

ST JOHN'S College

ANNAPOLIS · SANTA FE

Governing Documents

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND ~ SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Founded as King William's School, 1696
Chartered as St. John's College, 1784

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POLITY OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

Amended and Restated: 10/31/26

Preamble

Education is the making of adults out of children by bringing them into the world of inherited customs, intellectual traditions, and spiritual ties. Institutions of learning are set up for this purpose. Beyond this they should also seek to develop the moral and intellectual powers of their students to enable them to fulfill best their freely chosen tasks and thus to take their own responsible part in shaping the future. St. John's College is a community of learning committed to holding these ends constantly in sight and to seeking the best means of attaining them.

St. John's College strives to illuminate the common heritage of humanity in a persisting study of the great documents in which that heritage can be found. It is concerned with the unity of knowledge, an understanding of the great issues, and the moral foundations on which adults may conduct their lives. To provide proper conditions for the pursuit of these ends and to carry the legal significance of governing bylaws, we, the Board of Visitors and Governors, after consultation with the Faculty, do ordain and establish this Polity for St. John's College.

Article I

The College

(1) St. John's College is by its Charter a legal entity, carrying on its functions from its campuses in Annapolis, Maryland, and in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Under the Charter of the College, all power, authority, and responsibility pertaining to the College are vested in the Visitors and Governors, herein referred to as the "Board."

(2) The College consists of the following: The Board, the Faculty, the Staff, the Graduate and Undergraduate Students, the Alumni, and other members who may be named from time to time by the Board.

(3) St. John's College is one college with two campuses. The Faculty of the College shall collectively be known and distinguished forever as one learned body or Faculty and shall provide an education consistent with the Program of Instruction, herein referred to as the "Program," the Program's collegial order and governing, and the character of the individual campuses.

(4) Definition of Terms used herein, the Board Bylaws, and the Faculty Constitution, in alphabetical order:

   (a) "Alumni" shall refer to (i) those who have been awarded a degree by the College, (ii) those who withdrew or separated in good standing after completing at least two semesters of undergraduate study or at least one segment of Graduate Institute study provided that a) in the case of Undergraduate Students, the class with which they matriculated has graduated, or b) in the case of Graduate Students, at the end of three full sessions of the Graduate Institute after the one in which they last enrolled, and (iii) those who have been designated as honorary members of the Alumni Association of St. John's College. All who have ever been Alumni shall continue to be.

(b) "Associates" shall refer to non-teaching Faculty, such as the registrars, who lead offices that give particular support for the Program and work directly with the Tutors and the Students, and as provided in the Faculty Constitution.

(c) "President" shall refer to the President of St. John's College.

(d) "Dean" shall refer to the Dean of the Annapolis campus and the Dean of the Santa Fe campus, as the context may require.

(e) "Faculty" shall refer to the President, the Deans, the Associate Deans, the other Officers specified herein, the other Tutors, the Tutors Emeriti, and the Associates. The Associate Deans and the Tutors of the Graduate Institute shall be called the Faculty of the Graduate Institute. Tutors who have completed their tenure appointments by retiring in good standing shall be Tutors Emeriti.

(f) "Governing Documents" comprise the Polity, the Board Bylaws and the Faculty Constitution, the Charter of St. John's College, and the History of the Charter and Polity, as may be amended from time to time and made available to the public.

(g) "Officers" shall refer to those who hold the title President, Dean, Chief Financial Officer (or other similar executive position), or Vice President and shall serve as a Campus Officer when duties are specific to the Annapolis or Santa Fe campus, or a College Officer when appointed by the President to serve both campuses.

(h) "Staff" shall refer to all persons ultimately accountable to the President who are not members of the Faculty.

(i) "Students" shall refer to all who have formally matriculated, are at the present enrolled, and are in good standing.

(5) There shall be no discrimination at St. John's College in appointments, conditions of employment, admissions, educational policy, financial aid programs, athletics, or other activities, as outlined in the College's notice of non-discrimination as it may be amended from time to time, or protected by applicable federal, state, or local law.

Article II

Board of Visitors and Governors

(1) The Board is the ultimate fiduciary of the College, and as such has the authority and duty of oversight. Nothing in the Governing Documents shall contravene or be construed to contravene that authority and duty. Any delegation by the Board is subject to the Board's duty of oversight.

