

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF KOREAN

Article I: Name and Nature

The name of the organisation is the Australian Association of Teachers of Korean (hereafter the Association) or in short AUATK. The Association shall be a non-political professional organisation, formed exclusively for academic and educational purposes.

Article II: Purpose

The purpose of the Association is to promote teaching, learning, study and research of Korean language, language pedagogy and applied linguistics in Australia and beyond. For this overall purpose, activities of the Association shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- a. Arrange or host conferences, workshops or seminars for teacher training and for the exchange of ideas, information, and experience and research results;
- b. Encourage the development and dissemination of high quality instructional materials, teaching methods and techniques, and curricula;
- c. Publish a journal, a newsletter, and other items;
- d. Voice the Association's concerns related to Korean language education in Australia; and
- e. Raise funds to carry out the annual activities of the Association.

The Association will endeavour to maintain liaison with the following institutes and organisations:

The Academy of Korean Studies (AKS)
The Korea Foundation (KF)
The Korea Research Foundation (KRF)
The Australia-Korea Foundation (AKF)
The Korea-Australia Foundation (KAF)
The Australian Federation of Korean Language Teachers Associations (AFKOLTA)
The American Association of Teachers of Korean (AATK)
The Korean Education Centre, the Consulate-General of ROK, Sydney (KEC Sydney)
The Korean Culture Centre Australia (KCC)
The International Association for Korean Language Education (IAKLE)
The International Circle of Korean Linguistics (ICKL)
The Korean Studies Association of Australasia (KSAA)
The Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA)
The Association for Asian Studies (AAS)

Article III: Membership

There shall be the following categories of membership in the Association:

Regular members are professional teachers or researchers of Korean language, Korean linguistics, and Korean language pedagogy in Australia, who are interested in the promotion of Korean language education, and who have paid dues for the full current year.

Associate members are either university students who are interested in becoming professional teachers or researchers in Korean language, linguistics and language pedagogy or anyone interested in activities of the Association, who have paid dues for the full current year.

Institutional members are institutions, libraries, and organisations whose participation is expressly limited to subscription to the official journal of the Association, who have paid subscription fees for the full current year.

Honorary members are those who have contributed to the activities of the Association and have retired from teaching and/or research positions of Korean language, linguistics and language pedagogy. Honorary members do not pay membership fee.

Any person may be admitted to membership in one of the categories set forth above by action of the Executive Committee or in such manner as the Committee may direct.

By resolution of the Executive Committee, membership may be suspended or terminated for non-payment of dues or fees, or for any activity or behaviour which the Executive Committee may deem contrary to the best interests of the Association.

Article IV: Office Bearers

Section 1: Officers and Their Responsibilities

The office bearers of the Association shall be the President and the Executive Committee members. The Executive Committee may consist of at least five members: They are two Vice Presidents, the Secretary, the Treasurer and the Webmaster/Newsletter Editor. One Vice-President should be nominated amongst school teachers, and the other from university teaching staff.

As the chief executive officer of the Association, the President shall preside over all business meetings of the Association and its Executive Committee meetings. The President shall have general administrative responsibility for the affairs of the Association, and shall represent the Association on public occasions and in contact with other organisations and persons.

The Vice-President's function is to support the President in various roles, and shall act for the President upon his/her request and when the President is absent or incapacitated.

The Secretary shall function as recording secretary at the Executive Committee meetings, and shall be the custodian of all records and documents of the Association.

The Treasurer shall have the care and custody of all the funds, securities, and assets of the Association and shall report to the Executive Committee members and the general

membership in each AGM. Any payment made by the Association should be endorsed or co-signed by the Treasurer and the President.

The Newsletter Editor/Webmaster shall have primary responsibility for the compilation, editing, posting, and mailing of the Association's newsletters regularly, and the maintenance of the Association's website.

The Journal Editor shall have primary responsibility for the compilation, editing, printing, posting, and mailing of the Association's official journal and others.

Section 2: Election of the President

The President shall be nominated and elected at the AGM during a biennial conference meeting for a term of two years. The President may be re-elected for one additional term.

