Constitution of the Education Council
at the
Curry School of Education
University of Virginia

(Ratified August 2008; Amended February 2011; Amended November 2012)

Article I: Name
The name of this organization shall be the Education Council of the Curry School of Education of The University of Virginia (hereafter referred to as Ed Council).

Article II: Purpose
The purpose of this organization shall be to further the best interests of the students of the Curry School through student representation in matters affecting student life and affairs, as well as through promotion of improved community conditions.

Article III: Powers and Responsibilities
Section 1
The Ed Council shall have the power to investigate any matter affecting the welfare of the student body and the Curry School and to make recommendations that will foster the best interests of the student body and the Curry School.

Section 2
The Ed Council shall have all the power to regulate all Ed Council elections. This power may be ceded to the University Board of Elections.

Section 3
Any member of the student body who is enrolled as a full-time student in the Curry School of Education may present charges of neglect of duties or malfeasance against any person serving on Ed Council. The Ed Council shall have the power to impeach the accused person by a majority vote of the full membership. The impeached person shall be supplied a written statement of the charges against him or her and shall be allowed at least one week to prepare a defense. After a full hearing of the charges, a two-thirds affirmative vote of the entire Ed Council shall be necessary to vacate the office of the impeached person; the impeached person shall have no vote in these proceedings.
Article IV: Membership, Officers, and Elections

Section 1

The executive powers of the Ed Council shall be vested in the Executive Committee of the Ed Council. The following officers shall serve as members of the Executive Committee and will be elected by the student body of the Curry School at an election administered by the University Board of Elections, to be held in the spring semester.

A. The President of the Ed Council shall convene the Executive Committee once monthly, and shall preside over all its meetings as Parliamentarian, according to procedures outlined in Robert’s Rules of Order. The President shall be the official representative of the Ed Council. The President shall represent the students of the Curry School of Education at all meetings of the Faculty Council, unless he or she is not enrolled in a doctoral program, in which case a doctoral student serving on the Student Affairs Committee as an at-large representative shall be appointed by the President to serve in this role. The President may appoint other elected officials of the Ed Council to serve in representative roles across grounds to ensure a reasonable division of responsibilities, appropriate representation of the Ed Council, and sufficient advocacy on behalf of the students of the Curry School of Education. The President shall serve as the Chairperson of the Student Affairs Committee.

B. The Vice President & Treasurer shall prepare a budget, as well as keep track of all expenditures and income of the Ed Council. This person shall preside over meetings of the Executive Committee in the absence of the President and assume the duties of the office of the President on a temporary basis in the event that the office becomes vacant. The Vice President & Treasurer shall serve as the Chairperson of the Budget and Finance Committee.

C. The Communications Chair shall keep a permanent record of the proceedings of the Ed Council, of all formal meetings of the Executive Committee, and of other matters as should become part of the permanent record of the Ed Council. The Communications Chair shall be responsible for maintaining and developing the Ed Council’s web presence, publicizing all Ed Council events, and publishing a print report of the Ed Council’s actions at the end of each semester. The Communications Chair shall serve as the Chairperson of the Records and Information Committee.

D. The Social Chair shall plan all social events sponsored by the Ed Council. The Social Chair shall serve as the Chairperson of the Social Events Committee. The Social Chair shall appoint an Athletics Representative to coordinate all athletic events for the Curry School of Education.

i. The Athletics Representative shall coordinate all Curry School of Education intramural teams by recruiting team captains and filing the necessary paperwork for participation.

E. The Community Service Chair shall coordinate all community service events of the Ed Council. The Community Service Chair shall serve as the Chairperson of the Community Service Committee. The Community Service Chair will serve as the liaison to the Curry School Foundation for the Curry Student Giving Campaign.

F. The Scholarship and Professional Development Chair shall advertise upcoming professional conferences and opportunities for research or publication to the student body of the Curry School of Education. This person shall also provide recognition of
This person shall also be Chairperson of the Scholarship and Professional Development Committee.

G. The Academic Affairs Chair will oversee all student-led academic initiatives and coordinate efforts to increase the quality of academic programs in Curry. This executive committee member will foster the communication of student academic ideas and concerns to faculty and administration. This student will also serve as a representative to the faculty committee on new courses and programs and any other standing academic committees as required.

