



東亞研究型大學協會

東アジア研究型大学協会

동아시아연구중심대학협의회

The Association of East Asian Research Universities

Constitution
of the Association of East Asian
Research Universities

Amended on October 30, 2019

Constitution

1. Name

[1.1] The name of the association shall be the Association of East Asian Research Universities, with the official abbreviation as AEARU, hereinafter referred to as the “Association”.

2. Purposes

[2.1] Create a forum to bring together leading research-oriented universities in the East Asian region.

[2.2] Explore and identify areas of mutual interest for collaboration - including exchange of faculty and students; developing common curricula and transferable credits; sharing of facilities, information, and materials; cooperating on joint R & D projects; and joint sponsorship of topical conferences, contests, and international events.

3. Membership

[3.1] The Association shall begin with a core of founding members. (See 10. Appendix)

[3.2] A small number of non-regional institutions may be admitted by invitation as affiliates.

[3.3] The number of members shall be kept small in order for collaborative relationships to remain close and substantive. The number of members may be increased by a maximum of one member per year provided the total number of members does not exceed twenty.

[3.4] Membership Criteria: Candidate institutions for membership or affiliate of the Association must satisfy the following criteria:

- Intention to Contribute Actively to the Association: Prospective members must express an intention to actively contribute to the Association and to advance its objectives.
- International Recognition: Prospective members must be internationally recognized



as leading education and research institutions in their country or region.

- **Research Excellence:** Prospective members must have a substantial record of research achievement reflected by recognized international rankings, awards and other indicators of merit.
- **Innovation and Contribution to International Society:** Prospective members must be institutions which take an innovative approach to their operations and strive to contribute to the welfare of the international community.

[3.5] Admission Process: Candidate institutions for membership or affiliate membership must be nominated and endorsed by the chief executive officer of a current member institution. The nominator must submit a letter of recommendation to the Secretariat to be presented for deliberation by the Board of Directors. The Board should assess candidates in consideration of the membership criteria specified in clause [3.4] above, the Association's current regional balance, and the current number of members.

Following approval by a two-thirds majority of all voting active members at a Board of Directors Meeting at which at least two-thirds of the current members of the Board of Directors are in attendance, candidates will be submitted to the Association's entire membership for consideration at an Annual General Meeting. Candidates shall be admitted to membership of the Association upon approval by a two-thirds majority of all voting active members at an Annual General Meeting at which at least two-thirds of the current members of the Association are in attendance.

[3.6] Each member or affiliate shall be represented by the chief executive of the institution.

[3.7] Members may resign from the Association by giving six months' notice in writing.

[3.8] Membership Obligations: Newly admitted members must hold at least one of the activities listed below within two years of the date of their admission to the Association. All other members must hold at least one of the activities listed below every six years.

- Annual General Meeting
- Board of Directors Meeting
(Board of Directors members only)
- Other activities

Member institutions which fail to fulfill the above membership obligations will be assessed by the Board of Directors and may be recommended for revocation of



membership.

[3.9] Revocation of Membership: Member institutions which fail to fulfill the membership obligations specified in clause [3.8] above must be identified by the Secretariat and automatically presented for assessment by the Board of Directors. Following appropriate deliberation, the Board members will vote on whether or not the institution's membership should be considered for revocation at the Annual General Meeting or whether to request that the member will conduct an activity as soon as possible.

Following approval by a two-thirds majority of all voting active members at a Board of Directors Meeting at which at least two-thirds of the current Board members are in attendance, the motion for revocation of membership will be submitted to the Association's entire membership for consideration at an Annual General Meeting. The membership in question shall be revoked upon approval by a two-thirds majority of all voting active members at an Annual General Meeting at which at least two-thirds of the current members of the Association are in attendance. The revocation of membership shall take effect from January 1 of the subsequent year. No membership fees paid to the Association will be refunded to institutions which have their membership revoked.

4. Organization

[4.1] *(Deleted)*

[4.2] The Annual General Meeting shall determine the general policies and programs of the Association. The quorum shall be a simple majority.

