Texas Classical Association Constitution

Article I. **Name, Purposes, and Membership**

- **Section I.** This organization shall be called the Texas Classical Association (TCA).
- **Section 2.** The TCA shall be a non-profit corporation operating in Texas.
- **Section 3.** The purpose of the Texas Classical Association shall be to foster the teaching of Classics and to encourage an interest in them in Texas. Members of the Texas Classical Association are urged to join the Texas Foreign Language Association to unite in support of the teaching of foreign languages in Texas.
- **Section 4.** The membership of the association shall consist of those engaged in or those interested in the teaching of Classics. Classes of membership shall be as follows:
  - ***A. Regular***: a member who pays annual dues
  - ***B. Joint***: membership for couples who want all of the benefits of membership but only one copy of TCA publications
  - ***C. Student***: open to college or university students enrolled in Classical Language, History or Civilization courses
  - ***D. Retired***: teachers who are members at the time of their retirement qualify
  - ***E. Life***: honorary membership bestowed for exceptional service rendered to the association
- **Section 5.** Voting rights and obligations shall be extended to every class of membership with one vote per person on all matters requiring voting. Voting shall occur at scheduled meetings. In case of a tie, the Executive Committee shall make the final decision on the matter.
- **Section 6.** The membership of the TCA shall be encouraged to contribute tax-deductible donations to the organization for the purposes of scholarship funding and overall organizational support.
- **Section 7.** Any donations can be added to existing TCA membership dues, or mailed separately to the TCA Secretary-Treasurer.

Article II. **Officers and Duties**

- **Section 1.** The elected officers shall be the ***President, the President-Elect, the Vice-President, the Executive Secretary-Treasurer, the Historian, the Web Manager, the Editor of the TCA Newsletter and the Editor of the Texas Classics in Action journal***. Officers shall be elected at a regular fall meeting and shall serve two-year terms. Officers may be reelected for any number of successive or intermittent terms.
- **Section 2.** Any member of the association shall be eligible to hold office. A majority of votes cast by members present shall be necessary to elect any officer. Newly elected officers shall take office at the close of the meeting at which they are elected.

- **Section 3.** The duties of the elected officers shall be as follows:
  - ***A. The President***
    - shall be chairman and presiding officer of the Executive Committee and the TCA Council
    - shall preside over all regular and called meetings of the association
    - shall be responsible for the program at such meetings
    - shall appoint or reappoint all chairmen and members of Standing Committees and remove or add other committees as the President or the association shall deem necessary
    - shall serve as an ex officio member on all committees
    - shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Executive Committees of the Texas Foreign Language Association and the Texas State Junior Classical League
    - shall lead and coordinate all activities of the association
  - ***B. The President-Elect***
    - shall assist the President and be assigned by him or her to leadership in such projects as the association may be sponsoring
    - shall be concerned with the training and placement of teachers
    - shall succeed to the presidency automatically upon the expiration of the President's term of office
    - shall assume the Presidency upon the resignation of the President, fulfilling that term and then embarking upon his or her own.
  - ***C. The Vice-President***
    - shall function as the parliamentarian at all meetings of the association
    - shall serve as liaison between TCA and TSJCL
  - ***D. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer***
    - shall actively support and assist each of the officers in the performance of his or her duties
    - shall conduct an annual membership drive for the association
    - shall record and disseminate the minutes of all regular and called meetings of the association
    - shall receive all monies due the association and shall pay from the treasury all just debts of the association upon receipt of properly itemized statements
    - shall make a financial report at each regular and called meeting of the association
    - shall provide an updated membership list to the TSJCL Executive Board
  - ***E. The Historian***
    - shall keep the official copy of the history of the association and update it annually
    - shall maintain the archives of the association
  - ***F. The TCA Newsletter Editor***
    - shall edit and publish the *TCA Newsletter* for the membership as needed, and submit an electronic version of this publication to the Web Manager
  - ***G. The TCA Journal Editor***

- shall edit and publish the *Texas Classics in Action* journal for the membership as needed, and submit an electronic version of this publication to the Web Manager

H. The Web Manager

- shall edit and oversee all TCA publications, current news and links to other sites of interest to Texas Classicists on the World Wide Web

- **Section 4.** The President, with the concurrence of a majority of the Executive Committee, shall have the power to appoint such additional officers as may be deemed necessary, including but not limited to, the members of the TCA Council and TCA Advisors to the Texas State Junior Classical League. These appointed officers shall be considered non-voting members of the Executive Committee.
- **Section 5.** An officer who is delinquent in the performance of his duties may be removed from office by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Article III. **Government**

- **Section 1.** There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the ***President, the President-Elect, the Vice-President, the Executive Secretary-Treasurer, the Historian, the Editor, the Web Manager, the immediate Past President, and the various appointed officers***. In the event the immediate Past President is unable to serve, his place on the Executive Committee shall be filled by any Past President the committee may select. The Executive Committee shall be the policy-making board of the association and shall meet at the call of the President. The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill vacancies occurring among their membership between elections, except that the President-Elect shall assume the Presidency, if at any time the office of President should become vacant. All such appointments shall be deemed interim in nature, the appointee to serve only until the time of the next elections of the association.
- **Section 2.** There shall be a ***TCA Council consisting of a representative selected from each Area of the Texas State Junior Classical League***. The TCA Council shall assist the President by providing information necessary for policy decision; they shall aid the Editor in gathering material for the TCA journal as corresponding editors; they shall assist the Executive Secretary-Treasurer in the recruitment of members; they shall be active in support of TCA programs and policies in their respective areas. The President shall conduct the business of the TCA Council by personal contact and by correspondence and may call meetings of the TCA Council as deemed necessary.
- **Section 3.** A liaison from the TSJCL State Chairs shall be invited to serve in an advising capacity to the Executive Committee.
- **Section 4.** There shall be two Standing Committees of the association:
  A. The ***Nominations Committee*** shall have three members and shall provide a slate of nominees for election at regular meetings. The committee shall secure the consent of all nominees for presentation to the association; the slate of

nominees presented shall not preclude nominations from the floor, provided that the consent of the floor nominee to serve has been obtained.

