Constitution of the Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association (APAMSA)



Ratified at the First Annual APAMSA National Conference on January 15, 1995 New York University School of Medicine As Amended October 20, 1999 As Amended October 7, 2006 As Amended October 5, 2019 As Amended January 23, 20201

Article I: Name Article II: Purpose Article III: Non-Profit Organization Article IV: Membership Article V: House of Delegates Article VI: Officers Article VII: Meetings Article VIII: Funds, Dues, and Assessments Article IX: Amendments

Bylaws of APAMSA

- 1. Purpose
- 2. Non Profit Designation
- 3. Membership

Rights and Privileges Admission Maintenance and Termination of Membership

4. Chapters

5. House of Delegates

Meetings of the House of Delegates

6. Officers

Executive Board National Board Elections Impeachment

7. Meetings

National Conference

Regional Conference

8. Resolutions

Definition of a Resolution Proposed Resolutions Resolutions before the National Conference Resolutions at the National Conference

9. Rapid Response

10. Finances

Accounts and Budgets

Expenditures

11. Amendments

1. Article I: Name

A. The name of this organization shall be the Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association (hereafter referred to as APAMSA).

2. Article II: Purpose

A. The purpose of APAMSA is to explore and resolve the unique challenges, obstacles, and responsibilities specific to Asian and Pacific Islander pre-health/health students and health professionals and address health needs specific to Asian and Pacific Islander communities through leadership, education, research, and service as further outlined in the Bylaws.

3. Article III: Non-Profit Organization

A. APAMSA is formed as a non-stock and not-for-profit organization, created and operated in furtherance of the purposes specified in the Certificate of Incorporation and defined in the Bylaws.

4. Article IV: Membership

A. APAMSA is composed of individual members who are represented in the House of Delegates through chapters or as other constituents as defined in the Bylaws. **5. Article V: House of Delegates**

A. The House of Delegates is the Legislative Body of APAMSA. It is composed of chapter delegates and elected officers that transact all business of APAMSA that is not otherwise specifically provided for in this Constitution and Bylaws.

6. Article VI: Officers

A. The Officers of APAMSA are provided in the sections of Executive Board and National Board, with their respective qualifications and terms of office defined in the Bylaws. **7. Article**

VII: Meetings

A. National and regional meetings convene annually as defined in the Bylaws.

8. Article VIII: Funds, Dues, and Assessments

A. Funding and dues for APAMSA are assessed annually and are as defined in the Bylaws.

9. Article IX: Amendments

- A. The House of Delegates may amend the Articles of this Constitution at any meeting provided the proposed amendment has been introduced prior to the meeting and provided two-thirds of the voting members of the House of Delegates registered at the meeting at which action is taken vote in favor of such amendment.
- B. The House of Delegates may amend the Bylaws at any meeting provided the proposed amendment has been introduced prior to the meeting and provided fifty Percent (50%) plus one of the voting members of the House of Delegates registered at the meeting at which the action is taken vote in favor of such amendment.
- C. The Executive Board may suspend a Bylaw with a two-thirds vote until the next House of Delegates meeting and may propose an amendment of that Bylaw to the House of Delegates. Suspension of Bylaws should take place with the intent of consistency with APAMSA's values.

Bylaws of APAMSA

1. Purpose

- 1.1. To explore and resolve the unique challenges, obstacles, and responsibilities specific to Asian Pacific Islander American (APIA) pre-health/health students and health professionals.
 - 1.2. To promote research on and dissemination of data on APIA issues in medical education, post-graduate training, & appropriate health services.
- 1.3. To create a network of APIAs in healthcare across the country.
- 1.4. To provide national leadership in the promulgation of legislative policies for the provision of enhanced access to ethnically and linguistically appropriate health services for the APIA community.
- 1.5. To provide opportunities for APIA students to contribute to their communities through service.
- 1.6. To maintain its status as an independent organization.
- 1.7. To seek, develop, and provide membership services.
- 1.8. To promote and maintain programs which improve the health status of the community.
- 1.9. To serve as a forum for discussion of health issues.
- 1.10. To increase knowledge of health information among members and the general public.

1.11. To periodically re-evaluate the above purposes and ensure that they are carried out in proper fashion.

2. Non Profit Designation

2.1. Notwithstanding any other purpose set forth herein, the corporation is organized solely and exclusively for charitable, educational, and beneficial purposes and the organization shall not carry on any activity not permitted to be carried on by:

- 2.1.1. An organization exempt from federal tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).
- 2.1.2. An organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future

United States Internal Revenue Law).

