

THE CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
WESLEYAN BLACK ALUMNI COUNCIL

Article I GENERAL PURPOSE

The purpose of the Wesleyan Black Alumni Council (W.B.A.C.) is to increase the participation of Black Alumni in all aspects of the affairs of Wesleyan University that have an impact on Black people.

Article II MEMBERSHIP

Section One: Members

All Black alumni of Wesleyan University, who so desire and who are current in their dues, are members of the W.B.A.C.

Section Two: Voting Rights of Members

Each member shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members at the annual regular meeting of the membership.

Section Three: General Membership Meetings

General membership meetings shall be held once every year during the annual Black Alumni Meeting.

Article III OFFICERS

Section One: Officers

The officers of the W.B.A.C. shall be a president, a first vice-chair, a second vice-chair, a secretary and a treasurer.

Section Two: Term of Office

All officers shall serve a two-year term of office.

Section Three: Election of Officers

Elections for each of the four offices shall be held once every two years at the general meeting of members on Black Alumni Weekend. Nominations must be in writing and addressed to the Secretary of the W.B.A.C. Nominations shall be open until 60 days before the elections. No member may accept a nomination for more than one office. One ballot shall be mailed to each member not less than 30 days before elections are held.

Absentee ballots must be addressed to the Center for Afro-American Studies, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT 06459, and will only be recorded if received prior to the election. No additional ballots will be available at any time.

## Article IV DUTIES OF OFFICERS

### Section One: General Duty

All officers shall carry out their duties in conformity with the wishes of the majority of the Core Committee.

### Section Two: The President

The President shall chair the Core Committee meetings; set the agenda for Core Committee meetings; and act as official spokesperson of the W.B.A.C. Upon the resignation of any officer or chairperson, the President shall appoint a replacement only for the remainder of the unexpired term. This appointment shall not be effective unless approved by a majority of the Core Committee meeting at a properly constituted Core Committee meeting. The President shall have the power to remove a Subcommittee Chairperson upon majority vote of the Core Committee at a proper constituted Core Committee meeting. The resolution of a tied vote of the Core Committee shall be determined by the President.

### Section Three: Vice President

The Vice President shall assist the President in the performance of his/her duties. In the absence of the President or if the President is removed or resigns, the Vice President shall assume the full responsibilities of the President for the duration of his/her absence; or in the case of removal or resignation, for the remainder of the President's term of office.

### Section Four: Treasurer

The Treasurer shall order and maintain the financial accounts of the W.B.A.C. The Treasurer shall report to the Core Committee at Core Committee meetings on the status and condition of the financial accounts of the W.B.A.C. and shall file an annual report, to be deposited with the Secretary on the status and condition of the financial accounts. This report shall be the basis of an oral report made to members at the annual general

membership meeting and a written report shall be available to any of the members who so request. The treasurer must be bonded.

Section Five: Secretary

The Secretary shall prepare and maintain the minutes of all Core Committee and annual council meetings of the W.B.A.C. The Secretary shall run the election of officers, held once every two years. These duties shall include the sending of notice of the final date for nomination of candidates for office at least 60 days before nominations are closed; securing the acceptance of all those nominated as candidates for office; and mailing one ballot to each member with a final list of nominees no later than 30 days before the election is held.

Article V THE CORE COMMITTEE  
(LEACERSHIP BOARD AND CORE COMMITTEE)

The President, at his/her own discretion, may select ten or more persons who are either alumni, or otherwise connected to Wesleyan University, to serve as members of an Advisory Board with terms to run concurrent with the appointing officers. The function of said Board shall be to render counsel and advice to the President and the Core Committee. The President may convene a meeting of the Advisory Board. However, said Board will not have authority to initiate and approve policies.

Section One: Membership

The Core Committee shall consist of the five officers of the W.B.A.C. and the chair of each of the sub-committees.

Section Two: General Duties

The Core Committee shall act as an overseer of the sub-committees and make all policy decisions of the W.B.A.C. Chairpersons of each sub-committee shall be appointed by the Core Committee.

