



ANTIOCH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Memorandum of the Association

The Antioch Biblical Seminary & College Alumni Association is an association that exists to promote the general welfare of our graduates and to establish a feasible partnership with them in the ministerial and educational endeavours of our Seminary. It is an association of all our graduates, graduating students, and the present administrative staff of our Seminary at Puducherry. It is founded with an earnest aspiration of fostering mutual fellowship and cooperation among members and strengthening the ties between alumni, the community and the Seminary (ABSC).

History

This could be traced back to the ever first graduates of the Bethany College in 1998 at B.A.I.S and M.A.I.S (Bachelor/Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies) levels of studies. By that time the nomenclature of the Institution has been changed into *Antioch Biblical Seminary & College* and the first ever graduates of the Seminary was the class of 2001 at B.Th level. This was followed by the first graduates at the M.Div level in 2003. In 2019 the M.Th programme by extension has begun

Right from the first graduates to the present, the ABSC Alumni are serving and involving in different capacities in various spheres of Christian ministry. These include pastoral ministry, teaching, missionary, administration and the likes. Among those who are in pastoral ministry in particular, some are holding key positions in the respective church organizations and mission movements. Those alumni ministering in Pondicherry and Chennai city in particular are also serving as the supervisors of the week-end ministry teams. In future, we plan to start a few chapters in different areas or zones.

Name & Definition

The name of the Association is “Antioch Alumni Association” (AAA). The Association shall be an autonomous body working in collaboration with the Faculty of Antioch Biblical Seminary & College, Puducherry. “Alumni” means all former and graduating class students who have obtained their respective diploma and degree certificates from the ABSC.

Affiliation

The AAA (Antioch Alumni/Alumnae Association) seeks its bonafide affiliation with the Tamil District Council of SIAG through the Board of Directors of the Seminary at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting to be held on the 30th of March 2022.

Objectives

- a) To foster mutual fellowship and co-operation with one another as graduates and former students of Antioch Biblical Seminary & College
- b) To extend prayer and financial support by getting to know the status quo of the activities and future plans of the Seminary
- c) To create a working plan for its activities and run strategy discussions with the core members on how to increase the members
- d) To take support from other members to grow the network and engage the existing members
- e) To promote the Association and how the Seminary can leverage on the network

Membership

1. *Full Members* - All graduates of Antioch Biblical Seminary both Residential & Extension

2. *Associate Members* - Officially registered students in former years and the current graduating class. 'Friends' of alumni may also be invited if they are so willing to partake in our endeavors and be reckoned as associate members. Therefore, an "Associate member" means any person other than an Alumnus, who has been nominated or elected by the General Body of the AAA.
3. *Honorary Members* - Past and present academic and administrative staff without voting rights. Honorary members include the nominated faculty members and the persons of repute from inside as well as outside the Seminary who are likely to promote the interest of the association.

Eligibility

1. The association will be open to all the students who have obtained degree/diploma/certificate from ABSC. The membership shall be divided into Alumni Affairs Committee or Executive Committee, and General Body dealing with appropriate issues pertaining to alumni and associate interest of the Seminary.
2. The regular graduate and post graduate of ABSC will have the right to vote in the meetings. However, the friends of alumni shall not have the right to vote. The members may contribute to the association by a) *Praying* for the association, b) *Participating* in its events and activities and c) *Supporting* financially
3. Membership fees will onetime be Rs. 3000/- (subject to revision). This may be paid by installments. Membership registration fee is Rs.50/-

Purpose

- 1) The pass out students of ABSC will be important members for realizing the goals of the organization i.e. the creation, the application and dissemination of knowledge. They will be crucial change agents in transformational leadership.
- 2) The association activities and programs for its Alumni will be directed towards building life long bonds of kinship with the Seminary.
- 3) The purpose of the association will be to encourage the mutual understanding and support of the members
- 4) To have a platform of dialogue between the members, and the Seminary.
- 5) To sponsor social and ministerial activities of the Alumni association.
- 6) To promote communication, promote fund raising within the association for Church planting, Church construction and other developmental programmes of the alumni
- 7) To glean information about alumni and collect testimonies for publication in the quarterly or biannual Newsletter, *Antiochians*

Organization

The Antioch Alumni Association will be an independent and autonomous body and will work through its officiating members.

The Executive Committee

The Office-bearers of the Executive Committee of the Association consists of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. They shall have the authority to review and revise the membership fee on annual basis and to convene a General Body meeting. The Executive Committee is responsible for editing and publishing of the Newsletter *Antiochians* and of the maintenance of a bank account for the Association.

1. *Patrons* a) The Association shall have the President and the Principal of the ABSC as Patrons by virtue of their positions they hold. Initially the Patrons will appoint the Executive committee and subsequently the office-bearers will be elected by the alumni at the General Body meeting b) The Patrons may also nominate the Academic Dean and the Registrar as ex-officio Patrons if need arises. c) The Executive Committee consists of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer c) The General Body consists of all members of the Alumni association

The affairs of the Association shall be managed and the funds administered by the Executive Committee which shall consist of following three office-bearers. The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint from amongst the members of the General Body or from amongst its own members, Editor and other staff for the printing and publication of Brochures, Newsletters, Annual Magazine of the Association.

