

**CONSTITUTION**  
**OF THE**  
**GENERAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
**OF THE**  
**PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES**

**Chelsea Square**

**New York, New York 10011**

*As amended through October 20, 1994  
and as authorized by the General Convention of 1994*

**ARTICLE I**

The General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America shall be permanently established in the State of New York. The Trustees of the said Seminary shall have power, from time to time, to establish one or more Branch Schools, in the State of New York or elsewhere, to be under the superintendence and control of said Trustees.

**ARTICLE II**

The Management of the said Seminary shall be vested in a Board of Trustees, who shall have power to constitute Professorships, and appoint the Dean and members of the faculty, and to prescribe the Course of Study in the respective schools, and to make rules and regulations and statutes for the government thereof; and, generally, to take such measures as they may deem necessary to its prosperity: Provided, that such rules and Course of Study and measures be not repugnant to the Constitution and Canons of the Church, nor to the Course of Study for the candidates for Orders which is or may be established by the House of Bishops. The Board shall, from time to time, appoint an Executive Committee from its own number, to superintend and manage all the business and concerns of the Seminary during the recess of the Board, with all the powers of the Board, subject to such limitations as may, by statutes or otherwise, be lawfully and rightfully imposed. The Bishops who are Trustees shall be Visitors of the Seminary; and any two of them acting together may at any time, upon reasonable notice to the Faculty and to the Board of Trustees or Executive Committee, visit the Seminary, and shall see that the Course of Instruction and Discipline be conducted agreeably to the foregoing provision; and the Bishops

thus visiting shall lay before the Trustees, at their next meeting, any recommendations which they may deem of advantage to the Institution. The Trustees shall make report to the General Convention of their proceedings, and of the state of the Seminary.

### **ARTICLE III**

The Board of Trustees shall be constituted as follows: The Presiding Bishop of the Church; The Bishop of the Diocese in which the Seminary is located; The Dean of the Seminary; two Bishops chosen by the House of Bishops; two Presbyters or Deacons chosen by the House of Deputies of the General Convention; two lay persons chosen by the House of Deputies; twenty-four persons elected by the Board of Trustees; and nine persons chosen by the Alumni of the Seminary. The Presiding Bishop, the Bishop of the Diocese, and the Dean of the Seminary shall be members *ex officio*. The Bishops, Presbyters or Deacons, and lay persons representing the General Convention shall be elected at each convention for a term of three years; of the twenty-four persons to be elected by the Board of Trustees, eight persons shall be elected annually at the meeting of the Board next preceding the Annual Meeting of the Board for a term of three years to serve until the Annual Meeting of the Board following the expiration of their terms or until their successors are elected and qualify. The nine persons representing the alumni shall be so chosen that three shall be elected annually to serve for three years. The Alumni elections, in which all of the Alumni in the Seminary in good standing shall be the Electors, shall be in charge of the Alumni Association, whose Secretary shall report the results to the Secretary of the Board of Trustees. All vacancies in the Board of Trustees may be filled by the remaining members of the Board for the unexpired terms. These forty-two Trustees shall constitute the regular members of the Board, and hereinafter are described as the members of the Board. The Board shall elect its Chairman for such time and with such powers as it sees fit. Fifteen members shall be necessary for a quorum for the transaction of ordinary business, but a majority of the Board shall be necessary for the election of a Dean or member of the Faculty. Every Bishop of this Church, not a member of the Board of Trustees, shall be entitled to a seat and voice, but without vote, at any meeting of the Board.

### **ARTICLE IV**

The Board of Trustees shall always meet in the Diocese where the Seminary is established, and at such periods as they may determine.

### **ARTICLE V**

1. The Board of Trustees shall have power to remove the Dean, the members of the Faculty, and other Officers; but no such incumbent shall be removed from office

unless notice of an intended motion for such removal and the grounds thereof shall have been given to such incumbent.

2. Nominations to fill a vacancy in the office of Dean shall be presented in person or by writing at a meeting by the Board of Trustees, at which there shall be appointed a committee of five members to consider the nominations and to report to a subsequent meeting, to be held not less than two months after the meeting at which nominations are made. At this later meeting the election shall be consummated, a month's notice of the object of the meeting having been given to every member of the Board with the names of the persons nominated.
3. Nominations for member of the faculty made be made according to rules prescribed by the Board, provided, however, that all such nominations shall be submitted to a standing Committee on Education as established by the Board. This Committee shall promptly investigate all nominations, and deliver their report with reasonable dispatch to the Secretary of the Board, and the Secretary shall send a copy of the report to every member of the Board not less than one month before the meeting for election.

#### **ARTICLE VI**

This Constitution, as altered by the concurrent vote of the General Convention and of the Board of Trustees, shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the General Convention of 1994; and of the twenty-four Trustees to be elected at the meeting of the Board of Trustees following the General Convention of 1994, eight persons shall be elected to serve until the annual meeting of the Board in 1996 or until their successors are elected and qualify, eight persons shall be elected to serve until the annual meeting of the Board in 1997 or until their successors are elected and qualify, and eight persons shall be elected to serve until the Annual Meeting of the Board in 1998 or until their successors are elected and qualify, but thereafter all elections shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Article III.

#### **ARTICLE VII**

This Constitution shall be unalterable except by a concurrent vote of the Board of Trustees and of the General Convention.