

CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

I. NAME

The name of this association shall be the National Council of Teachers of English, hereinafter sometimes referred to as “the Association,” “the Corporation,” or “the Council.”

II. LOCATION

Its location shall be in Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri, but it may locate its office or offices as the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee may from time to time establish.

III. OBJECT

The purpose of this Association is to improve the quality of instruction in English at all educational levels; to encourage research, experimentation, and investigation in the teaching of English; to facilitate professional cooperation of the members; to hold public discussions and programs; to sponsor the publication of desirable articles and reports; and to integrate the efforts of all those who are concerned with the improvement of instruction in English.

IV. MEMBERSHIP

The Council offers three types of membership: individual voting membership, emeritus voting membership, and student nonvoting membership. Individual voting membership in one Section of the Council shall be available to all persons engaged in the teaching or supervision of English at any school level and to all others interested in the improvement of such teaching.

V. AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS

A. Basic Qualifications

1. Bona fide associations of teachers of English having twenty-five or more members, including English sections of city, state, or regional teachers' associations and student groups consisting of ten or more nonvoting members of the Council and organized under faculty sponsorship, may become affiliates of the Council. Every affiliate of the Council shall appoint or elect a liaison officer for the purpose of interpreting the affiliate to the Council and the Council to the affiliate.

2. The Council recognizes the desirability of organizing affiliates at local, regional, state, or interstate levels, but normally not more than one affiliate shall be accepted into the Council from any one of these levels in any single geographic area except for justifiable reasons. Whenever applications for affiliation are received from a new association in a locality, a region, or a state in which another affiliate at the same level is already operating, the Executive Committee shall not take action on the application until at least thirty days after the application is announced in a regular communication sent by the Council to affiliates. The Council shall encourage local, regional, and state groups to affiliate with the next higher unit as well as with the Council.

B. Affiliation Fees

Affiliates shall pay annual affiliation fees, the amount of which shall be fixed by the bylaws.

C. Criteria for Affiliation

Affiliates of the Council or groups of English teachers applying for affiliation with the Council shall meet the following standards:

1. All members of the governing board either of the affiliate or the group applying for affiliation shall be members of the National Council.
2. The affiliate or the group applying for affiliation shall have a functionally written constitution which shall provide for continuity of personnel within the administration of the group (e.g., by providing either for overlapping terms for members, for rotation of officers, or for an executive officer, etc.). A copy of this constitution shall be filed in the executive office of the Council with an indication of the stated provision.
3. An affiliate or a group applying for affiliation with the National Council shall establish at least one general meeting a year for its total membership, of which a part shall be devoted to the business of the affiliate, and at least one other additional meeting a year of its governing body.
4. Each affiliate or group applying for affiliation with the Council shall designate that its secretary and/or liaison officer submit reports at least annually to the Council, and that these reports shall include:
 - a. a statement of the membership of the affiliate;
 - b. a generalized report of an annual meeting;
 - c. the results of the election of officers;
 - d. a summary of projects undertaken or contemplated;
 - e. notice of special situations and problems as they arise in the area served by the affiliate; and
 - f. notice of special needs of the affiliate or its committees.
5. Each affiliate or group applying for affiliation with the Council shall maintain some effective means of disseminating information among its members.

D. Representation at Council Meetings

1. With the exception of directors representing junior affiliates, the certified member of the Board of Directors of the Council from an affiliate or an alternate shall attend the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Council at least once in every three years or the affiliate shall be suspended.
2. The Executive Director of the National Council shall send the certified Director representing an affiliate a formal acknowledgment of certification, including an appropriate certificate; material concerning the functions, organization, and purposes of the National Council; material concerning current issues and problems to be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors of the Council sufficiently in advance of the annual meeting that the Director may confer with the affiliate or its officers and directors so as to receive instructions regarding the attitudes of the affiliate relative to current issues and problems.
3. Certified members of the Board of Directors shall report to the members of their affiliates the actions of the Board of Directors of the National Council.

