

Xavier University of Louisiana
National Alumni Association Bylaws

Art. I - Name

The name of this organization shall be the Xavier University of Louisiana Alumni Association hereinafter designated as "National Alumni Association".

Art. II - Objective

To foster and preserve friendly relations among Xavier University of Louisiana (XULA or University) alumni; to use its best endeavors to promote the moral, religious, mental and social well-being of its members; to foster and maintain a keen interest in financial support of XULA pertinent to the maintenance, welfare, and expansion of the University; to encourage interest in the National Alumni Association among undergraduates, and to assist in recruitment activities.

Art. III - Members

Section 1. Membership. All graduates and former students or any individual who has an interest in the University shall be eligible for membership in the Association.

Section 2. Levels of Membership. The membership of the Association shall consist of two levels active and associate.

A. Active Members. Any individual who has graduated from the University in good standing, i.e. all academic and financial matters have been fully resolved and who has made a financial contribution to the university during the calendar year, shall be entitled to full rights and privileges of members, including the right to participate in the governance of the Association by having the right to vote and hold office.

A.1 Recent Graduate - Active Members. Recent graduates may enjoy one year of complimentary membership to the Association during the year following their graduation. Recent Graduate Active Members shall be entitled to full rights and privileges of members, including the right to participate in the governance of the association by having the right to vote.

B. Associate Members. Any individual who has matriculated at the University and has withdrawn in good standing after having completed a semester shall be eligible for associate membership upon graduation of the class in which they were enrolled. Additionally, any individual who has an interest in the University, including spouses and children of alumni, shall be entitled to associate membership. Associate members who have contributed to the University financially during the calendar year shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of members, except to hold office.

C. Lifetime Members. Alumni making a gift of \$1000 or more to the Dr. Norman C. Francis and Blanche Francis Endowed Scholarship Fund will receive lifetime membership status in the XULAAA in addition to an invitation to an exclusive annual reception, special name recognition and priority online registration for select XULAAA events.

Art. IV – Officers

Section 1. Elected Officers. The elective officers of the National Alumni Association shall consist of a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and a Parliamentarian. The elected officers shall be known as the Executive Board.

Section 2. Appointed Officers. The President of the National Alumni Association shall appoint two members-at-large whose duties and powers shall be such as those prescribed in the bylaws or specifically delegated to them from time to time by the Board of Governors.

Section 3. Term of Officers. Officers shall be elected for a term of two (2) years, in the manner provided for in the bylaws. The President of the National Alumni Association shall be limited to two consecutive terms.

Section 4. Required Meetings. The Board of Governors shall meet at least two times a year. Each elected officer must attend at least one (1) Board of Governors Meeting in-person each year. Failure to attend at least 1 of 2 meetings will result in removal from the Executive Board.

Section 5. Vacancies. Should the office of President become vacant, the First Vice-President shall succeed to the presidency and shall serve the unexpired portion of the term of the President. In the case of a vacancy in any other office, the remaining members of the Board of Governors shall by majority vote elect the successor to hold office for the remainder of the term.

Section 6. Duties of the President. The President shall preside at the meetings of the National Alumni Association, shall be chairperson of the Board of Governors and be an ex-officio member of all committees. The President shall countersign all contracts to which the Association is a party after having been authorized by the Board of Governors to do so. Normally the President does not vote, however in case of a tie vote, the President or, in the President's absence, the presiding officer, shall have the deciding vote. The President shall call a special meeting of the Board of Governors at any time, at the request of any four (4) of its members. The President shall serve as Liaison to the University and work directly with the Director of the Office of Alumni Relations. In the event of a vacancy for the position of University President, the President shall serve as the National Alumni Association designee on the search committee. The President shall serve on the Xavier University of Louisiana Board of Trustees and shall be present at all convenings.

Section 7. Duties of the First Vice-President. In the absence of the President, the First Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President. The First Vice-President shall chair the Resource and Development Committee.

Section 8. Duties of the Second Vice-President. The Second Vice-President serves as liaison for the National Alumni Association to the Pre-Alumni Council and all other outside organizations. The Second Vice-President shall also facilitate the expansion of local chapters and serve as a liaison between local chapters and the association.

Section 9. Duties of the Recording Secretary. The Recording Secretary shall record and keep the minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Governors meetings, shall ensure that the minutes are timely posted on the alumni website and serve on the bylaws committee.

Section 10. Duties of the Corresponding Secretary.

A. The Corresponding Secretary shall attend to the correspondence of the National Alumni Association and report all communications received and distribute all minutes. The Corresponding Secretary shall provide at least 60 days' notice of all Board of Governors meetings. The minutes shall be produced for adoption within 14 days of all Board of Governors meetings.

B. The Corresponding Secretary shall create a list of all chapter contact information, including the list of the presidents of the chapters, and distribute it to the Board of Governors, Office of Alumni Relations, Chapters, and Affinity Groups. The Corresponding Secretary shall coordinate with the Office of Alumni Relations to create and distribute a list of the Association's committee chairs and members, and all other appointments as necessary.

