

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1. NAME

The name of the association shall be Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions, hereinafter referred to as the Association or as TAAHP

ARTICLE 11. PURPOSE AND FUNCTION

PURPOSE

This association shall be constituted as a voluntary association on the part of persons of common interest and shall operate as a nonprofit educational and scientific association, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), TAAHP shall serve the following purposes:

1. To promote excellence and quality in undergraduate education for all of the health professions;
2. To encourage and to provide a medium for communication and cooperation among health professions advisors in Texas and neighboring states;
3. To facilitate communications between the advisors and professional school administrators;
4. To encourage greater understanding and cooperation between professional schools and the undergraduate colleges;
5. To encourage and improve communication between undergraduate advisors and the general public for a better awareness of the needs of the health professions;
6. To enhance undergraduate advising skills for the health professions to serve better the citizens of Texas;
7. To assure that this organization will not discriminate its advising activities on the basis of race, creed, color, age, sex, ethnic origin, or handicap.

FUNCTION

Through meetings, which are open to the public, the functions of the association serving these purposes may be the following:

1. Joint conferences and professional meetings of advisors with personnel from schools training students in the various health professions;
2. Cooperative research and development of programs which address the needs in undergraduate health professions education and advisement;

3. Liaison with other health-related organizations, professional and scientific organizations, and governmental and educational institutions;
4. Presentation of seminars and symposia which enlist experts to discuss effective ways of improving advisor functions;
5. Programs enlisting the expertise of interested parties to exchange views and ideas that improve the quality of advising of undergraduate students interested in the health professions in order to serve better the public.

ARTICLE 111. MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING PRIVILEGES

Membership shall be composed of any individual who is affiliated with an undergraduate institution (junior college, college, or university) and is interested in education of preprofessional students in the health sciences and who wishes to support the purposes of the association. Also, any person having an interest in the many areas of training of health professionals and wishing to support the pursuits and purposes of this association may apply for membership. Applications for membership shall be filed with the secretary-treasurer and dues paid annually.

Voting privileges are restricted to undergraduate institutions in the state of Texas training preprofessional students in any of the recognized health sciences and represented by one or more individuals holding membership in the association. Each such institution shall have one voting delegate member. The voting delegate member shall be the individual designated as the chief health professions advisor at that institution. If the voting delegate is unable to attend the regular meeting of the association, he may designate a substitute voting representative in writing.

The TAAHP is an independent organization with no constitutional or bylaw limitation or financial obligation to any regional or national advisor organization. Members of the TAAHP may, at their discretion, be members of any or all other regional or national organizations serving similar functions. This organization will not discriminate membership on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, ethnic origin, or handicap.

ARTICLE IV. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The association shall establish and maintain its organization by election of officers from its membership for chairman, chairman-elect, secretary-treasurer, and four (4) members-at-large for the executive committee. The following conditions apply to these offices:

1. Nomination of candidates for all offices to be filled shall be submitted to the Association by a three-member Nominating Committee appointed by the Executive Committee. At least one (1) month in advance of the regular meeting of the Association, at least two (2) persons shall be nominated for each office, with the exception of the office of Secretary-Treasurer; other nominations may be made from the floor at the time of the election. For the office of Secretary-Treasurer, with the approval of the incumbent, the nominating committee at its discretion, may nominate only one (1) person, the incumbent Secretary-Treasurer, if that individual is completing his/her first or second year in that office.

2. The election of officers shall be by simple majority of the voting delegate members present at the regular meeting of the association.
3. The terms of these officers shall begin at the close of the meeting at which they are elected, and they shall serve until the close of the final session of the next regular meeting of the association. However, only two (2) at-large executive committee members shall be elected at each regular meeting, and their terms shall span two regular meetings of the association.
4. The chairman-elect at the close of that term of office shall serve as the chairman for the succeeding term of office. Should the office of chairman become vacant for any reason, the chairman-elect shall assume the chairmanship for the completion of that term.
5. The secretary-treasurer may be re-elected for successive terms. However, this officer shall not serve more than three successive terms in that office. No other officer may be re-elected to the same office for successive terms.
6. The duties and responsibilities of these officers shall be those normally appropriated for their respective offices, except as directed by the executive committee.

The following officers shall constitute the executive committee: chairman, chairmanelect, secretary-treasurer, immediate past chairman, and four (4) members elected from the membership-at-large. No more than two individuals on the executive committee shall be affiliated with the same institution during their terms of office. The executive committee shall serve as the managing board of the association and shall be responsible for all business transactions of the association. The executive committee shall meet at least once a year. A majority of committee members present shall constitute a quorum. The chairman of the association shall also act as the chairman of the executive committee. The committee shall meet at the call of the chairman. The chairman shall have the authority, with the approval of the executive committee, to appoint such ad hoc and standing committees and assign duties as may be necessary to execute the policies and programs of the association. Among the responsibilities and duties of the executive committee shall be the following:

1. Fixing the time and place of the regular meeting of the association.
2. Arranging the program for meeting of the association.
3. Naming the three-member nominating committee.
4. Polling the membership-at-large on any matter of general policy, when requested to do so by a majority of executive members.
5. Preparing budgets and providing for audits.
6. Transacting such other matters of business as may be properly presented.
7. Establishing such guidelines and policies as may be appropriate for the welfare of the association.

