

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT

Article Number: Article III

Article Title: Officers

Section Number: Section 2

Section Title: Qualifications, Elections and Terms

Page Number 4

Current Language:

Article III, Section 2,

f) The Executive Council shall consist of:

1. Twenty-four (24) persons (members of the Association in good standing) elected by the Association for a term of three (3) years with eight (8) persons being elected each year, **one a graduate student.** Two slots for representation from the Corporate Sector shall be set-aside in each Executive Council class. In the event that two persons from the Corporate Sector are not voted on the Council in a given year, then it is the responsibility of the Executive Council to vote those two persons on the Council.

Proposed Language:

f) The Executive Council shall consist of:

Twenty-four (24) persons (members of the Association in good standing) elected by the Association for a term of three (3) years with eight (8) persons being elected each year, one a graduate student. ***One graduate student will serve on the Council at any given time. A student will be elected for a three-year term every three years and will be eligible for re-election to one additional three-year term.*** Two slots for representation from the Corporate Sector shall be set-aside in each Executive Council class. In the event that two persons from the Corporate Sector are not voted on the Council in a given year, then it is the responsibility of the Executive Council to vote those two persons on the Council.

Rationale:

The association benefits immeasurably from the unique voices and perspectives provided by students on the Executive Council. In addition, student representation on the Council allows ASALH to mentor the next generation of association leaders, as they experience firsthand the vital role the Council plays in continuing Dr. Woodson's legacy. Given the organization's expansion and fiscal concerns in recent years, however, the continuation of the policy of electing a student to serve in each of the three classes should be reevaluated.

First, as the association expands its commitment to external projects that enhance its reach and reputation, Council members are expected to accept certain responsibilities and functions that cannot be undertaken by our already overtasked staff. Full-time students have very little time to devote to this kind of support of the organization. Secondly, the expectation that all Council members attend the annual meeting and conference places a financial burden on students who, like other members, are required to bear the cost of registration, transportation, accommodations and meals. And finally, the monetary loss to the association each year because

of student representation on the Council is several thousand dollars (including the \$1300 obligation required of each non-student Executive Council member and any additional assessments based on financial exigencies).

The proposed amendment to the Constitution is an acknowledgement of the realities we face as an organization. Its implementation would ensure a continued student voice on the Council, allow the association to retain its commitment to mentoring the next generation of leaders, while reducing the financial burden that becomes more challenging each year.

Proposed Amendment Fiscal Impact _____ An increase in revenue up to \$7,800 per year at the point that only one student remains on the Executive Council.

Proposed Amendment Resource Impact (Personnel, Time) _____ This amendment will provide additional support for Executive work as the student representative have as a priority completing their degree.

Proposed Amendment Submitted By _____ Governance Committee - Edna Medford who voted on the prevailing side. **Date** _____ 6/5/ 2020 _____