E. Responsibilities of the National Council

1. The Executive Director of the National Council, assisted by other staff members, shall work to increase the services to affiliates performed by the Council and especially shall assume responsibility for the following functions:
 - a. screening the applications of new affiliates;
 - b. keeping records of the activities of the affiliates;
 - c. preparing to visit affiliates for the purpose of appraisal and counsel to the greatest extent possible;
 - d. working over a period of years toward establishing a vertical and coordinated sequence of responsibility and action between the affiliates and the National Council;
 - e. helping to create a desirable uniformity in the functions and purposes of affiliates;
 - f. planning and initiating an organization of regional areas of the National Council; and
 - g. promoting positive and continuing programs of action among affiliates based upon the recommendations and policies of the National Council.
2. A publication of the National Council shall be issued regularly and frequently to all officers and directors of the National Council and to all officers and directors of affiliates.

VI. OFFICERS AND MANAGEMENT

A. Board of Directors

1. *Authority.* The Board of Directors and other Council members present at the Annual Business Meeting shall approve or disapprove official position statements on educational issues, such position statements being subject to ratification by the membership. [see Article XI.C., Annual Business Meeting] A second, separate procedure for adopting

position statements may originate with the Executive Committee. An official position statement may also be adopted 1) when the Executive Committee submits it on a ballot to the entire membership and it is approved by a majority of those responding within 30 days, or 2) when two-thirds of the members of the Executive Committee have voted to approve it. The Board of Directors and other Council members present at the Annual Business Meeting shall have the further responsibility to recommend new Council programs and to advise the Executive Committee on its direction of Council operations. The Board shall receive annually reports on headquarters operations and on the activities of the Executive Committee and of all other duly constituted Council bodies.

2. *Election.* The Directors shall be chosen in the following manner:
 - a. Each local, state, or regional association affiliated with the Council and with dues fully paid shall be entitled to select one or more of its members who are also members of the National Council to serve as Directors of the Council. Any Director chosen to represent an affiliate shall be familiar with the affairs of the affiliate. All affiliates shall be entitled to name one member of the Board of Directors. Affiliates which have between 150–349 members who are also members of NCTE shall be entitled to name two members of the Board of Directors; affiliates with 350–549 such members, three directors; with 550–749, four directors; and so on, up to a maximum of six directors. Affiliates which name more than one member to the Board of Directors shall name their liaison officer as one member of the Board of Directors. Each junior affiliate shall be entitled to designate one faculty sponsor as a member of the Board of Directors. Such Directors shall serve from the opening of one annual meeting to the opening of the next annual meeting, unless in the meantime the affiliation of their association with the Council has lapsed.
 - b. Members of the Section Committees (see Article VII, Section B) shall serve as members of the Board of Directors, representing their respective Sections.
 - c. Council officers, representatives at large, officers of conferences, directors of commissions, chairs of Council committees, and editors of Council periodicals shall be ex officio voting members of the Board of Directors.
 - d. Former past presidents of the Council shall be voting members ex officio of the Board of Directors.
 - e. Assemblies of the Council whose dues are fully paid shall be entitled to select one or more of their members who are also members of the National Council to serve as Directors of the Council. All Assemblies shall be entitled to name one member to the Board of Directors. Assemblies which have between 150–349 members who are also members of NCTE shall be entitled to name two members to the Board of Directors; assemblies with 350–549 such members, three directors; with 550–749, four directors, and so on, up to a maximum of six directors.
3. *Alternates.* In case a Director appointed regularly by an affiliate is unable to attend an annual meeting, an alternate may be sent provided that the alternate presents the proper credentials and fulfills all other requirements for a fully accredited Director from the

affiliate group. The alternate does not, however, take over the unexpired term of office of the regularly constituted Director unless specifically selected to do so by regular constitutional process.

