



## **CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF ACADEMIC EUROPEAN UROLOGISTS (AAEU)**

### **1. Aims and purposes**

The objectives of the AAEU are to promote the role, position, and activities of academic urology in Europe. This will be achieved by:

- Enforcing the position and value of academic urology and urologists in Europe;
- Promoting clinical and fundamental scientific urological programs and achievements in academic urological departments;
- Providing a forum for presentation and discussion of academic achievements in the field of urology and related areas;
- Developing educational programs aiming at the advancement of academic urology in Europe;
- Organizing exchange and collaboration between academic urological centres throughout Europe.

### **2. Organisational structure of the AAEU**

The AAEU is an independent organization in its own right. The Board and Officers of the AAEU have all responsibilities for all activities executed in the framework of the association's aims and purposes.

Related to these objectives, the AAEU will however closely collaborate with the Executive Board of the European Association of Urology (EAU), which also aims at promoting and supporting in the broadest sense clinical and scientific activities in all fields of urology for all European urologists. Therefore, the AAEU will receive logistic support and financial backup from the EAU, including the organisation of the Annual Meeting.

### **3. Membership**

a) Membership of the AAEU is limited and consists of the following categories:

#### ➤ ACTIVE MEMBERS

This membership category is limited to 100 academic urologists and consists of certified European urologists, under the age of 65, recognized for their academic urological expertise and achievements.

- INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS  
This membership category is limited to academic urologist and consists of distinguished non-European urologists with a recognized academic profile.
- EMERITUS MEMBERS  
This category consists of active members or international members who have reached the age of 65 or at an earlier age on their own request. They however still want to remain actively involved in the AAEU.
- INACTIVE MEMBERS  
This category consists of retired active, international or emeritus members transferred to inactive membership at their own request.
- HONORARY MEMBERS  
These members are active members, international members, emeritus members or inactive members elected to that status based on outstanding contributions to the AAEU and academic urology.

Only active members, emeritus members and honorary members may vote at the annual General Assembly, provided that they have paid their annual dues and registration fees. International members are not allowed to vote.

#### b) Membership nomination procedure

Nomination of new members should be restricted and exclusive. Candidate members should have a clear and impeccable academic urological profile. Candidate members can be proposed to the Membership and Nomination Committee through a written recommendation from active members, emeritus members, international members or honorary members.

If accepted by the Membership and Nomination Committee the candidate will be invited as a guest to the Annual Meeting of the AAEU. In this meeting the guest candidate should demonstrate their academic qualities and profile by presenting at least 1 paper dealing with their original clinical and/or scientific work, and by participating in the scientific discussions following the presentations. Moreover, their social and personal qualities should be appropriate for and in accordance to the high quality inter-individual academic and social interaction of the association and its members.

No more than 10 European guests and 3 international guests can be invited per meeting. If the number of proposed guests exceeds the maximum number, the Membership and Nomination Committee will make a selection.

At the EAU Annual Congress (March/April) the AAEU Membership and Nomination Committee will meet and select within the former guests the candidates for active or international membership and propose their candidatures to all voting members at the April Newsletter. Approval of two thirds of the members will promote candidate members to active membership. Candidate members can be present at the next Annual Meeting.

The AAEU Secretariat must receive all candidatures for guest and active membership before March 1st of the year of the Annual Meeting.

Honorary members can be proposed by active, emeritus and honorary members by written recommendation. The AAEU Award Committee will select potential candidates for

honorary membership and propose their candidature to all voting members at the next AAEU General Assembly.

The membership and Nomination Committee meets at the time of the EAU Annual Congress (March – April of each year).

#### **4. Board and Committees**

- a. The Board of the AAEU consists of 4 members: namely the Secretary General, the meeting President, the President Elect of the upcoming meeting and the Honorary Communication Officer. An administrative person provided by the EAU Executive Office will give administrative and secretarial support to the Board (AAEU secretariat). The Board members are elected at the General Assembly by the voting members. The President Elect is the prime responsible organiser of the forthcoming Annual Meeting. Upon nomination board members will exercise the duties customary to their position in the Board. The term of the President and President Elect is 1 year. The term of the Secretary General is three years, once renewable. The term of the Honorary Communication Officer is ad libitum.
- b. The Membership and Nomination Committee (MNC). The MNC consists of 5 members: four board members and 1 representative of the active members . The MNC selects and proposes all candidatures. The MNC is responsible for the selection of candidates as guests and further selection and proposition of new members (active and international). The term of the MNC is 4 years with annual replacement of at least 1 member (max. 2).
- c. Program Committee. The Board is responsible for the scientific and social program of the Annual Meeting. For the organization of the Annual Meeting the staff of the EAU will administratively support the Board.
- d. Award Committee. This committee consists of 3 past presidents of the AAEU and recommends candidates for honorary membership and all other awards of the AAEU. The term is three years, once renewable.

#### **5. Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting of the AAEU takes place yearly in the last weekend of November or the first weekend of December (Thursday through Sunday). The venue of the meeting is proposed by the Board and approved by the General Assembly (2 years in advance). The administrative staff of the EAU (Congress Consultants) will be responsible for the administrative and financial organization of the Annual Meeting upon the advice of the Board and the Meeting President. The meeting will start on Thursday evening with a reception and scientific sessions on Friday and Saturday morning followed by a cultural and social program on Saturday afternoon and evening.

All members and guests can submit abstracts for oral or other presentations to be presented and discussed at the Annual Meeting. The Board (= Program committee) determines the format of the meeting and select the abstracts for presentation. The Board (= Program Committee) will only invite guests if their paper is accepted for presentation.

The deadline for submission of all abstracts is October 15th, preceding the Annual Meeting. The abstract should be in line with academic standards and should contain no more than 150 words. Abstracts should be submitted through the AAEU abstract submission website.

## **6. Dues**

- a. Membership dues. The membership dues will be annually established by the Board and approved by the General Assembly (voting members). Members may be expelled for non-payment of dues. Dues should however be kept as low as possible and should be paid in Euros on a separate account under the government of AAEU secretariat. Honorary members do not pay membership dues but will be charged for registration costs if they attend the annual meeting.
- b. Registration fee. The Board will establish the registration fee of the Annual Meeting after consultation with the administrative staff of the EAU (Congress Consultants). Registration fees should cover all costs related to the scientific meeting itself and the social program. Invited guests are not required to pay annual dues but do have to pay the meeting registration fee.

## **7. Expulsion**

Expulsion of members of any category can be considered for:

- Non-payment of annual dues and/or meeting registration fees;
- Members who without excuse fail to attend the Annual Meeting at 2 consecutive occasions; the final decision will be taken by the Board upon discussion with the Membership and Nomination Committee;
- Members who fail to exhibit an active interest in academic urology;
- Any other just cause.

Expulsion is recommended by the Board together with the Membership and Nomination Committee, confirmed, and approved by a two thirds majority of votes from voting members at the General Assembly.

## **8. Amendments**

Any amendment to the AAEU constitution should be supported by a two thirds vote of the voting members after notice of the proposed amendment(s), 90 days prior to the Annual Meeting. If approved by two thirds of the votes, the amendment(s) will be effective immediately following the Annual Meeting.