



CONSTITUTION OF THE CONSORTIUM FOR RESEARCH IN TEACHER EDUCATION

Approved by Executive Committee: August 15, 2008

Article I. Name of Organization: Consortium for Research on Teacher Education

Article II. Statement of Purpose:

The Consortium for Research in Teacher Education is an interdisciplinary graduate student organization which promotes rigorous quality research on the education of teachers in a variety of contexts. The consortium fosters collaboration among its members as well as external partnerships that support and influence teacher education. The organization values membership from all departments and fields of study.

Goals:

- To establish mentorship between members and others for development and professional growth in graduate studies and education research.
- To foster collaboration between mentors and others to advocate for issues in teacher education.
- To contribute to the field of teacher education research by promoting quality research studies in teacher education and publishing a peer reviewed journal.
- To provide reservoir of information and resources related to research in teacher education.
- To develop an intercollegiate network of teacher education researchers.

Article III. Membership:

Section 1. Membership shall be open to students enrolled in the Graduate School at The University of Texas at Austin regardless of race, national origin, creed or political affiliation, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, or veteran's status.

Section 2. Membership is limited to students enrolled in the Graduate School at The University of Texas at Austin in any department or field of study, and expresses an interest in teacher education.

Section 3. Members are expected to pay annual dues and any applicable fees.

Article IV.Officers:

Section 1. Elected Officers:

President: The President of the Consortium is the public representative of the organization and is responsible for guiding its growth and development. Additionally, the President works with committee chairs to increase membership, maintain high standards of scholarship, and promote the organization and its accomplishments on campus, as well as among other professional organizations. The President sits as the Chair of the Executive Committee.

Vice-President: The Vice-President assists the President, serves as a member of the Executive Committee, and sits as Chair of the Program Committee.

Secretary: The Secretary of the Consortium is responsible for the records of the organization and preparing external communications. The Secretary serves as a member of the Executive Committee.

Treasurer: The Treasurer is responsible for the financial transactions of the Consortium and sits as a member of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer also serves as Chair of the Development Committee to promote long term financial health of the organization.

Section 2. Titles of appointed officers

Communications Director
Membership Chair
Academic Partnerships
Journal Editor

Section 3. Recall of officers

In the event of Executive Committee member misconduct or dereliction of duties, the Executive Committee will investigate and take action as needed.

Article V. Executive Board:

Section 1. Voting members (i.e., elected and appointed officers)

The Executive Committee will be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chair, External Partnerships Chair, Communications Director, and the Journal Editor. All members of the Executive Committee are voting members.

Section 2. Ex-officio members

The faculty advisor is an Ex-officio member of the Executive Board with voting power.

Article VI. Meetings:

Section 1. Regular meetings

General meetings will be held at least twice a year (once per long semester). Induction for new members will take place in October and February.

Section 2. Special meetings (indicate who has authority to call)

Any member of the Executive Committee may call for a general meeting with a minimum of a seven day notice.

Article VII. Method to Amend the Constitution:

A plurality vote at a general meeting is required to amend the constitution.

Article VIII. Dissolution Clause:

Section 1. In the event that an elected officer becomes incapacitated, resigns, or is removed from office, the Executive Committee may enact procedures outlined in the by-laws appropriate to the situation.

Section 2. In the event of a dissolution of the Consortium for Research in Teacher Education, all remaining funds will be directed to the advisor for distribution to multidisciplinary teacher education efforts.

BYLAWS OF THE CONSORTIUM FOR RESEARCH IN TEACHER EDUCATION

Approved by Executive Committee on: August 16, 2007

Bylaw I. Membership:

Section 1. Type of members (i.e., active and inactive)

A. An active member is a person who is currently enrolled at the University of Texas at Austin graduate school in any department of field and has paid membership dues.

B. An inactive member is a person who has either not paid membership dues, is not currently enrolled in the graduate program at the University of Texas at Austin, or is on a leave of absence from the University of Texas at Austin.

Section 2. Provision for expulsion of members

A. Any member who has grossly violated the policies and procedures for conduct established by the University of Texas at Austin or any public law while engaged in a function sponsored by the Consortium for Research in Teacher Education or while serving as a representative of the Consortium for Research in Teacher Education may be expelled immediately.

B. Any member who disrupts the normal proceedings of the Consortium or prevents others from participating fully in the events and functions of the Consortium may be expelled.