(2) The Board shall consist of not more than forty members, comprising the President, the Deans, the Governors of Maryland and New Mexico (or appointed representatives), and a sitting president of the St. John's College Alumni Association, all ex officio, thirty-four members, of whom not more than thirty-two shall be elected by the entire Board, and of whom not more than two shall be elected by the Alumni of the College. In addition, and in recognition of meritorious service to the College, Emeriti and Honorary members may be elected to the Board.

(3) At each annual meeting, the Board shall elect a class of members for a term of three years to

succeed those members whose terms expire at the conclusion of the fiscal year.

(a) If there should be fewer than ten members in any class prior to the end of the term for such class, any vacancy may be filled pursuant to the Board Bylaws for regular elections, except that the election may take place at any meeting or by electronic vote. A member elected to fill any such vacancy shall hold office for the remainder of the term of the class in which such vacancy occurred.

(b) The two Board members elected by the Alumni as provided in section (2) above shall be elected to the Board in accordance with the processes of the By-laws of the Alumni Association of St. John's College, provided that the Alumni Association shall consult with the Board concerning its nominees prior to such election.

(4) At each annual meeting the Board shall elect a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary, to hold office until the next annual meeting or until their successors are elected. Vacancies in any such offices may be filled at any regular meeting, or any special meeting called for that purpose.

(5) A Board member, including Emeriti, Honorary, and Alumni elected by the Alumni Association of St. John's College, may be removed for the failure or inability to perform fiduciary duties or for acts of moral turpitude by a vote of two-thirds of the entire Board eligible to vote. A Board member may be removed by the Chair in consultation with the President for a material violation of College policy, including but not limited to the institutional policies governing sexual misconduct or protected class discrimination.

(6) Representatives to Board meetings shall be elected to attend all regular sessions of the Board on the campus to which they belong, with a voice in deliberations, but without a vote. Three members of the Faculty shall be elected by the Faculty and three members of the Staff by the Staff on each campus. Two Undergraduate Students shall be elected by the Undergraduate Students on each campus, and a Graduate Student shall be elected by the Students of the Graduate Institute on each campus. Students nominated for election shall be subject to the approval of the Dean.

(7) Officers and each Associate Dean for the Graduate Institute may attend all regular sessions of the Board, with a voice in deliberation, but without a vote.

(8) The Board shall hold at least two regular meetings annually, at least one of which shall be held on each campus. The last meeting of the fiscal year shall be called the annual meeting. Special meetings may be called and held in-person or by virtual remote communication, but no business shall be conducted at any special meeting unless at least seven days' notice of such business has been given, or as otherwise provided in the Board Bylaws. One third of the voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

(a) The Chair, in consultation with the President, shall determine whether any meeting or portion of a meeting shall be in regular, executive, or public session, except that meetings of the Presidential Search and Executive Committees shall be held in executive session. Attendance at executive sessions shall be limited to voting members of the Board and those the Chair deems relevant to the session, other than any member excluded under the College's Conflicts of Interest Policy. A committee chair may enter into executive session during a committee meeting if the need arises. Attendance at committee meetings in executive session shall be limited to voting members of that committee and any other person invited by the chair of

such committee or authorized by the Chair in consultation with the chair of such committee, other than any member excluded under the College's Conflicts of Interest Policy.

(b) Any member of the Board may, without invitation, attend any Board committee meeting in regular session with a voice in deliberation but without a vote. The Board in regular session is open to elected and ex officio members, to Emeriti members, to Honorary members as guests, to Officers, to Associate Deans, and to elected representatives of the Faculty, Staff, Students, and Graduate Institute, and others invited by the President.

(c) Meetings in public session shall be open without restriction.

(9) A vote of the full Board may be requested and conducted electronically without specific notice except that which is required by law or as provided herein as to elections and amendments. A quorum of the Board must respond to such vote for the action to be valid. Any action approved by voting outside a meeting of the Board must be reported during the next Plenary Session at a subsequent meeting of the Board.