H. The Inter-school Relations Chair will coordinate and plan all programmatic efforts between the various Colleges within the University. These activities may include conferences, social activities, outreach, and other major university-wide events. This executive committee member will collaborate with other leaders in Ed Council, faculty, and administration to carry out the duties of this office.

Section 2
One at-large representative from each of the following program areas may be appointed to the Ed Council by the program area chair: Language, Literacy, & Cultural Studies; Mathematics & Science Education; Special Education; Teaching & Learning; Administration & Supervision; Educational Psychology; Gifted Education; Higher Education; Instructional Technology; Educational Policy Studies; Research, Statistics, and Evaluation; Social Foundations; Communication Disorders; Counselor Education; Clinical & School Psychology; Kinesiology. Each at-large representative shall serve on two standing committees, one by choice and the other by random assignment to ensure balance in committee membership. Each appointee may serve as an at-large representative for his or her program area for only one term.

Section 3
Representatives to the Student Council, the Honor Committee, and the University Judiciary Committee shall also be elected by the student body of the Curry School at an election administered by the University Board of Elections, to be held in the spring semester. These representatives shall make reports to the Student Affairs Committee regarding the events of their respective committees as necessary.

2.1 The following positions are exempt from the election process and may be appointed by the president with Ed Council quorum approval: (1) student health insurance committee representative, (2) off-grounds student representative.

Section 4
Any member of the student body who is enrolled as a full-time student in the Curry School of Education may serve on Ed Council so long as the person is not on academic probation either at the time of declaration of intent to seek office, at the time of taking office, or while in office.

Section 5
The term of office for all officers and representatives to the Ed Council shall be from the start of the summer term following the University sanctioned elections until graduation of
the following spring semester. Nominations for at-large representatives to the Ed Council shall be solicited from program area chairs by the sitting President no later than one week following the University sanctioned election. The months immediately following the University elections shall be a training period, where the newly elected officers and appointed at-large representatives shall attend committee meanings and will be responsible for learning the responsibilities of their positions.

Section 6
In the case that a position(s) is not filled after formal elections, newly elected Ed Council officers may appoint officers to the vacant positions on a simple majority vote. In the case that no positions are filled after formal elections, current Ed Council officers may appoint new officers on a simple majority vote.

2.1 In the event the office of president remains vacant after elections, members of both the current and newly-elected council shall appoint officers to the vacant positions.
2.2 In the event half of the executive offices on Ed Council remain vacant after elections, members of both the current and newly-elected council shall appoint officers to the vacant positions.

Article V: Committees
The standing committees of the Ed Council are as follows: Student Affairs, Budget and Finance, Records and Information, Social Events, Community Service, Scholarship and Professional Development, Academics and Inter-school Relations. The Ed Council may establish any ad hoc committees that it deems necessary to perform its duties. Such committees may be formed by a majority approval of the Executive Committee. The functions, authority, and chair of these committees shall be agreed upon by similar vote. Membership in these committees shall be open to any student of the Curry School.

Article VI: Meetings and Conduct
The Executive Committee and standing committees shall meet at least once per month during the academic term of the University, except during Summer Session. Additional meetings may be called by any member of Ed Council or requested by any member of the student body of the Curry School of Education. All Ed Council meetings shall be made public knowledge and open to all students of the Curry School of Education. A quorum for Ed Council meetings shall exist if the President or Vice President & Treasurer is in attendance along with half of the executive committee.

Article VII: Amendment
Section 1
Any proposed changes to this constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee of the Ed Council.

Section 2
To receive action, a proposed change must receive the support of a two-thirds majority of members of the Ed Council.
Article VIII: Necessary and Proper Decisions
The Executive Committee is authorized to make a decision contrary to or not specifically covered by the Constitution at times when making such a decision is unanimously deemed necessary to the interests of the Ed Council and proper in reasoning by the Executive Council.

Article IX: Enactment
This Constitution shall replace all previous constitutions of the Ed Council as of the day of approval of this document.