B. Election of Officers, Representatives at Large, and Other Officials

1. *Officers.* The members of the Council shall elect annually from the membership of the Council a vice president, who shall serve in the following year as president-elect, in the next year as president, and during the fourth year as past president.
2. *Representatives at Large.* The members of the Council shall elect from the membership of the Council three representatives at large to the Executive Committee, one each from the elementary, middle, and secondary teaching levels. All shall be classroom teachers at their respective levels at the time of nomination. All shall serve two-year terms.
3. *Nominating Committee.* A Nominating Committee of seven members, five elected by ballot and two appointed by the Officers, shall propose candidates for an election conducted during April and May. Candidates for election to the Nominating Committee shall be grouped by geographical region and by voting section (elementary, middle, secondary, college), with the voting sections rotating annually among the regions. The elected candidate receiving the greatest number of votes shall chair the Nominating Committee. No member elected to the Nominating Committee for two consecutive years shall be eligible for reelection until two years have passed. The chair of the Nominating Committee in any one year will serve as consultant to the Nominating Committee elected the following year.
4. *Election Procedures and Calendar.* The procedures and calendar for nomination and election shall be as follows:
 - a. *Nominations.* The Nominating Committee shall send to the Executive Director not later than December 15 the following slate of candidates: two candidates for vice president, two candidates for representative at large, two candidates for each vacancy on the Board of Trustees of the Research Foundation, and fifteen candidates for the five places on the Nominating Committee during the following year. Should an unexpected vacancy call for a special election (see Article VI, Section B, Part 5), the Nominating Committee shall prepare slates as requested by the Executive Committee. The Nominating Committee shall serve from September 1 following its formation through August 31 of the next year.
 - b. *Publication of the Slate.* The Executive Director shall send an announcement of the slate of candidates to the membership during the February preceding the next election.
 - c. *Petitions.* Additional names for trustees of the Research Foundation, representatives at large, and members of the next Nominating Committee may be added to the ballot by a petition signed by fifty members of the Council provided that the petition reaches the Executive Director of the Council not later than January 10, that it is accompanied by the written consent of the person nominated, that the person nominated be a member of the Council, that in the case of the representative at large the person

nominated be a classroom teacher from the appropriate level, and that in the case of the Nominating Committee the person is from the appropriate level (elementary, middle, secondary, or college) for that particular region during the year in question. A separate petition shall be required for each nomination by petition.

- d. *Balloting.* Ballots shall be sent to members of the Council on or about April 15. The deadline for returning ballots shall be June 1. In each case, the candidate receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected.
 - e. *Announcement of Results.* Immediately after the balloting has closed and the results are known, the Executive Director shall notify all candidates. Included in the first fall mailing to the membership at large shall be a report of the results.
5. *Continuity of Officers.* If the office of the president is vacated, for whatever reason, the president-elect shall serve also as president pro tem. In that event, the Executive Committee shall appoint a member of the Council to perform the duties of the president-elect until the end of the next annual meeting. If the office of either president-elect or vice president is vacated, the Executive Committee shall follow the same procedure of appointing a member of the Council to carry out the duties of that office until the end of the next annual meeting. If the office of the past president is vacated, the quorum specified in Article VI, Section C, Part 1, shall be reduced by one.

For such vacancies, [among the office of president, president-elect, or vice president], the Nominating Committee shall submit within two months of the vacancy a slate of two candidates for a special election by the membership. The individual so elected shall assume office at the next annual meeting. Those appointed by the Executive Committee to fill the offices until that annual meeting shall not continue in succession of offices unless their names are included in the slate submitted by the Nominating Committee and they are elected by the membership. A president-elect who serves as president pro tem through the annual meeting shall succeed to the presidency, and the retiring past president shall be invited to serve an additional year on the Executive Committee. Should that person decline, the post of past president shall be left vacant and the quorum specified in Article VI, Section C, Part 1 shall be reduced by one. Should the successful candidate for vice president withdraw after the election but before assuming the duties of that office, the candidate on the same slate shall assume the duties. Should that candidate decline to serve or be unable to serve, the Executive Committee shall fill the post by one-year appointment as stipulated above.

C. Executive Committee

1. *Membership and Quorum.* The officers of the Council (the president, the president-elect, the vice president, and the past president), the chairs and associate chairs of the Sections, the representatives at large, the chair of TYCA, and the chairs of the NCTE conferences (CCCC, CEE, CEL, and WLU), shall constitute the Executive Committee, which shall be responsible for approving official NCTE policies, i.e., decisions concerning internal Council operations and structure. A simple majority of the total number of voting members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

2. *Duties.* The Executive Committee shall take actions on position statements on educational issues approved by the Board of Directors or by the entire membership in ballots, exercising budgetary responsibility in implementing such actions. Subject to the limitations imposed by Article XII, Section A, the Executive Committee shall have the authority to approve budgets, to review annual audits, to enter into contracts, to incur debts, to invest funds, and to sell and acquire property in the best interests of the Council. Such activities shall be reported annually to the Board of Directors.
3. *Eligibility.* Although not barred from candidacy for election to the Executive Committee, editors of Council journals, directors of commissions, and trustees of the Research Foundation shall resign from those positions if they are elected to the Executive Committee.
4. *Electronic Meetings.* Any meeting of the Executive Committee may be conducted by electronic means such as conference telephone call, webinar, or similar electronic communication, so long as all persons participating are able to remain in communications contact with one another at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute an individual's presence in person at the meeting. Provided that a quorum exists, decisions taken by vote during electronic meetings shall be deemed binding, in the same manner that decisions taken by vote during live meetings are.