C. The executive committee may determine whether or not to expel a person from the organization.

Bylaw II. New Membership:

A. The Consortium will host induction for new members in October and February during the regular academic year.

B. A Membership Committee will review membership status and coordinate all recruitment efforts of this organization.

Bylaw III. Dues: Statement of whether or not dues are collected and amount of dues

A. Dues of \$10 will be collected at the beginning of each academic year for standing members.

B. Dues of \$10 will be collected upon application for membership with renewal of dues at the beginning of each academic year.

Bylaw IV. Officers:

Section 1. Powers and duties of elected officers

A. President--Powers and duties include:

1. Preside over Consortium and Executive Committee meetings
2. Set the agenda for general membership and Executive Committee meetings
3. Organize elections of new officers on an annual basis
4. Prepare annual report for membership with Executive Committee
5. Appoint ad hoc committees as needed

B. Vice-President--Powers and duties include:

1. Preside in the absence of the president
2. Serve as chair of the program committee
3. Prepare an annual report for membership with the Executive Committee
4. Assist the president as needed

C. Secretary--Powers and duties include:

1. Maintain general membership and Executive Committee minutes and attendance records
2. Distribute meeting agendas
3. Prepare the Consortium's external communications
4. Prepare an annual report for membership with the Executive Committee

D. Treasurer--Powers and duties include:

1. Maintain accurate financial records for the Consortium
2. Prepare an annual budget
3. Chair the Development Committee to raise funds
4. Prepare an annual report for membership with the Executive Committee
5. Collect dues and fees as determined by the Executive Committee

Section 2. Powers and duties of appointed officers

Communications director: Chair, Communication Committee

Membership Chair: Chair Membership Committee

External Partnerships: Chair of External Partnerships Committee

Journal Editor: Chair of Journal Committee

Section 3. Filling vacancies

A. For regular position vacancies occurring at the end of a school year, the executive committee will hold a general election.

B. For unexpected vacancies, the executive committee may appoint an interim position until an election has been set.

Bylaw V. Committees:

Section 1. Standing committees and duties

A. Executive Committee

1. Determine appropriate dues and fees for the organization
2. Call general assembly meetings.
3. Review and oversee the direction and goals of the Consortium

B. Membership/Recruitment

1. Monitor membership applications, dues, and renewals
2. Report on status of membership in the organization
3. Maintain accurate and up-to-date records on all members with secretary, including contact information, academic status (enrolled), and participation of various members
4. Establish a website and other means of recruiting members
5. Sponsor and coordinate annual/semi-annual membership drives
6. Propose recruitment policies, such as membership dues and recruitment strategies.

C. Program Committee

1. Chaired by the Vice President
2. Generate activities, functions, and events for the Consortium
3. Obtains approval from Executive Committee prior to coordinating activities, functions, and events.

D. External Partnership/Alumni

1. Identify potential external partners
2. Determine a plan for partnership between CRTE and external resources
3. Obtain approval from Executive Committee prior to making formal contact with external partners
4. Appoint a liaison between the external partner and the CRTE to foster successful partnership
5. Initiate, coordinate, or suggest related projects that include the involvement of CRTE members

E. Development Committee

1. Chaired by Treasurer
2. Work with recruitment/Membership Committee to set membership dues
3. Propose an annual budget
4. Oversee accounts receivable and expenditures
5. Determine ways to increase financial sustainability (fund raisers, donations, grants, etc)

F. Journal Committee

1. Publish a journal for its members
2. Ensure appropriate distribution of journal

G. Communications Committee

1. Chaired by the Communications Director
2. Support communication and information distribution via web

Section 2. Special committees (appointment and approval)

A. The president may appoint ad hoc committees and their committee chairpersons as needed.

B. The Executive Committee may approve the appointments of the president.

Bylaw VI. Elections: Should include sections that cover the following: time of elections, votes necessary to be elected, qualifications of voters, method of balloting (secret or open).

A. All positions are held for a term of one academic year.

B. Elections for the up-coming year must be done no later than April 25th.

C. The president-elect must have been a member of the Executive Committee prior to serving as president.

D. Elections will take place via on-line voting.

Bylaw VII. Quorum: The fraction or percentage of members that are to constitute a quorum

A. A quorum of 20% of the registered members must be met to have a general assembly.

B. A quorum of at least four members of the Executive Committee with either the President or Vice-President in attendance in order to have an Executive Committee Meeting.

Bylaw VIII. Parliamentary Authority: Source of authority (i.e., “Sturgis Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure” 2nd edition, or “Roberts Rules of Order”)

The Consortium for Research in Teacher Education will use Roberts Rules of Order when necessary to conduct its business.

Reference: Roberts Rules of Order, Edited by Sarah Corvis with the assistance of Henry M. Roberts III, James Cleary, and William Evans. Scott Foresman Company, 1970, Glenview, Illinois.