ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
of the Alumni Göttingen Association e.V.

Non-profit organization of the University of Göttingen
§ 1 Purpose of the Association

(1) The purpose of the Alumni Göttingen Association e.V. is to develop and maintain the academic contacts among former and active members and associates, and with the University of Göttingen. By developing a network between the alumni and the institutions of the University as well as by organising social occasions and suitable offers of participation in teaching, academic programmes, continuing education, research and academic exchange, Alumni Göttingen e. V. intends to enable and facilitate access to academic issues and developments for its members. In so doing, the Association aims at the same time to contribute to a greater visibility of the academic achievements of the University of Göttingen and its international relationships within the field as well as with the general public, both nationally and internationally. The international orientation of this network should be reflected in the membership structure and also in the orientation of the offerings.

(2) The Association will pursue this aim in an exclusively and directly non-profit manner as defined by Section 3 of the [German] Fiscal Code (tax-deductible purposes §§ 51 ff.). The Association is philanthropic in nature and does not primarily pursue its own economic benefit.

(3) Alumni Göttingen e. V. will strive for close cooperation with the University Association e. V ("Universitätsbund"). The Association will acquire membership from the Universitätsbund e. V. Furthermore, it will aim for close cooperation with and mutual support from the Alumni Associations of the institutions of the University of Göttingen. Membership of these associations in Alumni Göttingen e. V. is desired.

§ 2 Name, domicile and fiscal year of the Association

(1) The Association carries the name “Alumni Göttingen e. V.” and shall be entered in the Register of Associations.

(2) The domicile of the Association is Göttingen.

(3) The fiscal year is the calendar year.

§ 3 Membership

(1) All former or active members and associates of the University of Göttingen and such persons as are willing to support the objectives of the Association may be members. Legal entities under public and private law which have a special connection to the Association may also be members.

(2) Membership shall end
  a) due to death,
  b) due to resignation which can only be declared in writing to the Executive Committee,
  c) due to formal expulsion which can only be made by a resolution of the General Assembly.

(3) Persons who have rendered special services to the Association can be nominated to be honorary members at the proposal of the Executive Committee. They will have all the rights of ordinary members and will be exempt from the obligation to pay dues.

§ 4 Rights and obligations of members

(1) Members have the right to vote in the General Assembly.

(2) All members have the right to submit proposals to the General Assembly and the Executive Committee. They are entitled to participate in all the Association events.

(3) Members will receive no financial compensation for their activities from the Association funds. Expenses incurred for the purposes of the Association can be reimbursed to a reasonable extent.

(4) Members are obligated:
  a) to promote the objectives of the Association to the best of their ability, and
  b) to pay the subscription (§ 5).
§ 5 Section subscription
A minimum subscription will be collected from the members; the amount and due date to be determined by the Executive Committee.

§ 5a Division into sections

(1) Members of the Association who belong to the same subject area may join together in a section. The sections shall serve to promote the subjects and their faculties and will be established as dependent departments of the Association according to a resolution of the General Assembly. They will collaborate with the Executive Committee via the Section Advisory Council (§ 12). The sections shall meet at least once annually in a Section Meeting to safeguard their interests. §7 shall apply accordingly.

(2) A Section Spokesperson shall preside over each section who will be elected by the members of the section. The Section Spokesperson is a special representative as defined by § 30 BGB [German Civil Code] and is entitled to act for the Association in matters concerning the section. On election, he/she belongs to the Section Advisory Council (§ 12).

(3) The sections can decide to draw in further contributions. These will be administered by the Executive Committee or the Manager appointed in accordance with § 11 (2) for the sections and are to be kept separately from the remaining Association funds.

(4) Operating Procedures shall regulate further details.

§ 6 Bodies of the Association
The bodies of the Association are:
1. General Assembly,
2. Executive Committee,

§ 7 General Assembly

(1) The ordinary General Assembly is to be convened by the Executive Committee in writing or by email once annually with a two-week notice period and a published agenda. The Executive Committee shall determine the agenda and any member may propose an amendment up to one week before the meeting at the latest. The date of the ordinary General Assembly must be announced at least two months in advance on the Alumni Göttingen web page.

(2) An extraordinary General Assembly is to be convened if the interests of the Association necessitate it or if at least 20% of the members demand it, indicating their reasons and the purpose in writing to the Executive Committee.

§ 8 Duties of the General Assembly
The General Assembly has the following duties in particular:
1. amendments to the Articles of Association,
2. approval of the annual budget,
3. election of the members of the Executive Committee in accordance with § 10 (1), 1 – 3,
4. expulsion of a member,
5. election of two auditors for a period of two years. They have the right to examine the Association’s funds and its books at any time. They must report to the General Assembly about their examination of the overall bookkeeping and cash management. The auditors may not belong to the Executive Committee or the Council,
6. acceptance of the annual reports and finance reports of the Executive Committee, the audit report of the auditor and granting of formal approval,
7. dissolution of the Association.
§ 9 Passing resolutions and keeping minutes

(1) The General Assembly shall be presided over by the 1st Chair of the Executive Committee or, in the event he/she is unable to attend, by the 2nd Chair of the Executive Committee or, in the event they are both unable to attend, by a representative appointed by the 1st Chair.

