

# **Constitution of the Foreign Language Association of Virginia 2020**

## **Article I: Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Foreign Language Association of Virginia (FLAVA).

## **Article II: Purposes**

FLAVA is a nonprofit educational organization. The purposes of this organization are:

1. To promote and enhance the study, teaching and learning, use, and appreciation of world languages, cultures, and literatures.
2. To encourage among members the exchange of ideas and practices which support world languages in their schools and communities.
3. To recognize and publicize excellence in world language teaching and learning.
4. To promote participation in national, regional, and state language associations.

## **Article III: Membership**

### **Section A:**

There shall be two classifications of membership in FLAVA:

1. **Professional Membership:** All persons interested in world language education in Virginia may become Professional Members, with all rights and privileges of membership in FLAVA including the right to vote and to hold office. There shall be three categories of Professional Members:
  - a. **Life:** Members in this category pay a one-time fee.
  - b. **Individual:** Members in this category pay annual dues.
  - c. **Student:** Members in this category are full-time students with proof of current enrollment and who do not have full-time teaching positions. They pay annual dues at a reduced rate.
2. **Honorary and Emeritus Memberships:** Honorary or Emeritus membership in FLAVA may be conferred by the President, with the approval of the Executive Board, on individuals who have distinguished themselves by their contributions to world language education. Honorary and Emeritus Members enjoy all the rights of membership in FLAVA.

### **Section B:**

1. **Membership dues shall be:**
  - a. Recommended by the Executive Board.
  - b. Voted on by a majority of members present at a Business Meeting.

2. Payment of annual dues shall entitle a member to:
  - a. Vote
  - b. Hold office
  - c. Access all other privileges of membership

#### **Article IV: Executive Board**

The Executive Board consists of the: President, President-elect, Immediate Past President, Conference Coordinator, Communications Coordinator, and Treasurer. Election or appointment to the Executive Board and acceptance of that office confer upon the officer serious duties and obligations. Details of the Executive Board positions are described in the Bylaws.

#### **Article V: Advisory Council**

The Advisory Council is comprised of:

1. Representatives of Affiliates
- 2 Appointed Positions
- 3 Chairs of Standing Committees
4. Chairs of Ad Hoc Committees

#### **Article VI: Elections**

##### Section A: Nominations

The slate of nominees shall be President-elect and Communications Coordinator.

1. The Nominating Committee shall obtain the consent of the candidates before placing their names on the slate.
2. The Nominating Committee shall present the slate in writing to the membership via an e-mail and shall post the slate with biographical information on the FLAVA website thirty days prior to the Annual Conference.

##### Section B: Voting

1. Elections shall be held every two years with results announced during the Annual Conference.
2. Members shall be eligible to vote.
3. A plurality of the votes cast shall constitute election.

#### **Article VII: Emergency Powers of the Executive Board**

Any issue of FLAVA business may be declared an emergency issue by a plurality of the Executive Board. Once an issue has been declared to require action on an emergency basis, the Board's resolution of that issue shall be considered to be binding and official FLAVA policy until the issue can be brought before the membership, which reserves, through majority vote, the right to uphold or modify any such decisions.

## **Article VIII: Resignations or Removal from Office from the Executive Board or Advisory Council**

1. Any Executive Board or Advisory Council member wishing to resign must notify the President in writing. The President in consultation with the Executive Board will appoint a replacement to fulfill the term.
2. Under special circumstances, the President in consultation with the Executive Board may remove an Executive Board or Advisory Council member, and appoint an alternate.

## **Article IX: Meetings of the Organization**

### **Section A: Annual Conference**

The Annual Conference of FLAVA shall be a primary means of fulfilling the purposes of FLAVA and conducting the Association's business.

1. The Executive Board shall choose the time and place for the Annual Conference.
2. Notice of the time and place of the Annual Conference shall be posted on the website.
3. A Business Meeting of the membership shall be held during the Conference.
4. The Minutes of the Business Meeting shall be posted on the website.

### **Section B: Advisory Council Meetings**

The President shall call a minimum of two regular meetings of the Advisory Council each year. Members shall receive written notification of the regular meetings at least thirty (30) days in advance.

## **Article X: Amendments**

This constitution may be amended at any business meeting by a two thirds majority of the members voting, provided that written notice of each proposed amendment is given to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to such business meeting.

Approved at the Fall Conference, 2020