2.1.3. In the event of the dissolution of APAMSA, the assets, after clearing off all indebtedness, shall be donated to an organization exempt from federal tax under Section 501(c)(3) and contributions to which are deductible under Section

170(c)(2) that supports the purposes of APAMSA, to be named by the Executive Board by a majority vote.

3. Membership:

3.1. Active membership shall be granted, upon completion of the membership application, to any pre-health/health student who recognizes the need for APAMSA, and who believes in the ideas, aims, and purposes upon which it was founded.

3.2. Rights and Privileges:

- 3.2.1. To attend the open discussions of the House of Delegates,
- 3.2.2. To take part in the discussions of the open sessions,
- 3.2.3. To hold office

3.3. Admission

- 3.3.1. Upon completion of a member application and subsequent approval by the National Membership Director(s) in consultation with the Executive Board, applicants will be Active Members of APAMSA
 - 3.3.2. Collective admission may be completed upon creation of a charter or submission of a chapter membership roster and subsequent approval by the National Membership Director(s) in consultation with the Executive Board.
 - 3.3.3. APAMSA will not deny membership based on race, color, sex, gender, religion, nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and/or disability.

3.4. Maintenance and Termination of Membership

- 3.4.1. Membership may be retained as long as the member complies with the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws
- 3.4.2. In the event that a chapter dissolves, members may maintain membership by notification to their Regional Directors.
- 3.4.3. Members may terminate their own membership by notification to their Regional Directors.
- 3.4.4. Membership of members may be terminated if they are in gross violation of our mission statement.

4. Chapters

- 4.1. Any higher education or health sciences institution may form a Chapter, elect Officers and apply for membership to APAMSA.
- 4.2. The application must:
 - 4.2.1. Give the name of the school at which the Chapter is being formed and the name of the Chapter-- Chapter name must at least include APAMSA;
 - 4.2.2. Identify by name and address (mail and email) each Officer and/or Member of the Chapter;
 - 4.2.3. Be supported in writing by the appropriate school official that the proposed Members and/or Officers are matriculating at the institution named;

4.2.4. Contain a statement of purpose of the Chapter along with a constitution, by-laws, or guidelines for the Chapter including the leadership structure of the Chapter; 4.2.5. File with APAMSA through the National Membership Co-Directors 4.3. The application for Chapter membership to APAMSA shall be examined with care by the Executive Board, assessed to the extent necessary, and rejected or accepted. In considering the application, the Executive

Board must decide whether the applicant is committed to the purposes of APAMSA and is dedicated to serving the same individuals/populations that APAMSA represents.

- 4.4. If rejected, a letter detailing the reasons thereof shall be sent to the applicants, with the advice to reapply.
- 4.5. If accepted, the Members/Officers applying will become an Official Chapter of APAMSA on payment of Chapter Dues. For an application to be accepted, all members of the Executive Board must support it unanimously.
- 4.6. There will be only one (1) Official APAMSA Chapter per institution. If the Executive Board receives multiple applications from the same institution, the President will work with the applicants to resolve the situation.
 - 4.7. The National Membership Director(s) shall cause to be printed, in the issue of the National Newsletter next ensuing following notification of acceptance, and announcement of the new Charter.
- 4.8. There shall be two special Chapters, one designated to represent alumni and a second to represent non-institutionally affiliated members.
- 4.9. Each APAMSA Chapter must have a designated chapter representative (e.g. President or their appointee) that is in contact with their respective Regional Board and the National Membership Directors.
- 4.10. Each Official Chapter must be committed to serving all APIA health/pre-health students and communities as detailed in Article II.
 - 4.10.1. Any APAMSA member of a Chapter or any APIA student at that Chapter's institution that feels that the Official APAMSA Chapter is excluding a particular subset of the Asian Pacific American population can directly petition the Executive Board through the National Membership Director for a review of that Chapter's constitution/bylaws and activities.

4.10.2. If the Executive Board finds the petition warranted, Chapter status can either be suspended or revoked and that institution would be required to submit a new application addressing the complaints that led to the petition being filed.

- 4.11. Each Official APAMSA Chapter must keep an updated Membership list. This list must be sent to the National Membership Director annually.
- 4.12. Each Official APAMSA chapter must maintain active status.
 - 4.12.1. Active chapter status criteria will be maintained by the Membership Directors.