Only a *regular member* who not only has taught Korean, Korean linguistics or Korean language pedagogy full time for a minimum of five years but also has attended the Association's conferences and professional workshops for at least two years (not necessarily in consecutive years) is eligible to be nominated for the President. Members may nominate themselves or others for the President, and a nominator should submit required information for nomination to the Secretary within four weeks (i.e., 28 days) prior to a scheduled election date. The Executive Committee shall make a short-list of Presidential nominees for an election.

The election of President shall be conducted by a majority vote of those present at an AGM or through other means of voting, such as mail/electronic voting. Only *regular members* (excluding associate and institutional members) shall vote by secret ballots on the nominees on the short-list made by the Executive Committee. No voting shall be carried out when there is only one nominee for the President.

Section 3: Nominations of Executive Committee Members

The President elect shall nominate and announce his/her five Executive Committee members described above (in Article IV Section 1) within two weeks (i.e., 14 days) after the election. The Executive Committee may increase or alter the number of its membership if desired. The Executive Committee may nominate a person to fill the vacancy if a member of the Committee resigns before his/her term expires.

Section 4: Executive Committee Meetings

The Executive Committee shall meet regularly for the Association's activities. The meetings are called by the Secretary at the request of the President or of three members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may decide to form a separate Organising Committee for the Association's biennial conference, professional development workshop or any other major activities.

Section 5: Quorum and Voting

One-half of the members present in person or through conference telephone or similar communication means at any meeting of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum. Each matter at any meeting shall be decided by a majority vote. The President does not have a voting right in any meeting s/he presides, but s/he has the right to break a tie vote.

Article V: Advisory Board

The Advisory Board shall consist of maximum 15 members, including two former Presidents and regional representatives of Korean language teachers associations in Australia and representatives of Korean language programs in Australian universities. The function of the Advisory Board is mainly to provide directions and advices to the Executive Committee if necessary.

Article VI: Business Meetings of the Association

Section 1: AGM

The Association shall hold an AGM of the membership at the same place as the Association's biennial conference and biennial professional development workshop.

Section 2: Notice of AGM

Notice of every AGM shall be mailed or emailed to the membership at least four weeks (i.e., 28 days) prior to a meeting.

Section 3: Quorum and Voting

Only due-paying *regular members* have the right to vote in AGM. A quorum for the AGM shall consist of one-tenth of dues-paying regular members present in person or represented by proxy. In the absence of a quorum, the meeting will be adjourned until such time and place as a quorum is obtained. Each matter at any meeting shall be decided by the majority vote of those present or voting by proxy. The members who are unable to attend a meeting may execute a written proxy in favour of any other member in advance of the meeting. The proxy may be either general or limited to specific matters. The Executive Committee may also, at its own discretion, authorise decisions to be made by means of a mail ballot which shall be sent to all members of the Association in good standing, and each such matter shall be decided by the majority vote of ballots received within a reasonable length of time.

Article VII: Dues

Membership fees shall be due and payable to the Treasurer of the Association annually in Australian currency. The amount of annual membership fees for each categories of membership shall be as follows and can be altered by the majority vote of AGM:

The regular and institutional annual membership fees is AU\$40 (forty Australian dollars), while the associate member's annual membership fee is AU\$20 (twenty Australian dollars).

Article VIII: Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Association shall be the period of 1 January to 31 December inclusive.

Article IX: Special Committees

The Executive Committee shall from time to time create standing committees or special committees as it deems necessary.

Article X: Amendments to the Constitution

The Constitution may be altered, amended, or repealed by a majority vote of the *regular members* (excluding associate and institutional members) present in person or by proxy at an AGM. Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by the Executive Committee or by one-tenth of the *regular members* of the Association.

Article XI: Ratification

The original Constitution was adopted and ratified by majority vote at the Preparation Committee for the Establishment of AUATK meeting held on the 28th of October of 2016.

Addendum

The first President was nominated and elected at the Preparation Committee for the Establishment of AUATK Meeting held on the 28th of October of 2016 for a term of two years.