(10) The Chair may appoint standing or special committees of the Board as needed to address issues of the College. The Chair shall appoint one of the members to be chair of the committee. The following committees shall be appointed:

(a) An Executive Committee consisting of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, President, Deans, chair of Finance, and at the discretion of the Chair (such discretion to be exercised annually) no more than two at-large members of the Board. In intervals between meetings of the Board, the Executive Committee may act for the Board, except in those matters expressly delegated to the Presidential Search Committee. A majority of the members of the Executive Committee voting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

(b) A Finance Committee appointed annually for recommending to the Board the annual budgets and policies for the expenditures and investment of College assets; for the oversight of the College's financial matters, physical plant, and compensation policies; and such other responsibilities as the Chair shall charge. The President and Chair shall sit on the committee, ex officio. The Chief Financial Officer shall serve as non-voting staff to the committee.

(c) A Polity Review Committee appointed every fifth year to steward review of and amendments to this document. The committee shall receive from the Faculty Polity Review Committee an account of the Faculty's vote on proposed amendments. The respective chairs of the Board and Faculty Polity Review Committees shall make such arrangements as they deem appropriate for joint consultation prior to and after the adoption of the report by the Faculty.

(d) A Presidential Search Committee to recommend to the Board the appointment of the President, composed of five members of the Board appointed by the Chair, at least one of whom is an alumnus, the Deans, and one Tutor having tenure from each campus elected by the Faculty on that campus. Prior to making its final recommendation, the Search Committee shall, on both campuses, consult with all other appropriate persons and shall arrange for the final candidates to meet with the Faculty, the Instruction Committee, and, to the extent they have been formed, the Associates Councils and the Staff Councils of each campus. The Board may but is not required to accept the recommendation of the

committee. A Presidential Search Committee need not be appointed regarding the extension of the term of a sitting President.

(e) A Visiting Committee appointed annually, which shall meet as necessary or appropriate with the Instruction Committee on one of the campuses and discuss the Statement of Educational Policy and Program of the chair of the Instruction Committee. The Visiting Committee shall become acquainted with the aims of the College and how they are being realized, consider student wellbeing, and meet with Officers assigned to related responsibilities. The Deans shall be members of the Committee, ex officio.

(11) The College shall indemnify, to the full extent permitted by law, any current or former member of the Board or Officer of the College against any judgments, penalties, fines, settlements, and reasonable expenses (including attorneys' fees), and may advance such expenses, actually and necessarily incurred by them in connection with the defense of any action, suit or proceeding to which they are made a party by reason of being or having been such member of the Board or Officer of the College. Further terms, limitations, and grounds for cessation to indemnification shall be set forth in the Board Bylaws.

(12) Additional provisions and procedures for Board governance are set forth in the Board Bylaws, which may be amended as needed by a majority vote of the members of the Board. Nothing in the Board Bylaws shall conflict with or contravene the Polity, College policy, or federal, state, or local law.

Article III

The Faculty

The Board delegates to the Faculty the powers and authorities for the instruction and discipline of the Students and governing of the two campuses.

Article IV

The Faculty: The President

(1) After giving due consideration to the recommendation of the Presidential Search Committee as set forth in Article II(10)(d), the Board shall appoint a President to whom the Board delegates executive responsibility and authority for the instruction, discipline, and governing of the College and the campuses, and the President, in turn, may delegate such authority as necessary or appropriate.

(a) The term of the President shall be up to five years.

(b) All College Officers shall report to the President, and the President shall have the authority to determine policies and supervise the execution of policies in those College matters supervised by the College Officers.

(c) The President shall chair a committee consisting of the two Deans, the Chief Financial Officer, and other members whom the President may appoint.

(d) The President shall not have executive authority over instructional matters assigned to the Instruction Committee and its chair.

(e) The President shall concurrently be a Tutor, but the provisions of Article V need not apply.

(f) The President shall maintain a regular and substantial presence on each campus regardless of residence and shall actively promote the unity of the College across its two campuses. The President and persons to whom the President delegates authority shall consult with the Deans, other appropriate persons, and appropriate Faculty committees in matters of policy, initiation of programs, and setting of priorities affecting the general welfare of the College. The President shall consult with the Tutors' Compensation Committee and the Campus Planning Committees on matters concerning the respective responsibilities of those committees as set forth in the Faculty Constitution.

(g) The President may appoint Scholars-in-Residence and Artists-in-Residence after consultation with the Dean and the Instruction Committee on the campus where the Scholars and Artists shall reside.

(2) In the event of the death or incapacitation of the President, or other circumstance that renders the President unable to perform the required duties, the chair of the College Instruction Committee shall be the acting President, to serve in that capacity until an interim President is appointed by the Board, in accordance with the Board Bylaws.