VII. SECTIONS

A. Membership

Individual voting members of the National Council of Teachers of English select the Section in which they wish voting membership: Elementary Section, Middle Level Section, Secondary Section, or College Section. All individual voting members receive a subscription to *The Council Chronicle*.

B. Governance of Sections

1. *Section Committees.* Each Section shall have a steering committee known as the Section Committee, with eight elected members and with the officers of the Council serving as ex officio members of their respective Section Committees. In addition, when the voting membership of a Section exceeds 10,000, the Section Committee shall be increased by one member for each additional 5,000 voting members. Section Committee members shall usually serve for four-year terms and shall take office at the close of the November meeting following their election.

Each Section Committee shall have a chair whom the membership of the Committee shall choose from among those Section Committee members who have one or more years to serve. The term of the chair shall be two years.

In addition, when the voting membership of a Section exceeds 15,000, the Section Committee shall elect from its membership an associate chair. For each further increase of 15,000 voting members in a Section, the Section shall elect an additional associate chair. The term of office for an associate chair shall normally be two years, and the election for this office shall normally be in alternate years from the election of the Section

chair. When a Section Committee member who has only one year remaining on the Section Committee is elected as Section chair or associate chair, that member will serve an additional year on the committee in order to complete the two-year term as chair or associate chair. An associate chair with one or more years left to serve on the Section Committee at the time of the election of the next chair shall be eligible to serve as chair. If the Section Committee chooses an associate chair to serve as chair, they shall also select another member of the Section Committee to fill the unexpired term of the associate chair.

2. *Section Nominating Committees.* Each Section shall have a nominating committee of three members, elected by ballot of the membership of the Section. The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes shall chair the committee. The Section Nominating Committee shall be chosen from a slate of six candidates prepared by the Section Nominating Committee in the preceding year.

Except under one circumstance, the Section Nominating Committee shall send to the Executive Director by December 15 a slate of four candidates, two to be elected to the Section Committee; and six additional candidates, three to be elected to constitute the next Section Nominating Committee. The exception occurs when Sections reach 15,000 voting members and thus have more than eight elected members on the Section Committee, in years when more than two vacancies are to be filled, the Section Nominating Committee shall submit a slate of twice the number of candidates needed to fill all vacancies.

3. *Petitions.* Slates submitted on December 15 shall appear in the Section journals in March. Additional nominations either for the Section Committee or for the Section Nominating Committee may be added to the ballot by a petition signed by fifty members of the Section provided that the petition be accompanied by a statement of written consent from the persons nominated, that the candidates be members of the Section in question, and that the petition reach the Executive Director of the Council not later than January 10.
4. *Calendar of Events.* Ballots shall be sent to members of the Sections on or about April 15. The deadline for returning ballots shall be June 1. All candidates shall be notified immediately of the results. A general announcement to the membership shall be included in the first fall mailing to the membership.

VIII. COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

In addition to the committees authorized in Article VI, B3 and C (Nominating Committee and Executive Committee) and Article VII (Section nominating committees and Section steering committees), and to affiliates (Article V), the Council recognizes the following constituent groups:

A. Committees

1. General committees appointed by the Executive Committee as standing committees or as short-term committees to carry on activities at one or more levels of instruction. Such

committees shall report at designated times to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the Council.

2. Intra-Sectional committees appointed by the Section Committees to carry on Sectional duties. Such committees must be approved by the Executive Committee of the Council.
3. Intra-commission committees (see "Commissions" below) chosen by the commission to carry on commission activities.

B. Commissions

Commissions are authorized by the Executive Committee of the Council to carry out specific large-scale projects or studies. The director of a commission shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Council and members approved by the Executive Committee. A commission when authorized shall have responsibility for establishing its procedures and activities, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee of the Council. A commission shall issue progress reports and terminal reports to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the Council at times designated by the Executive Committee.

C. Conferences

Conferences are authorized by the Executive Committee of the Council for specific or indefinite terms with the principal responsibility for holding meetings for exchange of views on specific professional topics. The chair and other officers may be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Council or elected by the membership of the conference, as the Executive Committee of the Council authorizes when the conference is established. A conference when authorized shall have the responsibility for planning its meetings and interim activities, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee of the Council. If the Executive Committee of the Council so requests, a conference shall issue progress reports at times designated by the Executive Committee of the Council.

