one program co-vice-president, treasurer and nominating committee member. Other co-presidents or co-vice-presidents, if any, will be elected in alternate years.

Section 2. Duties

- a. Officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws, by the rules of policies and procedures adopted by the board of directors, and by the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.
- b. The president shall be the official spokesperson and representative for the branch and shall be responsible for submitting such reports and forms as required by AAUW.
- c. The vice presidents shall perform such duties as the president and board shall direct and as specified in branch policies and job descriptions.
- d. The treasurer shall be responsible for collecting, distributing, and accounting for the funds of the branch. The treasurer shall collect dues and properly remit them to the Association and state by the specified deadline. The treasurer shall send moneys for the Educational Fund and the Legal Advocacy Fund by the specified deadlines and shall keep separate ledgers for each type of account.
- e. The secretary shall record and keep minutes of all board, membership, and special meetings.
- f. All officers and chairs shall submit annual reports to the president.

- g. The nominating committee shall be responsible for presenting a slate of officers to the board of directors prior to the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Composition. The board of directors shall include the elected and the appointed officers of the branch.

Section 2. Administrative Responsibilities. The board shall have the power to administer affairs of the branch, and to carry out its programs and its policies, and shall accept responsibilities delegated by AAUW and the state. It shall act for the branch between membership meetings. The board shall have fiscal responsibility as outlined in Article IX, Financial Administration, Section 2.

Section 3. Meetings. Meetings of the board shall be held at least three (3) times per year at a time and place agreed upon by the board.

Section 4. Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called by the president and shall be called upon request of two (2) members of the board provided that at least 7 days notice of such meeting and its agenda have been given to the members of the board.

Section 5. Quorum. The quorum for a meeting of the board shall be a majority of the voting members.

Section 6. Voting Between Meetings. Between meetings of the branch board, a written or electronic vote of the board may be taken at the request of the president on any question submitted to the board in writing provided that every member of the board shall have the opportunity to vote upon the question submitted. If a majority shall vote on any question so submitted, the vote shall be counted and shall have the same effect as if at a board meeting. The result of the vote shall be in the minutes of the next board meeting.

Section 7. Removal from Office. A member of the board of directors may be removed for any reason by a two-thirds vote of the board in accordance with policies and procedures adopted by AAUW.

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES

Section 1. Establishing Committees. The president may establish standing and special committees as needed with consent by the board.

Section 2. Purpose. With approval of the board, each standing and special committee shall formulate programs and activities to carry out the mission of AAUW.

ARTICLE IX. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Section 1, Fiscal Year. The fiscal year shall correspond with that of AAUW and shall begin on July 1.

Section 2. Financial Policies. The board shall set and maintain policies and procedures to control financial records consistent with generally accepted accounting principles and federal, state and local laws including an annual financial review.

Section 3. Budget. The board shall adopt an annual budget for presentation to the branch at the annual meeting.

Section 4. An Auditing Committee of two (2) or more persons shall be appointed by the Board to review the Treasurer's records and accounts at the end of each two-year term of the Treasurer, or when a new Treasurer is elected. This committee shall present a written report to the Board at this time.

ARTICLE X. MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Meeting. The branch shall hold an annual meeting to conduct the business of the branch, including but not limited to, electing officers, establishing dues, amending bylaws and receiving reports. This meeting shall be held between March and May.

Section 2. Membership Meetings. The branch shall hold at least 4 meetings during the fiscal year. The branch board shall determine the time and place for these meetings.

Section 3. Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called by the president or shall be called by the president at the written request of 2 members of the board or 10 percent of the branch membership.

Section 4. Meetings Notice. Notice of meetings shall be sent to all members of the branch at least 7 days prior to the meetings.

Section 5. Quorum. The quorum shall be twenty-five (25) percent of the branch membership.

ARTICLE XI. PROPERTY

Section 1. Title. The title for all funds and assets of the branch, whether incorporated or not, shall at all times be vested in the branch for the joint use of member and no member or group of members shall have any severable right to all or any part of such property. The branch shall have complete control over the acquisition, administration and disposition of its property without consent of AAUW, except that such property shall not be used for any purposes contrary to those of AAUW.

Section 2. Dissolution of Branch. In the event of the dissolution of the branch, all assets of the branch shall be transferred and delivered to an AAUW entity.

ARTICLE XII. LOSS OF RECOGNITION

The provisions and conditions under which a branch may lose recognition are found in the AAUW Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern this branch in all instances in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws or those of AAUW or those of the state.

ARTICLE XIV. INDEMNIFICATION

Every board or committee member may be indemnified by the branch against all expenses and liabilities, including counsel fees, reasonably incurred or imposed upon such board or committee members in connection with any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding to which the board or committee member may become involved by reason of being or having been a member of the board, or committee or any settlement thereof, unless adjudged therein to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of duties. In the event of a settlement the indemnification herein shall apply only when the branch board approves such settlement and reimbursement as being in the best interest of the branch. The foregoing right of indemnification shall be in addition to and not exclusive of all other rights to which the member of the board is entitled.

ARTICLE XV. AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

Section 1. AAUW Mandated Amendments. Amendments required by AAUW to bring branch bylaws into conformity shall not require a vote of the branch members, except that an incorporated branch shall take the necessary steps required by state law or its articles of incorporation.

Section 2. Prior Approval. All other proposed amendments to the branch bylaws shall be sent to the state bylaws committee for approval before the call for the branch vote. If there is no state structure, approval of amendments to branch bylaws in those states will be according to procedures established by the AAUW Governance Committee.

Section 3. Branch Vote. Provisions of these bylaws not governed by the AAUW Bylaws may be amended at a branch meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting provided written notice shall have been sent to the members at least 7 days prior to the meeting.

__ October 18, 2009 __ (Date Last Amended)