

**BY-LAW OF THE CHINESE STUDENT AND SCHOLAR ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK**

June 2006

ARTICLE I. NAME OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Chinese Student and Scholar Association of University of Maryland, College Park, hereafter referred to as the "Association," is a non-profit, non-political organization of all registered students, scholars, faculty members, staff, and alumni of University of Maryland, College Park who are from the People's Republic of China or are of Chinese ethnic origin, hereafter collectively referred to as "Chinese."

ARTICLE II. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The objectives, purposes and powers of this Association and the general nature of the business it proposes to transact are:

- a) To promote cultural, intellectual, and social activities for Chinese students, scholars, faculty members, staff, and alumni of University of Maryland, College Park;
- b) To enhance the professional development of the members by exchanging ideas and promoting social and cultural interests.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Regular Members

Regular membership shall be open to all Chinese students, scholars, faculty members, staff, and alumni of University of Maryland, College Park.

Section 2. Guest Members

Guest membership shall be open to all individuals who are interested in the Chinese culture and society.

Section 3. Withdrawal of Membership

Any member may also formally withdraw by writing to the current officers of the Association.

Section 4. Non-discrimination

We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, personal appearance, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, or on the basis of the exercise of rights secured by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. President and Vice-President(s)

The President ensures that all officers are adequately performing their duties; assumes powers not expressed herein or delegate same to other officers; and in general performs all duties incident to that office and such other duties as may be prescribed by a majority of the Committee (See Article IX).

There shall be no less than one (1) but no more than six (6) Vice Presidents, as determined by the President. The Vice President(s) in general performs all duties incident to that office and such other duties as may be prescribed by the President.

Section 2. Treasurer

The Treasurer, appointed by the President, shall be responsible for managing all funds of the Association; maintaining financial records and regularly issuing reports to Committee; monitoring fiscal matters related to all Association events, including costs incurred and expenses paid; establishing and maintaining the Association's bank accounts. Otherwise, the Treasurer shall perform all duties incident to that office and such other duties that may be assigned by the President or the majority of the Committee.

Section 3. Departments and Department Directors

The Association shall be composed of Departments which are open to all members of the Association. The President may establish additional Departments or eliminate existing departments as it deems necessary. The Departments are charged with organizing and hosting events and generally promoting the objectives and purposes of the Association. The President and Vice Presidents shall have the authority of appointing or removing Department Directors.

Section 4. Procedure for Resignation and Removal

All officers may resign from office by notifying the Committee in writing at least seven (7) days in advance. All Officers, except Treasurer, may be removed by the President. The President and the Treasurer may be removed from office if

- a) A simple majority of the Committee calls for a removal hearing open to all Regular Members, and
- b) A two-thirds majority of those who attend the hearing vote for removal.

Section 5. Procedure for Filling a Vacancy

The President shall have the authority of appointing new officers to fill vacancies resulting from events including, but not limited to, resignation or removal. In the event that the President resigns or is removed, the Committee shall appoint one of the Vice Presidents as acting President until the end of the current term.

Section 6. Term of Office

The term of office for all officers shall be one (1) year, starting from the end of May of each calendar year. No officers will be allowed to serve more than two consecutive terms.

ARTICLE V. ADVISOR

The Association shall have at least one (1), but no more than eight (8) advisors who are members of the University of Maryland faculty or staff. Advisors will be nominated by the Committee and approved by the President.

ARTICLE VI. ELECTIONS

The President shall organize a general election open to all Regular Members in late April or early May, preferably within three (3) weeks before the spring semester ends, as determined by the official University of Maryland academic calendar.

Candidacy for President and Vice Presidents shall be open to all Regular Members. Candidates must be a registered University of Maryland student at the beginning of the following academic year, and must be a Regular Member of the Association. Candidates may be nominated by any member, including themselves.

The President and Vice Presidents shall be elected by a simple majority of all Regular Members present at the election. The President-elect shall appoint Department Directors as necessary during his or her term.

ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

The President shall have the authority to call for general meetings open to all Regular Members as he or she deems necessary.

ARTICLE VIII. FINANCE

Only the President and Treasurer may authorize an expenditure of funds. All bank accounts of the Association shall be held in the name of the Association and disbursements shall require the signature of the President or the Treasurer.

ARTICLE IX. COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee of the Association, heretofore referred to as "Committee", shall consist of the President, the Vice President(s), all Department Directors and all Advisors.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this document require a two-thirds majority of the Committee present at the meeting. Proposed amendments to the by-laws must be offered in writing and read at one meeting prior to being considered for a vote. These amendments shall become effective upon receiving the required vote and as soon as practical be made available to the general membership.