Approval of application for the authorization of new conferences shall be subject to minimum requirements for membership and for annual income, such requirements to be set by the Executive Committee of the Council. All individual voting members of a conference shall also be members of the Council.

D. Task Forces

Task Forces are authorized by the Executive Committee of the Council to carry out specific, targeted, high-priority projects identified by the Executive Committee. The director of a task force shall be appointed by the Executive Committee, and its members shall be approved by the Executive Committee. The chair shall issue progress reports as requested by the Executive Committee and annually to the Board of Directors.

E. Assemblies

Assemblies are authorized by the Executive Committee to serve the interests and purposes of persons who share special interests or who have jobs alike. To be authorized, an assembly must maintain a minimum membership of twenty-five, and all officers and other members of its governing board must be members of the Council. An assembly shall pay to the Council annual dues which shall be keyed to the size of assembly membership and shall

follow the same schedule as dues for NCTE affiliates as stated in Bylaw 2. An assembly may set whatever individual dues its membership authorizes.

IX. THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION

A. Purpose

The Council shall maintain an educational foundation, the purpose of which shall be the financial support of research studies in English teaching, as well as other Council activities of the kinds enumerated in Article III of this Constitution.

B. Name

The name of this Foundation shall be the Research Foundation of the National Council of Teachers of English, Established in Honor of J. N. Hook.

C. Trustees

1. Management of the Foundation shall be vested in seven Trustees, none of whom shall be at the same time members of the Executive Committee, and whose policies shall be subject to approval by the Executive Committee.
2. The term of the Trustees shall be three years. One or more Trustees shall be elected each year, as needed to maintain a total of five elected Trustees. The two additional Trustees shall be appointed by the five elected Trustees, for terms varying from one to five years each, at the discretion of the elected Trustees. Any Trustee who has served six consecutive years may not serve again until at least three additional years have passed.
3. Nomination and election of the Trustees shall be conducted in the same way as nomination and election of Council officers as described in Article VI, Section B4 of this Constitution.
4. The duties and responsibilities of the Trustees shall be (a) to encourage gifts and special grants to the Foundation; (b) to manage the investment of funds not currently needed to carry on the work of the Foundation; and (c) to grant funds to qualified individuals, committees, and other groups, within or outside the Council, for specified projects of the sort for which the Foundation is established.
5. Except for the payment of reasonable compensation for services actually rendered to or for the Foundation, none of the funds or earnings of the Foundation shall inure to the financial benefit of any Trustee or of any other private person or party, but shall be used solely and exclusively for the objects and purposes of the Foundation and the Council.
6. The Trustees shall not grant or make commitments to grant funds in excess of those currently in the treasury of the Foundation.

D. Contributions to the Foundation

1. After the election of the first Trustees, the Council shall transfer to the Foundation from its accumulated earnings a sum of money to be determined by the Executive Committee.

Thereafter, additional transfers of Council funds may be made as directed by the Executive Committee.

2. Council members and other individuals, groups, or corporations shall be encouraged to make donations and bequests to the Foundation, such gifts to be used at the direction of the Trustees in accordance with the purpose of the Foundation. Donors or grantors may specify the uses of their gifts if those uses fall within the purpose of the Foundation. The Trustees shall be empowered to accept or decline any proffered gifts.

X. OTHER GROUPS WITHIN THE COUNCIL

The NCTE Executive Committee may establish other kinds of groups within the Council (e.g., consortia and associations) to meet the emerging needs of its members. The Executive Committee will review such groups every three years to determine whether they are continuing to meet the needs earlier identified and if they are fulfilling their membership projections and fiscal goals.

XI. MEETINGS

A. Meetings of the Council

The annual meeting of the Council shall be held at such place and time as the Executive Committee shall designate, and shall provide in its schedule time for an Annual Business Meeting for the Board of Directors and other members of the Council. (Special meetings may be called at any time by the Executive Committee or by petition, filed with the Executive Director, of ten percent of the membership of the Council.)

