

Chapter Constitution

Constitution of the Northern California Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German

I Name

The name of the chapter shall be the Northern California Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German.

II Purpose

The purpose of the chapter conforms to that of the national organization. It proposes to promote and improve the teaching of German in the area covered by this chapter and to encourage a spirit of cooperation and fellowship among its members.

III Membership

1. Any teacher of German or anyone interested in the teaching of German may join the chapter and the national association upon payment of the annual dues as specified by the by-laws of the national association. No one can be a member of a chapter alone. All chapter members belong first to the national association. Membership will be retained by the continued payment of the annual dues.
2. The annual dues, which include subscription to the official publications of the national association, are payable in September of the membership year for which they are intended. Only members in good standing may exercise the privileges of membership.
3. Graduate and undergraduate students who are certified by the chairperson of their department may become student members upon payment of the annual dues for student membership.
4. A teacher who at the time of retirement has been a member of the AATG for at least fifteen years may elect emeritus membership. The dues for this type of membership are defined in the by-laws of the national organization.
5. Honorary membership in the AATG may be granted only in accordance with the stipulations in the national constitution.

IV Officers, Nominating Committee, Elections

1. The officers of the chapter are the president, the vice-president, the secretary, and the treasurer. They shall normally be elected for a term of two years renewable for one more term and are thereupon normally not eligible for reelection to the same office. No president shall be reelected for more than three consecutive two-year terms (a total of six consecutive years).
2. Candidates for president shall be chosen alternately from the elementary/secondary school level and the college/university level whenever possible.
3. The nominating committee shall be constituted in accordance with the appropriate section(s) of Robert's Rules of Order. This committee asks for suggestions for nominations from the membership. A change of officers from one election to the next is desirable.

4. The slate shall be made known to all chapter members at least three weeks prior to time of election.
5. Elections shall be made by secret ballot of all chapter members present at the election.

V Administration

The administration of the chapter shall be in the hands of the executive council, which consists of the officers provided for in Section IV. In addition, the ex-president of the chapter may be a member of the executive council for one year following his/her retirement from office. Ex-officio members of the executive council may also include the editor of the chapter newsletter, the testing chairperson, the membership chairperson, and the chairperson of the Immersion Day.

VI Meetings

The chapter shall meet at least two times a year, normally in the spring and the fall. The time and place of the meeting shall be determined by the president after consultation with the executive council. The members present at any session shall constitute a quorum.

VII Changes in the Constitution

The constitution of the chapter may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present at any regular meeting. Such amendments may be proposed by the executive council or by written notice to the executive council by at least four members of the chapter not later than one month in advance of the meeting at which action is to be taken. The secretary shall submit such proposed amendment or amendments to the membership at least three weeks prior to the time of final action.

VIII By-laws

1. By-laws may be adopted or changed at any annual meeting of the chapter by a majority of the members present, provided that written notice of the proposed changes is sent to all members at least thirty days prior to such meeting.
2. The Chapter may be dissolved only 1) at a special meeting called for that purpose, 2) through a vote by a majority of the remaining members of the Chapter or 3) through clear evidence that the Chapter no longer is active. No member of the chapter shall be entitled to any distribution or diversion of its remaining property or proceeds. The balance of the money, other property or assets received by the Chapter from any source shall be distributed for exempt purposes to qualifying charitable beneficiaries, preferably the national organization, the American Association of Teachers of German, which is registered as a 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.