(3) If in the judgment of the Board, the College is facing a financial exigency at either or both of its campuses which could call for a reduction in the number of Faculty positions, the President shall immediately advise the Faculty of the nature and extent of the financial difficulty and consult with them concerning the best way to address the situation. The Faculty may then make a formal recommendation to the President on ways to meet the problem, or, if the Faculty fails so to act, the Deans and the Instruction Committee may propose a plan to the President. The President shall then determine a plan which specifies a preferred course of action to be taken. All necessary steps must be taken in timely fashion as prescribed by the Board. Nothing herein provided shall limit the power of the Board to act otherwise in the event of need to reduce or eliminate Faculty positions.

Article V

The Faculty: Deans, Instruction Committee, and Tutors

(1) The Deans.

(a) The Deans on their respective campuses shall have the responsibility and authority for the supervision of the Program and for the general welfare of the Students, and for whatever government of the Students is necessary for the greatest possible attainment of the aims of the Program. The Deans shall be consulted concerning admissions policy and are the final authority on individual admissions decisions. In carrying out the Dean's duties, each Dean shall consult regularly with the President and with the Campus Instruction Committee and the other appropriate Faculty committees on that campus.

(b) The Deans shall be appointed for terms of five years from among the Tutors by the Board on the recommendation of the President after consultation with a special committee of seven, four from the campus for which the Dean is being chosen and three from the other campus, selected from among themselves by the Tutors having tenure.

(c) A Dean shall be appointed from among the tutors who have themselves been appointed in accordance with Article V. If non-tenured, the appointee shall acquire tenure upon becoming Dean.

(d) To assist them in carrying out their duties, the Deans shall recommend one or more Tutors to be appointed by the President with the title of Assistant Dean.

(e) In the event of death or incapacitation of the Dean, the Associate Dean shall act for the Dean until a successor is appointed.

(2) The Campus and College Instruction Committees.

(a) The responsibility and authority for the organization of the Program that is followed by the Tutors and the Students is delegated by the Board to the Campus Instruction Committees, chaired by the Dean of each campus.

(b) The Campus Instruction Committee shall comprise the Dean and six tutors elected from among themselves by the tutors on that campus. Provisions for the election of members of the Campus Instruction Committee are set forth in the Faculty Constitution.

(c) The College Instruction Committee, consisting of the two deans, one of whom is chair, and the twelve members of the two Campus Instruction Committees, are primarily responsible for overseeing and maintaining the integrity of the Program on the two campuses. The chair of the College Instruction Committee shall be the Dean of one of the two campuses, each serving in alternate years.

(d) Each year the chair of the College Instruction Committee shall, after consultation with the Instruction Committee on the chair's campus, and after discussion with the College Instruction Committee, submit a Statement of Educational Policy and Program to the Faculty as a whole for discussion. The author shall present the Statement, together with an account of the Faculty discussion of it, and their responses to it, as a report to the Board for its consideration.

(e) Should the chair of the Instruction Committee or the Chair deem it appropriate, the chair of the Instruction Committee shall report to the Board on instructional matters.

(3) The Associate Deans for Graduate Programs.

(a) There shall be an Associate Dean for Graduate Programs on each campus who shall have responsibility and authority for the organization and supervision on the Associate Dean's campus of the Graduate Program in the liberal arts and for matters concerning the general welfare of the Graduate Students. Concerning matters that affect the Graduate Institute as a whole the Associate Dean shall, in consultation with the other Associate Dean, be responsible to the chair of the College Instruction Committee. Concerning matters limited to one campus, the Associate Dean on that campus shall be responsible to the Dean on that campus.

(b) The Associate Deans shall be appointed for terms of four years from among the Tutors by the Board on the recommendation of the President, after consultation with the Deans and a special committee consisting of five members, three from the campuses on which the new Associate Dean will serve, and two from the other campus, selected from among themselves

by the Tutors having tenure.

(c) On each campus the Committee for the Graduate Institute shares with the Associate Dean on the same campus responsibility for carrying out the Graduate Program and for the general welfare of the students. Members of each Committee shall be appointed by the Associate Dean with the concurrence of the Dean on the same campus. Each Committee shall consist of three Tutors who have experience in the Institute, in addition to the Associate Dean, who shall serve as chair.

(4) Procedure for Instructional Proposals.