C. The Corresponding Secretary will also alert the general membership of upcoming elections.

Section 11. Duties of the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall keep an account of all receipts and expenditures of the National Alumni Association; receive Association funds, and give receipts for all monies received. The Treasurer shall pay out money only upon approval of bills authorized by the Board of Governors. The Treasurer shall deposit all funds in the name of the Xavier University of Louisiana National Alumni Association, without delay, in such bank or banks as the Board of Governors may direct and shall keep an accurate account of all monies received and disbursed. A Treasurer's Report, reflecting all financial activities of the Association, shall be presented at each Board of Governors Meeting.

Section 12. Duties of the Parliamentarian. The Parliamentarian shall advise the president, officers, committees, and members on matters of parliamentary procedure. The parliamentarian shall be present at every Board of Governors meeting and available for consultation as needed (virtual presence at one meeting is sufficient). The Parliamentarian shall have a demonstrable understanding parliamentary procedure.

Section 13 Duties of Members at Large. The two members-at-large appointed by the President shall perform special assignments prescribed by the President with the approval of the Executive Board.

Section 14. Executive Board. The Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers of the National Alumni Association.

A. The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the National Alumni Association between its regularly scheduled meetings. They shall be subject to the orders of the Association and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the Association.

B. The Executive Board shall meet at the request of any member.

Section 3. Notice of Meetings. The Corresponding Secretary, in conjunction with the Office of Alumni Relations, shall give sixty (60) days' notice of such meetings.

Art. IV – Alumni Chapters and Affinity Groups

Section 1. Chapters. Any group of at least ten alumni may petition the Board of Governors, through the Second Vice President and the Office of Alumni Relations for a Chapter Charter, based upon one or more of the following criteria:

- (1) Residency in a geographical area not represented by a Xavier Alumni Chapter, state or local;
- (2) Academic Degrees; or
- (3) Affinity.

Section 2. Charters. Upon the approval of the petition by the Board of Governors and upon acceptance of the charter, it shall be considered active. All alumni chapters now active shall be considered as chartered and shall be called: Xavier University Alumni Association- (name of city or region) Chapter. All affinity groups must seek charter by petition of and approval of such by the Board of Governors. Affinity groups shall be called: Organizational/Affinity Name Xavier University of Louisiana Chapter (i.e. National Association of Social Workers Xavier University of Louisiana Chapter).

Section 3. Revocation. The Board of Governors may revoke the charter of any alumni chapter or affinity group for actions inconsistent with the objectives of the National Alumni Association or the University.

Section 4. Permission. No alumni or affinity group in any community may use the name of the Association or the University without permission of the Board of Governors. No chapter constitution or bylaws shall conflict with any provision of the Xavier University of Louisiana National Alumni Association Bylaws.

Section 5. Annual Report. The Annual Report of the activities of alumni chapters and affinity groups as described in the Alumni Chapter Manual shall be due one month prior to the November meeting of the Board of Governors.

Section 6. Chapter and Affinity Group Dues. All alumni chapters and affinity groups shall pay yearly dues to the Association in an amount determined by the Board of Governors annually. Chapter and affinity groups must pay annual dues for the following calendar year at the November Board of Governors meeting.

Art. V - Meetings

Section 1. Meetings of the General Membership. The meeting of the general membership shall be scheduled during Homecoming and Spring Graduation weeks (traditionally in November and May).

Section 2. Special Meetings. Additional meetings of the general membership shall be held at the request of the President of the Association, the Board of Governors, the Executive Committee, or upon petition to the President by 20 active members.

Section 3. Notice of Meetings. The Corresponding Secretary, in conjunction with the Office of Alumni Relations, shall give sixty (60) days' notice of such meetings.

Art. VI - Board of Governors

Section 1. Board of Governors. The direction and administration of the National Alumni Association shall be vested in a Board of Governors.

Section 2. Composition. The Board of Governors shall consist of the officers of the National Alumni Association, past presidents of the Association, each alumni chapter's president or their designee, each affinity group's president or their designee, and the Director of the Office of Alumni Relations. Each member of the Board of Governors is entitled to one vote. However, only chapter presidents or their designee whose chapter is financially active may cast a vote. The President of the University shall be an ex-officio member of the Board of Governors.

Section 3. Quorum. Eleven (11) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a Board of Governors meeting.

Section 4. Order of Business. The following agenda items shall be discussed at meetings of the General Membership of the National Alumni Association, the Board of Governors and the Executive Committee:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Reading of Minutes of previous meeting
- IV. Approval of Minutes
- V. Reports
 - A. Correspondence Secretary
 - B. Treasurer
 - C. Committee Reports
 - D. Alumni Chapter Reports
 - E. Affinity Group Reports
- VI. Unfinished Business
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Adjournment

Section 4.1. Parliamentary Authority. The rules contained in the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the National Alumni Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.

