

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
EMERITUS AND RETIRED FACULTY ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. NAME AND LOCATION

Section 1. The name of the Corporation shall be California State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association, Inc. (CSU-ERFA), hereafter referred to as “the Association.” This Association has been formed under the California non-profit public benefit law for the purposes described below.

Section 2. Principal Office. The President, with the approval of the State Council, may locate the principal office and any branch or subordinate offices at any place or places where the Association is qualified to do business.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Association shall be

Section 1. To serve as an advocate of the interests of CSU emeriti and retired faculty in all matters relating to the general welfare of these faculty in the California State University.

Section 2. To assist in establishing the emeriti and retired faculty of California State University as continuing and participating members of the academic community.

Section 3. To provide opportunities for maintaining professional relations with colleagues both within and outside the university system.

Section 4. To assist, as California State University emeriti and retired faculty, the California State University and its respective campuses through continuing support, counsel, and service in the interests of present and future students.

Section 5. To develop avenues of communication among emeritus and retired professors and to gather and disseminate information bearing upon their shared concerns and available resources.

Section 6. To encourage the adoption of enlightened retirement policies and practices throughout the University and to proffer counsel on retirement to the active faculty.

Section 7. To help emeritus and retired faculty continue their scholarly endeavors as contributing members of the University through teaching, research, publications, and consultations, and to seek university support for such endeavors.

Section 8. To examine the public laws and policies that relate to the maintenance of the quality of life of retired faculty and work for and support those laws and policies which protect the quality of life of retired faculty.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP AND DELEGATES FROM AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Section 1. Delegates are defined in the Bylaws.

Section 2. Members. All retired California State University faculty, professional librarians, and academic administrators who are CalPERS annuitants and such others as have been accorded faculty status on individual campuses, or who are members or a campus organization affiliated with CSU-ERFA and who have official recognition as being retired, are eligible for membership in this Association. Members shall have voting rights and be eligible to serve on committees and to enjoy all the rights and privileges of the Association.

Section 3. Associate Members: Associate memberships may be granted to spouses of deceased members. Other individuals may be granted associate membership by a majority vote of the State Council. Associate memberships are non-voting.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Association shall be President, immediate Past President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the Editor of the *Reporter*. The president and vice president shall be from different campuses. The officers shall have such duties and responsibilities as shall be assigned to them in the Bylaws or by actions of the State Council.

ARTICLE V. THE STATE COUNCIL

Section 1. Purpose: The State Council shall be the governing body of this organization.

Section 2. Membership: The State Council shall consist of the officers, Executive Committee members-at-large, delegates from the campus affiliated organizations, State Council delegates-at-large, standing committee chairs, and *ex officio* members of the State Council. Each campus affiliate shall be entitled to select annually one member from among its Association members for each seventy-five (75) Association members or fraction thereof. Delegates shall serve one-year terms and the nine elected State Council delegates-at-large shall serve staggered three-year terms. All terms shall begin on the first day of July.

Section 3. Committees: There shall be an Executive Committee composed of the Officers of the Association, at-large members, and such *ex officio* members as

may be prescribed in the Bylaws. The State Council may establish additional committees as needed and appropriate. Committees shall have such duties and responsibilities as assigned to them in the Bylaws or by the State Council.

Section 4. Meetings: At least two meetings shall be held each year, alternating when fiscally and logistically possible, between the North and the South. Additional meetings shall be held as prescribed by the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI. DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

Dues and assessments are defined in the Association Policy Files.

ARTICLE VII. ESTABLISHMENT OF CAMPUS EMERITUS AND RETIRED FACULTY ASSOCIATION AFFILIATES

CSU campus emeritus and retired employee associations are eligible to become CSU-ERFA affiliates. Requests to become affiliated with CSU-ERFA shall be submitted to the CSU-ERFA president. Approval of the campus affiliate shall be by vote of the State Council.

ARTICLE VIII. BYLAWS

The Bylaws shall be the implementing rules, procedures, and regulations necessary and appropriate for the immediate and detailed functioning of the State Council and to carry out or put into practice the provisions of the Constitution.

ARTICLE IX. ASSOCIATION POLICY FILES

The Association Policy Files shall include the current dues structure, any assessments, percentage of dues rebated to the campus affiliates, and such other policies that have been approved by the State Council that are subject to periodic revisions and do not affect the fundamental structure or operation of the Association.

ARTICLE X. INITIATIVE

Association members may initiate action in the following manner: The State Council shall consider at its next meeting the formal action specified by a written petition presented to the President which bears the signatures of at least thirty (30) members of the Association. If at that meeting, the State Council fails to affirm the action requested by the petitioners, and if the State Council rejects the proposal a second time, and if the petitioners so request, the action shall be submitted to a vote by a secret mail ballot of all Association members to be held within sixty (60) days.

Arguments for and against the proposition shall accompany the ballot. The arguments for the proposition shall be prepared by the petitioners, and the arguments against shall be prepared by the State Council. An affirmative vote shall consist of approval by a majority of votes cast.

ARTICLE XI. REFERENDUM

All formal actions taken by the State Council may be subject to referral to the Association membership in the following manner: Upon presentation to the President of a petition bearing the signatures of at least thirty (30) Association members, the State Council shall, at its next meeting, reconsider its formal action as specified by the petitioners. If the State Council reaffirms its action, that action, at the request of the petitioners, shall be submitted within sixty (60) days to a vote by secret mail ballot to all Association members. Arguments for and against the action shall accompany the ballot. The arguments for the action shall be prepared by the State Council, and the arguments against the action shall be prepared by the petitioners. If a majority of those voting rejects the action of the State Council, that action shall be null and void.

ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS

An amendment to the Constitution may be proposed by the Executive Committee or by a majority vote of the delegates at a meeting of the State Council or by presentation to the President of a petition bearing the signatures of at least thirty (30) Association members. A properly proposed amendment shall be submitted to a vote by secret mail ballot to the Association members within sixty (60) days. Arguments for the amendment shall be prepared by the proposers, and arguments against the amendment, if any, shall be prepared by Association members who are opposed to the amendment. Arguments for and against a proposed amendment shall accompany the ballot. An amendment to the constitution shall require ratification by a majority of votes cast.

ARTICLE XIII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, latest edition, shall be the parliamentary authority for this Association.

ARTICLE XIV. RATIFICATION

This Constitution shall be effective upon the favorable vote of a majority of the Association members voting in a secret mail ballot.

ARTICLE XV. DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

In the event that the membership, by an authorized electoral process, should decide to dissolve the Association, all debts shall be satisfied. All remaining assets of the Association shall be distributed to other education associations designated by the last Executive Committee or by the membership of the Association and which qualify under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Constitution was approved by mail ballot of the membership on August 2, 1996; editorially revised May 10, 1997; further amended by mail ballot January 6, 2009.

Feb. 23, 2009