

**BYLAWS OF  
THE GOLD LEAF INSTITUTE  
FOR LEARNING IN RETIREMENT  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT FARMINGTON  
Ratified May 17, 1999  
Last Revised June 14, 2023**

**ARTICLE I – NAME**

The name of the organization shall be Gold LEAF (Lifelong Education At Farmington) Institute for Learning in Retirement (hereinafter referred to as GLI). It is affiliated with the Road Scholar Lifelong Learning Institute Network, sponsored by the University of Maine at Farmington, and operated under the terms of an Agreement between the University of Maine at Farmington and the Gold LEAF Institute.

**ARTICLE II – MISSION**

The Gold LEAF Institute’s mission is to provide continued learning and activity opportunities for anyone age 50 or older (and spouse/partner of any age).

**ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

1. Members emphasize peer learning as they design or facilitate courses, field trips, social events, discussions, workshops, study groups, speaker forums and concert/musical events.
2. Upon payment of the current dues, membership shall be open to all individuals fifty years of age or older and to their spouses or partners regardless of their age.
3. There is no education requirement.

**ARTICLE IV – PROGRAM YEAR**

The program year shall be July 1 to June 30.

**ARTICLE V – OFFICERS**

1. The officers shall be President, President Elect, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Member at Large (Ombudsman). These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by GLI.

2. The officers shall be elected at the annual meeting and shall serve for one-year terms, being eligible for re-election.
3. The Executive Board shall fill vacancies which occur for the remainder of the term.

#### ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

1. The **President** shall preside at all meetings of the membership and of the Board and shall perform other duties as are incidental to his or her office or are properly required of him or her by the Executive Board. The President shall be or shall designate the spokesperson for GLI. The President is a member of all committees, except the Nominating Committee.
2. The **President Elect** shall exercise the authority of the President in his or her absence, perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or Executive Board, and shall succeed to the office of President at the end of the President's tenure in office.
3. The **Vice-President**, in the absence of the President Elect, shall exercise the authority of the President in his or her absence and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or Executive Board. The Vice-President shall serve as the chairperson of the Nominating Committee in the absence of the immediate past president.
4. The **Secretary** shall
  - Be responsible for recording the minutes of the Annual meeting, special meetings, and Executive Board meetings.
  - Maintain such other records as may be required by the President or the Executive Board.
  - Carry out such other duties incident to the office as the President or the Executive Board may request.
5. The **Treasurer** shall
  - Maintain financial records and ensure they are uploaded to the GLI drive.
  - Complete and submit to the UM financial office monthly payout reports and upload the reports to the GLI drive.
  - At all times, keep books open to inspection by the Board.
  - Report to the Board quarterly, or upon request, financial statements on the condition of GLI's finances.
  - At the annual membership meeting, render an account of monies received and expended during the current fiscal year
  - At the end of the fiscal year, submit to the Board a written report stating the condition of GLI's finances and a summary by categories of receipts, disbursements, assets and liabilities up to the end of the fiscal year.
  - Serve as an ex-officio member of the Administrative and Finance Committee.
6. The **Member-at-Large (Ombudsman)** shall represent the interests of all members in all of the meetings of the Executive Board and at the annual meeting.

## ARTICLE VII - THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. The Executive Board shall consist of the officers, a chairperson from each standing committee, the GLI Liaison person with the Maine Senior College Network, the GLI UMF Board of Visitors representative, and the immediate past president.
2. The Executive Board shall
  - Have general supervision of the affairs of GLI between the business meetings.
  - Hire and supervise the office manager.
  - Establish dues.
  - Set the hour and place of meetings.
  - Make recommendations to the members of GLI.
  - Fill vacancies which occur for the remainder of the year.
3. If a standing committee chairperson is unable to attend an Executive Board meeting, the chairperson may designate a committee member to represent that committee at the meeting. At that particular meeting the designated representative shall have the right to enter the discussion, to make motions and vote, and to be counted in determining the quorum.

## ARTICLE VIII - COMMITTEES

1. The Standing Committees shall be
  - Administration and Finance
  - Curriculum
  - Membership and Promotion
  - Special Events
  - Nominating.
2. The President shall be an ex officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. The Immediate Past President shall be an ex officio member of the Nominating Committee and shall serve as its chairperson.
3. The Executive Board shall establish ad hoc committees as needed.

## ARTICLE IX - COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Administration and Finance Committee shall
  - Review the financial position and assets of GLI.
  - Recommend course fee structures to the Board in conjunction with the Curriculum Committee.
  - Prepare and present financial projections and aspects of special projects to the Board.
  - Study and prepare contracts with individuals and organizations.
  - Review and update existing agreements and contracts.

- Review Bylaws periodically and recommend changes.
  - Develop operational policies as needed.
2. The Curriculum Committee shall
    - Plan or facilitate workshops, discussions, activities, and multi-session courses.
    - Plan or arrange for educational field trips and special projects.
    - Be responsive to the interests of the membership.
    - Present the committee's recommendations for programs to the Executive Board for comment and approval.
    - Provide the Membership Promotion committee with information for use in publicity.
  3. The Special Events Committee shall
    - Plan events that offer opportunities for members to socialize.
    - Plan events that offer recognition for volunteer service to GLI.
  4. The Membership and Promotion Committee shall
    - Seek new members.
    - Endeavor to retain non-renewing members.
    - Assist other committees in determining interests of members.
    - Assist with membership mailings.
    - Promote the purposes and programs of GLI to the public.
  5. The Nominating Committee shall
    - Identify and contact potential candidates for the Executive Board.
    - Propose the slate of new officers to be presented at the annual meeting.

#### ARTICLE X - ELECTIONS

1. Any member may be a candidate for any office of the GLI.
2. Members may submit their names to the Nominating Committee for inclusion on the ballot.
3. Election shall be by plurality of those present and voting at the annual meeting.

#### ARTICLE XI - MEETINGS

1. The annual meeting shall be held in June, at which time officers shall be elected, and their terms of office shall commence at the start of the new GLI program year.
2. The Executive Board may call other meetings of the membership, as needed, by a petition signed by 10% of the members of the Executive Board.
3. Special meetings may be called by the membership by a petition of 10% of the membership.

4. A quorum of the Executive Board and of any other board or committee meetings shall be a majority of its members. A quorum of the annual meeting and special meetings shall be 25.
5. The Executive Board shall meet at least quarterly.

#### ARTICLE XII - - DISSOLUTION

In case GLI ceases to function, any remaining funds and property shall be transferred to the sponsoring institution (UMF).

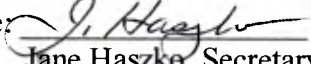
#### ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENTS OF BYLAWS

1. Two-thirds vote of those present and voting at the annual meeting or any special meeting may amend these bylaws.
2. Notification of any proposed changes must be sent to all members at least thirty days prior to the annual meeting or the special meeting.

#### ARTICLE XIV - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern GLI in all cases to which they are applicable and to which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order GLI may adopt.

Approved on June 14, 2023 at the Annual Meeting.

Signature:   
Jane Haszko, Secretary pro tem