[4.3] Each member is entitled to be represented at the Annual General Meeting by its chief executive, and/or by a personal deputy whom the chief executive may appoint. Each member shall have only one vote. Affiliates shall not have the right to vote.

[4.4] *(Deleted)*

[4.5] Chairperson shall serve for a term of two years.

[4.6] Vice-Chairperson shall be elected at the Board of Directors meeting by a majority of Members present and voting, and shall be appointed as the next term's Chairperson.



The results shall be reported at the Annual General Meeting. Only chief executives representing members of the Association shall be eligible for election as Vice-Chairperson.

[4.7] A Secretary shall be appointed by the Chairperson and approved by members at the Annual General Meeting.

5. Board of Directors

[5.1] The Board shall be the governing body of the Association.

[5.2] The Board shall consist of the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and five other Members for a total of seven, each being chief executives of their universities.

As per Clause [4.6], the incumbent Vice Chairperson will serve as the next Chairperson during the term of the next Board of Directors. The other six members of the Board of Directors will be elected at the Annual General Meeting for a term of two years.

Members can rejoin the Board after two years' absence, if reelected.

[5.3] The Board shall, within its own membership, appoint a Treasurer of the Association.

[5.4] The Secretary of the Association shall be the Secretary to the Board, but shall not vote.

[5.5] The Board shall meet at least once a year. Extraordinary sessions may be convened by the Chairperson or on written request by three members of the Board.

6. Finances

[6.1] Members and affiliates shall each pay a non-refundable annual membership fee, the amount of which shall be determined by the Board.

[6.2] General administrative costs (office, secretarial, and clerical) shall be borne by the Chairperson's institution.



[6.3] The Association may obtain income from the sale of the Association's publications; fees received under contract for services provided; grants from national and international foundations, agencies, donors, etc. in order to support specific programs and/or administrative work.

[6.4] A proposed annual budget of the Association and supplementary requests, if any, shall be prepared jointly by the Chairperson and the Treasurer and submitted in advance for approval by the Board.

7. Headquarters

[7.1] The headquarters of the Association shall be located on the campus of the currently serving Chairperson.

8. Amendment of the Constitution

[8.1] Proposal for the amendment of this Constitution shall be submitted by members in writing to the Secretary not less than three months before the date of the Annual General Meeting at which the amendment is to be considered. Copies of the proposal shall be sent by the Secretariat to all members not less than two months before the date of the Meeting. Proposals shall come into immediate effect if adopted on a written ballot by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

9. Dissolution

[9.1] The Association may be dissolved on a written ballot by a two-thirds majority of members.

10. Appendix

[10.1] The founding members of the Association are the following institutions:

Fudan University

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology

National Tsing Hua University

Pohang University of Science and Technology



Tsinghua University
University of Science and Technology of China
The University of Tokyo
University of Tsukuba

Supplementary Provisions

1. Clauses [4.5] and [4.6] were amended on January 31, 2007.
2. The amended constitutional clauses [4.5] & [4.6] became effective on the Vice Chairperson of the Board for 2006-2007 and he was appointed as the Chairperson of the Board for 2008-2009.
3. Clause [5.2] was amended on December 26, 2009.
4. The amended clause [5.2] became effective on January 1, 2010.
5. The original clause [3.2] was deleted on November 2, 2012.
The original clauses [3.3], [3.4], [3.5] and [3.6] changed their numberings to [3.2], [3.3], [3.6] and [3.7].
Four new clauses were added and numbered as [3.4], [3.5], [3.8] and [3.9].
6. The amendment described in Supplementary Provision 5., above, became effective on November 2, 2012.
7. The number of activities held by members for the requirements of clause [3.8] shall be calculated from November 2, 2012, the date on which the clause comes into effect. The number of activities held by members prior to that date shall not be included, and shall have no influence on the calculation.
8. Clause [4.6] was amended, all texts style was reviewed and the version became effective on November 14, 2018.
9. Clauses [3.8], [3.9] and [5.2] were amended on October 30, 2019.
10. The amended clause [5.2] takes effect on January 1, 2020.