4.12.2. Chapters that remain inactive for four years will be subject to termination of their chapter charter.

5. House of Delegates

- 5.1. Designation: The House of Delegates of the National Conference is the legislative body of APAMSA. It shall transact the business of APAMSA not otherwise specifically provided for in the Constitution and Bylaws.
- 5.2. The House of Delegates shall have the power to rescind any action or policy of the Executive and National Boards by a two-thirds vote, provided it reaches quorum (defined as two-thirds (2/3) of its membership). Said vote is to be by roll call, with approval by two-thirds (2/3) of all present required to rescind.
- 5.3. The House of Delegates from the Chapters shall reflect the Active Members in their respective Chapters.
 - 5.4. One Delegate and one Alternate Delegate from each Chapter shall represent the interests of the Active Members in their respective Chapters during the House of
- Delegates meeting. The leadership of each Chapter shall elect or appoint their Delegate and Alternate Delegate before the National Conference.

5.5. Meetings of the House of Delegates

- 5.5.1. There shall be meetings of the Delegates at the National Conference.
- 5.5.2. The House of Delegates may meet in open or closed sessions.
 - 5.5.2.1. Open sessions may be attended only by Active Members and invited guests.
 - 5.5.2.2. Any Delegate or Alternate Delegate may motion to enter into closed session, after which a simple majority vote by the House of Delegates is required for passage.
 - 5.5.2.3. Only those Active Members of APAMSA who have been certified as Delegates or Alternate Delegates as determined by the Executive Board and shall be considered as Members of the House of Delegates and be entitled to:
 - 5.5.2.3.1. Attend closed sessions of the House,
 - 5.5.2.3.2. Engage in debate in closed sessions, and
 - 5.5.2.3.3. Cast ballots on matters or business before the House.
- 5.5.3. All reports to be considered for business in the House of Delegates must be submitted to the National Board prior to the opening session of the House of Delegates at the National Conference.
- 5.5.4. The composition of the House of Delegates shall be obtained via the following guidelines: Each Delegate of the House of Delegates represents 1 active APAMSA chapter.
 - 5.5.4.1. Delegates entitled to cast such proxy votes, as described herein, must register for the review and approval of Conference Credentials, prior to the first business meeting of the House of Delegates at the National Conference at which they choose to exercise that right.
 - 5.5.4.2. Such proxy votes must be cast in person, and only by the Delegate authorized to do so by the appropriate committee as described herein.
 - 5.5.5. The House of Delegates of the National conference shall establish APAMSA policies and regulations.
 - 5.5.6. Adjournment Procedure of the House of Delegates:
 - 5.5.6.1. No motion to adjourn the House of Delegates shall be in order until the following tasks have been completed:
 - 5.5.6.1.1. The Executive Board must have verified, made part of the permanent record, signed, and announced the results with tally of the various motions pertaining to Constitutional Amendments and resolutions, thereby certifying that two-thirds (2/3) of the House of Delegates is present, that each ratified Amendment to the Constitution has obtained two-thirds (2/3) of the votes, and that each ratified Amendment to the Bylaws and accepted resolution has obtained fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) of the votes.

6. Officers

6.1. Executive Board

6.1.1. Designation: The Executive Board is defined as: the President/President Elect, External Affairs Vice President, Communications Vice President, Health Affairs Vice President, Membership Co-Vice Presidents, Advocacy Vice President, Strategy Vice President, Diversity Vice President.

- 6.1.2. President:
 - 6.1.2.1. The President oversees all operations of APAMSA.
 - 6.1.2.2. Serves as a liaison to national partnering organizations and is the national spokesperson for APAMSA.
 - 6.1.2.3. Sets vision and agenda for APAMSA growth and expansion.
 - 6.1.2.4. Terms of office: The position of President-elect shall have a term beginning on the date of the National Conference at which they were elected and ending 90 days after election. The above mentioned President-elect shall become the President on day 91 and shall have a one year term ending after one calendar year.
- 6.1.3. External Affairs Vice President: Shall be the Chief Financial Officer. Shall work in concert with the National President on all organizational business.
 - 6.1.4. Communications Vice President: Responsible for the communications efforts of the organization on all channels. Shall work in concert with the National President on all organizational business.
- 6.1.5. Membership Co-Vice Presidents: There shall be three (3) Membership Co-Vice Presidents responsible for facilitating communication between national officers and local chapters. They are also responsible for recruiting new chapters and overseeing Regional Directors.
- 6.1.6. Health Affairs Vice President: Oversees the health affairs branch.