(2) The General Assembly shall have a quorum regardless of the number of members present if it has been correctly convened. It shall pass its resolutions by a simple majority of the votes submitted unless otherwise regulated.

(3) Resolutions concerning amendments to the Articles of Association shall require a majority of three-quarters of the members present.

(4) Minutes are to be recorded regarding the resolutions of the General Assembly which must be signed by the person chairing the meeting and the person taking the minutes. The person recording the minutes will be appointed by the General Assembly.

§ 10 Executive Committee

(1) The Executive Committee shall consist of:
   1. the President of the University of Göttingen as the 1st Chair,
   2. the 2nd Chair,
   3. the treasurer,
   4. the spokesperson for the management board of the University Medical Center Göttingen,
   5. the managing board member of the Universitätsbund e. V. [University Association],
   6. the Chair of the Section Advisory Council.
   The Executive Committee may be enlarged by up to two additional members, as elected by the General Assembly.

(2) The 1st Chair or the 2nd Chair are individually authorised to represent the Association in legal transactions (§ 26 BGB [German Civil Code]). It shall be determined internally whether the 2nd Chair may exercise his/her powers of representation only if the 1st Chair is unavailable. The Executive Committee may use third parties to accomplish its tasks.

(3) The members of the Executive Committee, provided they do not belong to the Executive Committee by virtue of their office, will be elected by the General Assembly for a two-year period; re-election is permitted. The period of office of the Executive Committee member shall end when the office is assumed by his/her successor in office. If the office of an Executive Committee member ends prematurely, the General Assembly may appoint a successor in office for the remaining time in office.

(4) The Executive Committee shall reach decisions by means of resolutions in board meetings at which it meets at least twice annually and for which minutes must be taken. Invitations shall be issued by the 1st Chair or in the event he or she is unavailable, the 2nd Chair, publishing the agenda with a notice period of one week. The meetings shall be led by the 1st Chair or, in the event of his/her absence, the 2nd Chair. The presence of three Executive Committee member shall suffice for a quorum, including the 1st Chair or the 2nd Chair. When voting, the majority votes of the Executive Committee members present shall decide. In the event of a tie, the 1st or 2nd Chair shall cast the deciding vote, but the vote of the 2nd Chair shall only be decisive in the event of the absence of the 1st Chair. The members of the University Executive Committee and of the management board of the field of medicine are entitled to participate in the board meetings in an advisory capacity.

(5) Operating Procedures shall regulate further details.
§ 11 Duties of the Executive Committee

(1) The Executive Committee shall manage the business of the Association. All business which is not assigned to the General Assembly or the Advisory Council by the Articles of Association shall fall under its jurisdiction.

(2) The Executive Committee can appoint a Managing Director to conduct its transactions who will assume the management of the Executive Committee in accordance with the provisions of §§ 664 to 670 BGB [German Civil Code].

(3) The Executive Committee shall decide on the removal of the Managing Director.

§ 12 Section Advisory Council

(1) The Section Advisory Council shall consist of the Spokesperson for the sections and the 1st Chair of Alumni Göttingen e. V. The Section Advisory Council shall elect a Chair and his/her deputy from amongst its members. The provisions for the Executive Committee (§ 10) shall apply to the election and performance of office of the Advisory Council members where appropriate.

(2) The Section Advisory Council shall advice the Executive Committee and support it in the performance of its tasks. Between General Assemblies, the Section Advisory Council shall also represent to the interests of the members in respect of the Executive Committee. The annual programme of Alumni Göttingen e. V. is to be regularly coordinated with the Section Advisory Council. The Executive Committee is to inform the Section Advisory Council about all significant developments in the Association. Likewise, the Section Advisory Council is to inform the Executive Committee of Alumni Göttingen e. V. about all the important developments and events in the sections.

(3) The Section Advisory Council shall be convened by the Executive Committee at least once annually, indicating the agenda and giving reasonable notice. The members of the Section Advisory Council can also propose the convening of the Section Advisory Council to the Executive Committee.

(4) The Chair shall lead the meeting. Minutes are to be kept of the results of the meeting.

§ 13 Assets

(1) All donations, revenue and funds of the Association are only to be used to achieve the purposes of the Association.

(2) No person shall benefit from disbursements that are not in accordance with the purposes of the Association.

§ 14 Dissolution

(1) Dissolution of the Association may only be decided on by the General Assembly with a majority of three-quarters of those members present (§ 9 (3)).

(2) The General Assembly shall appoint three liquidators to perform the liquidation.

(3) In the event of dissolution, loss or withdrawal of legal capacity of the Association or the discontinuation of its non-profit status, the assets shall devolve to the University of Göttingen which must use it exclusively and directly for the advancement of science and academics.