Regular meetings of the association shall be held regularly at such time and place as the executive committee shall determine. A program of interest and value to the membership shall be presented at

each meeting of the association. A quorum of one third (1/3) of the voting delegate members shall be required for the transaction of business. The chairman shall serve as moderator and shall make parliamentary decisions or appoint a parliamentarian to rule.

The executive committee shall have the power to fill by appointment any vacancies that may occur during the year. In the event the association is unable to meet during a year, the executive committee shall have the power to conduct elections and submit constitutional amendments by mailed ballots.

The fiscal year of the association shall begin October 1 and close September 30. Each member shall pay dues annually as prescribed in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE V. AMENDMENTS AND BYLAWS

An amendment to this constitution may be proposed and submitted to the secretary/treasurer by the executive committee, by a voting delegate member, or by a petition signed by five members-at-large. The proposed amendment shall be received by the secretary-treasurer at least thirty days prior to the regular meeting at which it will be considered. The secretary-treasurer shall mail to each member of the association a copy of the proposed amendment at least fifteen days prior to the regular meeting. Approval of an amendment shall require a quorum and a three-fifths (3/5 or 60%) vote of the voting delegate members present at the meeting.

Proposed changes in the Bylaws shall be submitted in writing to the chairman no more than three hours after the regular meeting convenes and no less than three hours prior to the beginning of the business meeting. Approval of proposed changes in the Bylaws shall require a quorum and a simple majority vote of the voting delegate members present at the meeting.

ARTICLE VI. APPROVAL OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

The approval of these documents shall be by majority vote of all undergraduate institutions (one vote per institution represented) present at the business meeting of the conference of advisors for the health professions at which formal organization is considered. If formal organization is approved, at the meeting of the conference of advisors for the health professions in Texas in which this body is formulated as The Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions and the Constitution and Bylaws are adopted, the election of officers shall include the election of a chairman for the first year, the election of two of the executive committee members from the membership-at-large for terms of two years, and the election of the other two executive committee members-at-large for terms of one year, at the close of which they would be eligible for election to an initial two-year term.

ARTICLE VII. GENERAL PROHIBITIONS

Notwithstanding any provision of the Constitution or Bylaws which may be susceptible to contrary construction:

- a) the TAAHP shall be organized exclusively for scientific and educational purposes; b) the TAAHP shall be operated for scientific and educational purposes;
- c) no part of the net earnings of the TAAHP shall or may under any circumstances inure to the benefit of any member or private individual;

d) no substantial part of the activities of the TAAHP shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation;

e) the TAAHP shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) political campaigns on behalf of any candidate for public office;

f) the TAAHP shall not be organized or operated for profit;

g) the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law); or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law)

h) the TAAHP shall not:

1) lend any part of its income or corpus without the receipt of adequate security and a reasonable rate of interest to;

2) pay any compensation, in excess of a reasonable reimbursement for personal services actually rendered to;

3) make any part of its services available on preferential basis to;

4) make any purchase of securities or any other property, for more than adequate consideration in money or money's worth from;

5) sell any securities or other property for less than adequate consideration in money or money's worth to;
or

6) engage in any other transactions which result in substantial diversions of its income or corpus to: any officer, member of the Executive Committee, or substantial contributor to the TAAHP. The prohibitions contained in this subsection (h) do not imply that the TAAHP may make such loans, payments, sales or purchases to anyone else, unless such authority be given or implied by other provisions of the Constitution or Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII. DISTRIBUTION ON DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the organization, the Executive Committee shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the organization exclusively for purposes of the organization in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Executive Committee shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the District or County Court of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such

organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name this _____ day of _____

BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1. MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Applications for membership shall be provided to interested persons by the secretary/treasurer upon request. Completed applications shall be returned to the secretary/treasurer accompanied by the appropriate remittance of dues. The dues shall be \$5.00 per year. The dues shall be payable at the time of application for new members. For renewal of membership, dues shall become payable at the first of each fiscal year. A member whose dues are in arrears for six months shall be placed on an inactive list and notified that their membership will be terminated unless dues are paid within the year.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

The Lifetime Membership category shall be provided for those active members who have retired from health professions advising and from their academic position. These members shall remain on the roll as members in good standing, but will not be assessed dues.

ARTICLE II. COMMITTEES

All committees shall be formed with a committee chairman named by the TAAHP chairman, subject to the approval of the executive committee, and such other members as may be required to function effectively as chosen by the committee chairman from the membership-at- large.