The Executive Committee shall have the right to co-opt members and/or appoint subcommittees from amongst the General Body from time to time for an execution of specific assignments as required. Any casual vacancy amongst the members of the Executive Committee arising from death, resignation, and removal or otherwise may be filled by co-option of the Executive committee and the member so co-opted shall hold office for the balance term of the member being replaced. Such co-opted member shall be treated on par and have all the rights as enjoyed by the elected members

The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice in a year. The Secretary shall issue the notice and the agenda of the meeting at least a week before the date fixed for the meeting. However, in case of urgent business, the meeting may be called at shorter notice. The Executive Committee shall be Executive Authority of the Association. It shall be responsible for all the finances and funds of the Association and shall give effect to the plans and programmes of the Association and shall have the authority to carry them out.

2. *Chairman:* At the outset the chairman of the Executive Committee will be a faculty nominated by the Patrons and he will serve on the Executive for a period of three years and later he/she can also be reelected by the General Body of the association. If his/her 3 year term has been completed he/she shall relinquish office as member of the Executive Committee. He/she may, however, be reelected.

The Chairman will sanction all budgets and will exercise overall control on all policy matters of the Association. The routine activities and the general administration of plans & programmes will be supervised and coordinated by the Chairman.

3. *Secretary:* He/she shall be elected by majority vote of the members at the General Body meeting. He/she shall be an alumnus of at least 3-5 years standing and should have been a member of the Executive Committee of any time before the election. The Secretary shall seek the advice of the Chairman in case a clarification of any kind is required.

The Secretary shall perform the following duties: i) To keep the Minutes of all meetings of the General Body and the Executive Committee ii) To carry out the directions of the General Body and the Executive Committee iii) To conduct correspondence on behalf of the Association iv) To give notice of all meetings of the General Body and the Executive Committee v) To exercise administrative control over the Central office of the Association.

4. *Treasurer:* He/she shall be elected by majority vote of members. He shall be an alumnus of at least Two years standing. Duties: i) Treasurer of the association will be responsible for all financial matters. ii) The association shall have Bank account either in the name of Alumni Association or it may use the existing bank account of the ABSC iii) Financial accounts shall be audited annually. The Treasurer shall keep the books of accounts of the Association and report on these at each meeting of the Executive Committee. He will collect all dues and claims on behalf of the Association and will also assist the Chairman and Secretary in ensuring that budgetary grants are correctly utilized. In addition, he will liaise with the bankers and the Auditors of the Association. iv) Disbursement shall be with the approval of the Chairman and Treasurer

v) There shall be two signatories for the withdrawal and disbursement of funds (Treasurer and the Chairman of Alumni Association) in case a separate bank account is opened for the association vi) The Financial process can be reviewed and amendments shall be carried out with the consent of the Patrons vii) All finances/ money received on behalf of the Associations shall be deposited in the prescribed bank account being maintained by the Seminary. All investments will be ratified by the General Body at its next meeting. The financial year of the Association shall be reckoned every year from 1st April to 31st March of the following year.

The General Body

- 1) The General Body shall consist of all the members of the Association
- 2) The General Body shall consider the Chairman's report of the past year's activities, the budget and plan of activities for the next year, approval of accounts, and election of members of the Executive Committee.
- 3) The General Body shall meet virtually on the last Wednesday of April unless the change is notified to the members well in advance. This meeting referred to as the Annual General Meeting shall statutorily consider the following: a) Approval of previous year's accounts. b) Introduction of new office bearers. c) Election of the members of the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall, upon being requested in writing by at least 15 members of the Association, call an extraordinary meeting of the General Body for which at least 4 weeks' notice along with agenda shall be circulated to all the members.
- 4) The quorum for the General Body shall be fifty percent of the total membership. In case the quorum is not complete, the Chairman shall adjourn the meeting and reconvene it after 30 minutes, at which time, the members present will constitute the quorum and there will be no minimum requirement.
- 5) All the resolutions put to vote at the General Body shall be decided by a majority vote (unless otherwise provided) on a show of hands. In case of equality of votes the `Presiding Officer` or any faculty member designated by the Patrons shall have the casting vote.
- 6) The Chairman or in his absence the Secretary shall be the returning officer for the elections.

Communication – Present Executive Committee (2022)

Pr. Selson Bensely, Chairman	- E-Mail: benslyselson@gmail.com WhatsApp: 9791255305 Mobile: 9791255305
Mrs. Sandhya, Secretary	-E-Mail: sandhyavasanth005@gmail.com WhatsApp: 9962288002 Mobile: 9840423292
Pr. David, Treasurer	- E-Mail: boarnerges4u@gmail.com WhatsApp:8754406642 Mobile: 8754406642

Bank Details

Antioch Biblical Seminary & College
Name of the Bank : Union Bank of India
Branch : Pondicherry
Account No : 570302010009864
IFSC Code : UBIN0557030

The executive members should have a clear formal and informal communication plan; Leverage the power of social media and spread the word to every Seminary pass out. We should create an official email id for the alumni and roll to a formal communication about the initiation of the association. More awareness brings more members to the association.

Every year, the Alumni Association promotes the month of April/May as “Seminary Awareness Month.” During this time, alumni are encouraged to preach in their congregations on the subject of training for the ministry from a particular text and to raise awareness and support for ABSC.