Section Three: Meetings

The Core Committee shall meet no less than once every three months. All meetings are open to members of the W.B.A.C. who wish to attend.

Section Four: Quorum

A majority of the Core Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Core Committee; but if less than a quorum is present at said meeting, a majority of Core Committee members present may adjourn the meeting without further notice or may vote to proceed with the option that all actions taken be ratified by absent members.

Section Five: Dues

The Core Committee shall determine the amount of dues necessary for membership in the W.B.A.C.

Article VI REMOVAL OF CORE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Section One: Removal of Officers

Officers may be removed for a cause by a unanimous vote of all officers not so charged and a majority of the members of the Core Committee present at a properly constituted Core Committee meeting.

Section Two: Special Notice

No Core Committee member may be removed unless said member is given written notice of the motion for removal at least seven days prior to the Core Committee meeting where the motion for his/her removal is voted on. At said meeting said Core Committee member must also be given an opportunity to be heard.

Article VII CONTRACTS, CHECKS,  
DEPOSITS AND FUNDS

Section One: Contracts

The Core Committee may authorize The President to enter into any contract in the name of and on behalf of the W.B.A.C., and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

Section Two: Checks, Drafts, or Orders for Payment

All checks, drafts or orders for payment of money, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the W.B.A.C. shall be signed by the Treasurer and countersigned by the President of the W.B.A.C.

### Section Three: Deposits

All funds of the W.B.A.C. shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the W.B.A.C. in whichever banks, trust companies, or other depositories the Core Committee selects.

### Section Four: Gifts

The Core Committee may accept on behalf of the W.B.A.C. any contribution, gift, bequest, or devise for the general purposes, or for any special purpose, of the W.B.A.C.

## Article VIII SUB-COMMITTEES

### Section One: Student Recruitment

The purpose of this sub-committee shall be to increase Black Alumni involvement in the recruitment, admission, and matriculation of Black students to Wesleyan University. The sub-committee shall be a liaison for the W.B.A.C. to Ujamaa and the Center for Afro-American Studies (C.A.A.S.) regarding student recruitment. Specific duties and goals shall be drawn up by the Core Committee.

### Section Two: Black Student Scholarship and Black Alumni Fundraising

The purpose of this sub-committee shall be to coordinate Black Alumni fundraising drives and to identify scholarships available to the Black college students of Wesleyan University. Specific duties and goals shall be drawn up by the Core Committee.

### Section Three: Career Development

Keeping in mind the vast range of career options, the purpose of this sub-committee shall be to provide informational panels and counseling sessions to the Black students and Black alumni of Wesleyan University. Specific duties and goals shall be drawn up by the Core Committee.

### Section Four: W.B.A.C. and Trustee Elections Committee

The purpose of this committee shall be to review all W.B.A.C. elections procedures and assist the secretary in his/her management of the election process. This committee shall also organize strategic planning for any future

W.B.A.C. candidates for the Board of Trustees of Wesleyan University. Specific duties and goals shall be drawn up by the Core Committee.

Section Five: Faculty Hiring and Tenure

The Purpose of this sub-committee shall be to act as liaison for the W.B.A.C. to Ujamaa and C.A.A.S. regarding faculty hiring and recruitment. Specific duties and goals shall be drawn up by the Core Committee.

Section Six: Black Alumni Weekend Planning Sub-Committee

This sub-committee shall solicit ideas from the Membership, Ujamaa and C.A.A.S. and devise a program for the annual Black Alumni weekend at Wesleyan University. Specific duties and goals shall be drawn up by the Core Committee.

Section Seven: Communications

The purpose of this sub-committee shall be to devise and circulate an up-to-date Black Alumni Directory and Newsletter. Specific duties and goals shall be drawn up by the Core Committee.

Section Eight: Addendum

As specific duties and goals of the committees become more defined, they shall be appended to this Constitution in an addendum to provide guidance for future Core Committees and sub-committees.

Article IX AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two thirds majority of those present at an annual meeting of the general membership.