B. Meetings of the Board of Directors

1. *Time and Quorum.* The Board of Directors shall meet in connection with the Annual Business Meeting at the time and place of the annual meeting of the Council. Special meetings of the Board shall be called by the Executive Director at the direction of the Executive Committee, or upon written request made three months in advance of the date for the meeting by twenty percent of the members of the Board. Twenty percent of the Board shall constitute a quorum.
2. *Exceptions.* In the event that there is no annual meeting of the Council, there shall be a meeting of the Board of Directors. In the event that a meeting of the Board of Directors shall prove impossible, the Executive Committee shall submit all required reports by mail to the Directors and shall seek by ballot votes on proposed policy statements.

C. Annual Business Meeting

The Directors present and other Council members present shall adopt any special rules governing the conduct of the meeting, including the specification of a quorum. Directors present and other Council members present may participate in debate and vote on position statements (resolutions) and other matters at the meeting. A majority of those present and voting shall be required for approval of a resolution. Each resolution so approved will be

presented to the entire membership for ratification on a ballot, accompanied by explanations of the effects, positive and negative, of the statements. All resolutions forwarded to the membership must be ratified within 30 days by a majority vote in which the number of those voting for ratification equals at least ten percent of the Council's membership. Resolutions so ratified by the membership shall become official NCTE positions that go to the Executive Committee for action.

XII. BUDGETS

A. Limitation

Neither the Council nor any officer or committee shall contract indebtedness exceeding the net balance then remaining in the treasury plus fifty percent of the other assets of the Council.

B. Budgets

The Executive Committee shall consider each May a tentative budget for the next fiscal year. Proposed budget requests from constituent groups of the Council shall be submitted to the Executive Director not later than September 15. At its November meeting, the Executive Committee shall amend or confirm the budget proposed in May. Expenditures which are provided for within the budget shall be authorized by the chief fiscal administrator of the Council. Expenditures which exceed budget ceilings or support activities not provided for in the budget shall require authorization by the Executive Committee.

C. Fiscal Year

The Executive Committee shall determine the date of the fiscal year.

XIII. AMENDMENTS

A. Requirements

This Constitution may be amended by two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the Council, provided that at least one month's notice be given to each member of the nature of any proposed amendment or addition, such notice to be sent upon the order of the Executive Committee; or by two-thirds vote of those participating in a ballot submitted to the members of the Council.

B. Proposal by Petition

If a proposal to amend this Constitution is presented to the Executive Committee with the signatures of one percent of the members of the Council, the Executive Committee shall within twelve months submit it to a vote, either giving a proper notice and bringing it before a legal meeting of the Council or sending out a ballot upon the proposal.

XIV. IRS Requirements for Section 501(c)(3) Organizations

- A. NCTE is organized exclusively for educational purposes including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- B. No part of the net earnings of NCTE shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the object set forth in section A hereof and in Article III of this constitution.
- C. No substantial part of the activities of NCTE shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.
- D. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, NCTE shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- E. Upon the dissolution of NCTE, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

BYLAWS

- 1. a. The annual membership fee for individual members of the Council, including a subscription to *The Council Chronicle*, shall not be more than \$50.00. The fees for all other types of membership (e.g., nonvoting student members, voting emeritus members) shall be determined by the Executive Committee.
- b. Of the annual dues of each voting member five percent shall be considered a donation to the Research Foundation of the National Council of Teachers of English.
- c. In lieu of annual fees an individual member may pay an amount fifteen times the annual membership fee for a life membership, either in a lump sum or in six consecutive annual installments; this will include the cost of one individual voting membership each year.

2. The annual dues for affiliates in Class C, having between 25 and 249 members, shall be \$10.00; for affiliates in Class B, having between 250 and 499 members, shall be \$15.00; for affiliates in Class A, having 500 or more members, shall be \$25.00; and for student affiliates shall be \$2.50.
3. The Executive Committee shall employ an Executive Director who shall perform the functions of secretary and treasurer, and such duties as the Executive Committee may designate.
4. The names of the officers, the directors, and the chairs and members of all committees of the Council shall be published annually to the membership.
5. The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting for the preceding year shall be presented to the Board of Directors at each annual meeting.
6. Any time this constitution authorizes a vote of the entire membership of the Council, that vote may be conducted by electronic means. NCTE staff shall establish and oversee a secure process that validates the electronic ballots while protecting the identity of the voter.
7. These bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the members attending any Annual Business Meeting, provided notice of the proposed change has been given to all members at least thirty days before the meeting, or by a three-quarters vote of members attending the Annual Business Meeting.