6.1.7. Advocacy Vice President: Oversees the advocacy branch. 6.1.8. Strategy Vice President: Oversees the strategy branch. 6.1.9. Diversity Vice President: Oversees the diversity branch. **6.2. National Board**

- 6.2.1. Designation: The National Board is defined as: the Executive Board with their respective branches.
- 6.2.2. The National Board shall comprise the judicial and policy-making body of APAMSA during those times at which the House of Delegates is not in session.
- 6.2.3. The National Board shall be comprised of members who are elected or appointed to lead the initiatives and functions of the national organization.
- 6.2.4. Elected National Board members will serve beginning on the date of the National Conference and ending on the date of the following National Conference.
 - 6.2.5. Appointed National Board members will serve beginning on the day they are appointed and ending on the date of their last objectives.
- 6.2.6. The Executive Board may add, remove, or modify National

Board positions by a two-thirds vote.

6.2.7. The Regional Directors of APAMSA will be elected by their respective Regions with each active chapter getting one (1) vote. 6.2.8. There will be multiple Regional Directors per region proportional to the active membership in that region. Each Regional Director will have a one-year term. Regional Directors may be from the same Chapter within a Region.

- 6.2.9. Regions will be divided as follows:
 - 6.2.9.1. Region 1 New England (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont)
 - 6.2.9.2. Region 2 New York/New Jersey (New York, New Jersey)
 - 6.2.9.3. Region 3 Mid-Atlantic (Delaware, Washington D.C., Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia)
 - 6.2.9.4. Region 4 Southeast (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Mississippi, Caribbean Islands)
 - 6.2.9.5. Region 5 Midwest (Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio)
 - 6.2.9.6. Region 6 Central (Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Wyoming)
 - 6.2.9.7. Region 7 Southwest (Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Southern Nevada, Southern California, and Hawaii)
 - 6.2.9.8. Region 8 Northwest (Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Northern California, Northern Nevada, Oregon, Washington)
 - 6.2.9.9. Region 9 South (Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma)

6.3. Elections

- 6.3.1. Elections shall be supervised by the Elections Committee. 6.3.2. The Elections Committee shall be empowered to certify that all candidates' credentials are in order before the elections and to certify the results of national elections as delineated by the Constitution, subject to approval of the Executive Board. In the event of a tie, the President will cast the tie-breaking vote. No results beyond the winner of the election may be discussed outside the elections commission.
- 6.3.3. All elections shall take place by the last day of the National Conference. It is the President's responsibility to place Elections on the Agenda.
- 6.3.4. All elected positions shall be a single person position (no splitting of positions), unless otherwise decided by the Executive Board.
 - 6.3.5. The Executive Board has the authority to approve/recommend candidates for the Executive Board by 2/3 vote.
- 6.3.6. Voting procedures will be determined by the Elections Committee.

6.4. Vacancies

6.4.1. Vacancies due to dismissal, resignation, impeachment, or other

reasons shall be filled through appointment by the National Board by a plurality vote.

6.5. Impeachment

6.5.1. Impeachment protocols are applied to Executive, National, and Regional Board positions.

6.5.2. Grounds for impeachment include, but are not limited to: 6.5.2.1.

Failure to perform the duties of Office as prescribed in the Constitution and Bylaws.

- 6.5.2.2. Failure to correct performance after three notices from branch directors and a final notice from the President.
- 6.5.2.3. Presents with conduct detrimental to the mission of APAMSA.
- 6.5.3. Petitions for Impeachment must be in writing and state the specific charges upon which the Petition is based.
- 6.5.4. Petitions for Impeachment must be submitted to the Communications Vice President, who will distribute it to the Executive Board.
 - 6.5.4.1. If this is an Executive Board member being impeached then it will be sent to the President to distribute to the rest of the Executive Board (minus the accused)
 - 6.5.4.2. The accused must be notified within 7 days of receipt of petition and allowed a response via written statement.
- 6.5.5. If the accused party is found at fault (by the Executive Board) they will be placed on probation for 1 month & complete action items to prevent continued process of impeachment
 - 6.5.6. If they do not fulfill action items, the impeachment will proceed and they will be removed from their position.
 - **6.5.7.** If a member of the Board of Directors is convicted of a felony, they shall be automatically removed from office.

