

**CONSTITUTION
OF
SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY ASSOCIATION**

PREAMBLE

We, the regular professional faculty of Saginaw Valley State University, believing that the professional faculty must institute its own self-government, recognition for itself, and assume responsibility for the professional well-being of its members, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

I. NAME

The name of the organization (a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of Michigan) shall be the Saginaw Valley State University Faculty Association, MAHE-MEA-NEA, a local affiliated unit of the Michigan and National Education Association.

II. PURPOSES

Sec. 1. To work for the welfare of college and university students, the advancement of higher education, and the improvement of educational opportunities for all.

Sec. 2. To develop and promote the adoption of such ethical practices, personal policies, and standards of preparation and participation as mark a professional person.

Sec. 3. To unify and strengthen the teaching and scholarly profession and to secure and maintain the salaries, retirement, tenure, professional and sick leave, and other considerations necessary to support teaching and scholarship as professions, and to assure fully and meaningfully the principles of academic freedom.

Sec. 4. To enable members to speak with a common voice in matters of University policy pertaining to the teaching and scholarly professions and to present their common interests before the Board of Control and other legal authorities as provided by law.

Sec. 5. To support and strengthen relevant consultative and participatory aspects in the governance of Saginaw Valley State University and the University community.

Sec. 6. To cooperate with student and alumni associations and other civic bodies having educational objectives and to aid in interpreting to the public the problems, functions, and progress of Saginaw Valley State University as an institution of higher education and learning.

Sec. 7. To encourage faculty to exercise their rights and privileges as citizens, and to accept willingly leadership in civil affairs.

III. MEMBERSHIP

Sec. 1. Eligible members may include:

- a. regular, full-time, full-salaried, (8, 10, or 12 months) and reduced-load, prorated salaried Saginaw Valley State University faculty who hold faculty rank;
- b. regular, full-time, full-salaried (8, 10, or 12 months) and reduced-load, prorated salaried faculty serving as department chairs;
- c. Regular adjunct faculty who hold faculty rank carrying at least two-thirds teaching load (including one-semester full-time temporary appointments)
- d. Full-time lecturers, non-tenure track but renewable appointments;

Sec. 2. Members in good standing are eligible members who have signed a continuing Michigan Education Association membership application and are timely in dues payment being not more than 60 days in arrears.

Sec. 3. Members in good standing shall be members of the Michigan Education Association, the Michigan Association for Higher Education, and the National Education Association and may elect and/or hold office at any level of the FA, MEA, NEA, including delegates; attend, participate, and vote at any Association meeting; serve on commissions or committees of the Association; receive the full range of legal services offered through MEA Legal Services Program.

Sec. 4. Membership and fiscal years shall be September 1 through August 31.

IV. OFFICERS AND BOARDS

Changes in this section of the by-laws shall be effective beginning March 1, 2013.

Sec. 1. Composition. The officers of the organization shall consist of a President (serving as RA delegate *ex officio*), a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. Other board members shall include twelve at-large members, one Representative Assembly (RA) delegate, two Michigan Association of Higher Education (MAHE) delegates, and the immediate Past President.

Terms of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be two years, with President and Secretary elected in one year, Vice President and Treasurer in the next. Terms of the RA and MAHE delegates shall be two years. Election of the RA delegate shall be held in the alternate year of the President being elected. MAHE delegates shall be appointed for two year terms, in alternate years, by the Faculty Association President, with approval of the Faculty Association Executive Board. Remaining at-large members of the Association Executive Board shall be elected as follows: four members to serve three-year terms; four members to serve a two-year term; and two members to serve one-year terms. Two one-year at-large members will be appointed by the Faculty Association President, with approval of the Faculty Association Executive Board. Terms for three-year and two-year at large members shall be staggered.

Sec. 2. Governing Body. There shall be a governing body known as the Executive Board which shall consist of the officers and at-large representatives of the Association (including RA and MAHE representatives), and the immediate past President.

Sec. 3. Replacement. Any member of the Executive Board who is absent without reasonable

cause from three consecutive meetings of the Board shall no longer be considered a member of the Executive Board, and the position shall be filled according to procedures provided in the Standing Rules.

Sec. 54. Faculty Association (FA) Floor Representatives. There shall be a body of Faculty Association Floor Representatives (as set down in the Standing Rules) to be approved by the Faculty Association Executive Board.

V. PROFESSIONAL NEGOTIATIONS

Sec. 1. All negotiations with the Board of Control on matters of salary and conditions of professional practices shall be in compliance with Michigan Public Acts 282 and 379 (1965) and any subsequent acts, Labor Mediation Board rulings, and court decisions. No administrator and/or supervisory personnel, and only members of the Association in good standing, shall be involved with the establishment of goals, deliberations, or negotiations of faculty comprising the bargaining unit.

VI. INITIATIVE AND RECALL

The rights of popular initiative and recall shall rest with the active membership of the Association. Upon receipt of a petition signed by fifteen per cent of the active membership of the Association, the Secretary shall announce a general meeting within fifteen calendar days for the purposes presented in the petition. A majority of the total active membership shall be required for its adoption, which shall take effect thirty days later.

VII. AMENDMENT

Sec. 1. Amendments to this constitution may be introduced at any regular meeting of the Executive Board, and shall be acted upon at a subsequent meeting of the membership but not later than two subsequent regular meetings. A copy of the proposed amendment together with the recommendations of the Executive Board, shall be sent to each member of the Association. A two-thirds affirmative vote is required to adopt the proposed amendment which shall become effective immediately upon adoption unless otherwise provided.