Section 4.2. Parliamentarian. The National Alumni Association Parliamentarian shall be present at each Board of Governors Meeting and shall advise the president, officers, committees, and members on matters of parliamentary procedure. The parliamentarian shall be available for consultation as needed.

Section 5. Budget. During the May Xavier University of Louisiana Alumni Association Board of Governors meeting, the President shall present a proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year to be approved by the Board of Governors and the University. The budget should reflect the goals of the Association.

Art. VII – Elections

Section 1. Election Committee. The role of the Election Committee shall be to manage all aspects of the election and to coordinate the process in conjunction with the Office of Alumni Relations. The Director of the Office of Alumni Relations shall be an ex-officio member of the committee. A committee of five (5) members appointed by the President shall nominate at least two (2) candidates for each of the offices to be filled. Members of the Election Committee shall not be eligible to be candidates for office. The Election Committee shall be appointed at least six (6) months before the installation of officers.

Section 2. Eligibility for Office. Any active member of the National Alumni Association who made a financial contribution to the University during the calendar year preceding the election shall be eligible to run for office in the Xavier University of Louisiana Alumni Association.

Any active member who wishes to hold office shall demonstrate:

- A commitment to Xavier University with a record of Xavier volunteer service, and
- Evidence of leadership.

Be willing to attend at least one Board of Governors Meeting in person annually.

Section 2.1 Eligibility for Office of the President. In order to qualify for Office of the President, the individual must:

- Demonstrate a commitment to Xavier through volunteer service on behalf of Xavier and have contributed financially to Xavier during the prior year, and

- Served on the National Alumni Association Executive Board or;
- Chaired a National Alumni Association Committee or;
- Served as a Chapter or Affinity Group Officer or;

- Chaired a University Sponsored Advisory Committee.

And meet the qualifications above for elected officers.

Section 3. Nominations. Within three (3) months following their appointment, the Election Committee shall finalize a list of nominees for the offices of the Association. The list shall be presented to the Director of the Office of Alumni Relations to determine eligibility to be nominated. After eligibility to be nominated has been validated, the Election Committee shall proceed to publish and circulate a ballot.

Section 4. Eligibility to Vote. Any alumni who made a financial contribution to the University during the calendar year preceding the election shall be eligible to vote.

Section 5. Balloting and Counting.

A. Elections by paper balloting or by electronic balloting shall be allowed. The process must provide for reasonable access to all eligible voters and for the confidentiality and security of such voting process.

B. The Nominations and Elections committee in conjunction with the Office of Alumni Relations shall devise a process for the election of officers in accordance with the following:

Voting Timeline

3 rd Friday of July	Call for Nominations.
2 nd Friday of August	Deadline for Nominations to reach Office of Alumni Affairs.
4 th Friday of August	Biographical information forms sent to nominees.
2 nd Friday of September	Biographies due to Office of Alumni Affairs.
4 th Friday of September	Ballots mailed, electronic (on-line) voting opens.

3rd Friday of October

Deadline to receive ballots* and online voting ends.

*Ballots must be post-marked by 3rd Friday of October and received in the Office of Alumni Relations no later than the following Thursday.

Homecoming Mass

Newly elected officers shall be installed

January 1st, next year

Newly elected officers take office

Section 6. Voting irregularity. A candidate who wishes to report an alleged violation of the Election Code may do so by filing a written account of the alleged violation with the National Alumni Association Nominations and Elections Committee within forty-two (42) hours of the alleged violation. If the violation is not filed with the Nominations and Elections Committee within this time, the allegation will be considered invalid and will not be recognized by the Committee.

Section 7. Tie vote. If there is a tie vote, the winner will be selected by a vote of the Xavier University of Louisiana Alumni Association Executive Board.

Section 8. When a candidate fails to obtain a simple majority of the votes. If no candidate receives a majority of votes, the winner will be decided by the Plurality system.

Section 9. Installation of Officers. The newly elected officers shall be installed at the closing of Mass during Homecoming Week. Then the transition with the old officers will be conducted during December, they will take office in January.

Art. VIII - Amendments to Bylaws

Section 1. Amendments. Proposed amendments may be submitted by the National Alumni Association Board of Governors or by the membership of the Alumni Chapters to the Office of Alumni Relations and the Bylaws Committee for review and action sixty (60) days prior to the May or November Meeting. Comments and/or suggestions from the body must be submitted at least thirty (30) days prior to the Board of Governors meeting.

Section 2. Vote on Amendments. These bylaws may be amended by 2/3 vote of the members present at the May or November Meeting of the Xavier University of Louisiana Alumni Association Board of Governors meeting.

Art. IX - Registered Agent

Section 1. Registered Agent. The full name and post office address of the Association's registered agent shall be:

Director of the Office of Alumni Relations

Xavier University of Louisiana

1 Drexel Drive, Campus P.O. Box 66A

New Orleans, LA 70125