7. Meetings

7.1. National Conference

- 7.1.1. There shall be a National Conference held annually.
- 7.1.2. The National Conference shall be held for at least one (1) full day.

7.1.3. The site of the National Conference and National Conference Chairs shall be decided by the close of the session of the House of Delegates at the previous National Conference.

7.1.4. If the National Conference site is not decided at the House of Delegates session, the site and conference chairs will be voted by the Executive Board within two (2) months following the

National Conference. Votes may be cast electronically.

7.1.5. The National Conference co-chairs shall maintain contact with the Executive Board, attend at least one (1) meeting of the Executive Board prior to the National Conference, and must maintain contact with the President of APAMSA on a weekly basis during the three (3) months prior to the National Conference.

- 7.1.6. The structure and planning of the National Conference is the responsibility of the co-chairs and the APAMSA Chapter(s) of the site. National Conference programming will be decided by the co-chairs and the APAMSA Executive Board.
- 7.1.7. No APAMSA Chapter shall host a conference during the month of the National Conference. (A month is defined as two (2) weeks prior to and two (2) weeks following the weekend of the National Conference). Any Chapter that does so is subject to revocation of APAMSA Chapter status.
- 7.1.8. Proceeds shall be shared between National APAMSA & the local host chapter(s) in an agreement according to the following procedures: Specifically, National APAMSA and the local host chapter(s) should split net gains 50/50 on registration fees. National APAMSA and the local host chapter(s) will fundraise together—registration fees will be spent first. National APAMSA and the local host chapter(s) fundraising should be pooled. National APAMSA and the local host chapter(s) should receive whatever percentage of the total funds contributed of the profits.
- **7.1.9.** The National Board should be actively involved in the conference discussions and decisions regarding programming and logistics. Alternatives may be discussed with conference chairs and be implemented with National Board approval.

7.2. Regional Conference

- 7.2.1. There will be a Regional Conference for each of APAMSA's geographic regions. There will be at least one (1) Regional Conference per region per year.
 - 7.2.2. The structure of the Regional Conference shall be determined by the Regional Directors and host chapter. The Regional Conference may be devoted to APAMSA business and/or educational purposes.
- 7.2.3. Proceeds shall be shared between National APAMSA & the region in an agreement according to the following procedures: Specifically, National APAMSA and the region should split net gains 50/50 on registration fees. National APAMSA and the local host chapter(s) will fundraise together—registration fees will be spent first. National APAMSA and the region's fundraising should be pooled. Any funds left over will be returned to National APAMSA and may be used for future regional expenses or conferences.

8. Resolutions

8.1. Definition of a Resolution

8.1.1. A resolution is the vehicle through which Chapters establish APAMSA policies and regulations.

8.2. Proposed Resolutions

- 8.2.1. Proposed resolutions may be submitted by Active Members of APAMSA or sponsored by an active member.
- 8.2.2. Proposed resolutions shall be submitted semi-annually for

consideration by Chapter Delegates. Any active member may propose amendments to the authors of resolution.

8.2.3. Proposed resolutions shall be considered for adoption during two resolution cycles. The first cycle must conclude four months prior to the National Conference. The second resolution cycle will conclude in the House of Delegates meeting at the National Conference.

8.3. Resolutions before the National Conference

- 8.3.1. Proposed resolutions shall be published online for consideration by the Chapters
- 8.3.2. Following publication, a testimony period of no less than twenty-eight (28) days shall be announced to the Membership. During this time, active Members may make comments or propose amendments to resolutions on an online forum published on the APAMSA website.
- 8.3.3. Based on Member testimony, the Executive Board may make recommendations for amendments to resolutions. The authors of the resolution may then re-submit their resolution with amendments before the end of the testimony period. The Resolutions Director may extend the testimony period to allow time for discussion of the amendments.

8.3.4. Chapters then will submit their votes on the resolution to the Resolutions Director within twenty-eight (28) days of receipt of the final resolution. Each active Chapter receives one (1) vote. It is the Resolutions Director's responsibility to make sure that each

Chapter submits a vote. A vote may be "Yes," "No," or "Abstain."

8.3.5. For adoption of a resolution, it must receive a majority of the votes cast by the Chapters. A vote of "Abstain" does not count toward the total vote tally.