B. The ***Scholarship Committee*** shall have three members and shall have the responsibility of establishing criteria and selecting recipients for the TCA Professional Scholarship and the Gareth Morgan Student Teacher Scholarships. The Committee shall also select the recipients of the TSJCL scholarships as requested by its Executive Board and Advisors.

Article IV. **Meetings**

- **Section 1.** The association shall meet once yearly in the fall in a location selected by the President.
- **Section 2.** The association may meet at the call of the President at such time and place as he may designate; such called meetings shall be considered regular meetings of the association.

Article V. **Publicity**

- **Section 1.** The Constitution shall be published continuously on the TCA Web Site with copies available to members upon request to the Editor for a print version or the Web Manager for an online version.
- **Section 2.** The ***Texas Classics in Action*** journal shall be sent to all members each year, giving a report of coming meetings, a list of active members, financial reports, and forms for joining various classical associations, and any other current news and information of interest to the membership.
- **Section 3.** The ***TCA Newsletter*** shall be sent to all members each year, announcing the annual conference in the fall and the scholarships in the spring, plus other timely news as is appropriate.
- **Section 4.** A TCA World Wide Web site shall be maintained by the Web Manager, providing electronic access to reports, documents, forms, current news, and links to other sites of interest to Texas classicists, as well as any other information that can be effectively distributed via this medium.

Article VI. **Amendments**

- **Section 1.** The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the association.
- **Section 2.** Proposed amendments must be presented in writing to the Executive Committee at least one week prior to the date of the meeting at which the amendment is to be introduced.

Article VII. **Review**

- **Section 1.** The Constitution shall be reviewed quinquennially by a committee appointed by the President and the Executive Committee.

Article VIII. **Scholarships**

- **Section 1.** The Texas Classical Association shall offer scholarships for eligible students, apprentice teachers, teachers, and professors, for the purpose of supporting continued work and pursuits related to the world of Classics.
- **Section 2.** Specific details and monetary amounts associated with each scholarship may change at the discretion of the TCA Executive Board, and can be accessed through the TCA Newsletter or the official TCA website.
- **Section 3.** The scholarships are as follows:
  - ***A. The TCA Professional Scholarship***
    - This scholarship is intended to support projects undertaken by members of the association who have at least two years of full-time classroom teaching experience in classical languages or cultures; and who have been an active member of TCA for at least two years. Recipients may reapply after five years.
    - The project may involve attendance at a course; foreign travel with specific objectives; creation of instructional materials; or any other worthwhile activity connected to the teaching of classical languages or cultures. Stress is placed on the contribution of the project to the applicant's future skills as a classics teacher.
    - The scholarship funds must be used within one calendar year from receipt. A report of the recipient's activities or project will be made at the next TCA fall meeting following completion.
  - ***B. The TCA Gareth Morgan Student Teacher Scholarships***
    - Students enrolled in a Latin certification program in Texas may apply for one of two of these scholarships.
    - Applicants must be student teaching in Latin and must maintain a 3.00 GPA in Latin or Classics, with an overall GPA of at least 2.85.
    - The monies received will be used during the semester the recipient is student teaching.
  - ***C. TSJCL Louriana Miller and Gareth Morgan Scholarships for High School Seniors***
    - Two scholarships in honor for Louriana Miller and Gareth Morgan are awarded (one by the Texas State Junior Classical League (TSJCL) and the other by TCA) to qualified high school seniors who are planning to continue their study of Latin and the classics while in college.
    - Recipients must take Latin or Greek their freshman year of college. Enrollment in Latin cannot be at a beginning level, and courses in classical civilization shall not be accepted.

- JCL chapters may nominate only one student each. The chapter, which has the TSJCL Latin Student of the Year, is ineligible to nominate a member.

D. Doris Kays TCA Professional Development Scholarship for New and Future Teachers

- This scholarship supports both future teachers, and teachers new to the profession who would like to attend a seminar, workshop, or course designed to provide meaningful professional development for a career teaching in the classics. The money can be used to defray travel expenses, materials, textbooks, or tuition costs.
- The scholarship is named in honor of Doris Kays, in memory of her enormous contributions to the TCA and the teaching of Latin in the state of Texas.

E. The Ruben Shannon Lovinggood Scholarship for Teaching Materials

- The TCA is proud to offer this scholarship for new teachers or teachers in new programs to assist in the purchase of books and classroom or instructional materials.

Bylaws to the Constitution of the Texas Classical Association

1. Dues for the various types of membership shall be recommended by the Executive Committee and approved by the general membership. Approved dues shall remain in force until altered by a majority vote of the general membership present and voting at a regular meeting.

2. Membership shall extend throughout the school year in which dues are tendered until the beginning of the following school year.

3. Robert's *Rules of Order* shall be the authority for the conduct of all meetings of the association.

4. Amendments to these bylaws may be enacted by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting at a regular meeting of the association.

5. Any proposed amendment to the bylaws must be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee at least one week prior to the date of the meeting at which the proposed amendment is to be introduced.

6. A committee appointed by the President and the Executive Committee shall review these bylaws quinquennially.

(Amended in October 2009)