8.4. Resolutions at the National Conference

- 8.4.1. Resolutions submitted after the beginning of the testimony period may be discussed at the House of Delegates at the discretion of the President, time permitting.
- 8.4.2. Discussion and adoption of Resolutions will follow the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order, except where this constitution differs. This discussion will be held during the House of Delegates meeting and chaired by the Resolutions Director.
- 8.4.3. To vote on a resolution, a quorum of two-thirds (2/3) of the House of Delegates must be present. For adoption, a resolution must receive fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) of all the votes. Each Delegate has one (1) vote.

9. Rapid Response

- 9.1. Definition: A Rapid Response is an official action through which the National Board responds to recent events in accordance with APAMSA policies and regulations.
- 9.2. Rapid Responses may take various forms, including public statements and advocacy campaigns.
- 9.3. Execution:

- 9.3.1. Rapid Response requests can be submitted by any member to the Rapid Response Director. The request must include a brief description of the event being addressed and the proposed action. It may also cite relevant APAMSA policy or previous APAMSA actions for further justification.
- 9.3.2. The Rapid Response Director and other interested National Board Members shall draft a report describing the proposed Rapid Response, the context behind its proposal, and the arguments for and against it. This report shall be submitted to the Communications Vice President.
- 9.3.3. The Communications Vice President shall disseminate the report and an online ballot to the National Board, which will have 48 hours to vote for or against the Rapid Response.
- 9.3.4. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes cast by the National Board (with each region having one vote) is required for approval of the Rapid Response. Two-thirds of all National Board members must vote in order to achieve quorum.

10. Finances

10.1. Accounts and Budgets

- 10.1.1. The officers shall not receive any salary or compensation during their term of office.
- 10.1.2. The funds, books, and vouchers in the Chief Financial Officer's hands shall be under the supervision of the Executive Board at all times and subject to its inspection and control. At the expiration of their term of office, the Chief Financial Officer shall deliver over to their successor all books, moneys, and other property. Change in personnel shall be reported to the bank by the outgoing Chief Financial Officer.
- 10.1.3. Borrowing by APAMSA must be approved in advance by the Executive Board except for normal short term trade credit extended by vendors within the limits set forth in the Operating Budget.
- 10.1.4. The Executive Board shall maintain a bank account for the transactions of APAMSA. Checks for over three hundred dollars (\$300.00) from this account must be approved by the Chief Financial Officer and the President.
- 10.1.5. The Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with the President and President-elect, shall prepare a budget and present it to the Executive Board for their approval before December 15. The budget, as approved, must be published by the end of December.
- 10.1.6. The Chief Financial Officer will be responsible for filing annual taxes.

10.2. Expenditures

10.2.1. No expenditure shall exceed the budgeted amount for such an account by more than ten percent (10%) or \$10, whichever amount is higher, without the approval of the Executive Board.

10.2.2. Any additional expenditures after the finalization of the budget must be approved by the Executive Board and recorded by the Chief Financial Officer.

11. Amendments

- 11.1. Any portion of the APAMSA Constitution and Bylaws may be amended. Any member of the National Board may propose an Amendment.
- 11.2. Amendments may be adopted at the National Conference. An Amendment to the Constitution or Bylaws of APAMSA goes into effect immediately upon its adoption.
 - 11.3. Amendments pertaining to elections procedures or House of Delegates procedures may be proposed by any Member of the National Board during official meetings. Amendments receiving a simple majority vote by the Executive Board regarding these procedures may be adopted.
- 11.4. Proposed Amendments must be forwarded to the Communications Vice President three (3) weeks prior to the National Conference. Such proposals shall then be recorded and sent to all members of the Executive Board. The proposals shall then be forwarded to all Chapter Leaders.
- 11.5. Discussion of the Amendment will follow the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order, except where this constitution differs. A member of the Executive Board will chair this discussion.
- 11.6. To vote on an Amendment to the Constitution, a quorum of two-thirds (2/3) of active APAMSA Chapters must be present. Each active Chapter has one (1) vote.
- 11.7. The Motion to Amend must be properly recorded in the minutes of the National Conference.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to all members of the House of Delegates who participated in the shaping and ratification of this Constitution.

Much of the language for this newest version of the Constitution was drafted by our Constitution Revision Committee members -- Justin Nguyen, James Ting, Yingfei Wu, Robert Fu, and Justin Chin -- all of whom have served on APAMSA National Board.