(a) Any proposal concerning matters of instruction that may affect the College shall originate with the Campus Instruction Committee. The procedure for Instructional Proposals shall be set forth in the Faculty Constitution.

(b) Proposals concerning matters of instruction or policy for the Graduate Institute shall originate with one of the Associate Deans, after consultation with the other Associate Dean and with the Committee for the Graduate Institute and shall be submitted to the Dean on the originating campus.

(5) Tutors.

(a) The primary responsibilities of the Tutors are to teach and to make themselves as competent as possible in all parts of the Program.

(b) The Tutors shall recommend to the Board candidates for degrees of their respective campuses.

(c) Tutors shall be appointed, reappointed, and granted tenure by the Board upon recommendation of the President in accordance with the recommendation of the Dean and the Instruction Committee on that campus where the Tutors so appointed shall teach. Appointment procedures shall be set forth in the Faculty Constitution. Associates may be appointed Tutors.

(6) Termination of Tutors and Temporary Relief of Duties.

(a) A Tutor's appointment or Emeritus status may be terminated by the Board for one of the following reasons only:

(i) failure or inability to perform teaching duties in a satisfactory manner,

(ii) an act of moral turpitude, or

(iii) violation of the College's institutional policies governing sexual misconduct or protected class discrimination, where a violation has been found and invocation of Article V(6)(a) of the Polity is determined pursuant to the relevant policy to be an appropriate sanction, after all provided appeals under the relevant policy have either been exhausted or not taken.

(b) With respect to termination recommendations made pursuant to section 6(a)(i) above, the President shall make such a recommendation to the Board only with the concurrence of the

Dean and the Instruction Committee of the campus concerned. Before making such a recommendation, the President shall advise the Tutor affected, and the Tutor shall have the right to be heard by the Instruction Committee of the campus concerned or, at the Tutor's option, by another committee to be designated by the President for this purpose.

(c) With respect to termination recommendations made pursuant to section 6(a)(ii) above, the President shall make such a recommendation to the Board after consultation with the Dean and the Instruction Committee of the campus concerned. When making such recommendation, the President shall note whether the Dean and the Instruction Committee of the campus concerned concur in the recommendation.

(d) With respect to termination recommendations made pursuant to section 6(a)(iii) above, the President shall make such a recommendation to the Board after all provided appeals under the relevant policy have either been exhausted or not taken.

(e) The President may temporarily relieve a Tutor of duties during a grievance process pursuant to section 6(a)(iii) above, in accord with the removal and administrative leave procedures of the applicable policy, or during proceedings under this section. When such action is taken, the Tutor's salary shall be continued until the applicable process is concluded. Nothing in this section shall limit the ability of the Title IX Coordinator/Policy Coordinator to implement supportive measures.

(f) Either Dean, with the approval of the Instruction Committee on the campus concerned, may recommend to the President that in the interest of instruction a Tutor be temporarily relieved of duties in whole or in part at any time. When such action is taken, the Tutor's salary shall be continued for the remainder of the current academic year.

(7) The sabbatical leave program is designed to provide Tutors with an opportunity for study, rest, and renewal of spirit, in anticipation of future teaching. It is the objective of the program to grant all applications for sabbatical leave meeting the conditions for eligibility. Tutors on such leave are expected to not undertake full-time remunerative employment elsewhere and to return to the College.

(a) Eligibility and priority for sabbatical leave shall be set forth in the Faculty Constitution.

(b) If, in the judgment of the President, after consultation with the two Deans, financial or academic needs of the College should require that fewer sabbatical leaves be granted on either or both campuses in a given year than there are qualified applicants, the President may, with the approval of the Chair, set a maximum number of sabbatical leaves for one or both campuses for that year. If the maximum number of sabbatical leaves on a campus is to be set based on the academic needs of the College, the approval of the Dean of that campus is also required.

(8) The President, with the concurrence of the Dean after consultation with the Instruction Committee on the campus concerned, may grant leaves of absence to Tutors for a period of one year or less and shall concurrently determine whether the leave shall be counted as service to the College with respect to eligibility for sabbatical leave. The decision with respect to a request for leave of absence shall be made in the light of the requirements both of the applicant Tutor and of the College. Leaves of absence will be granted in accordance with all applicable leave laws, including laws related to medical, family/parent, and military leave.

(9) Additional provisions and procedures for Faculty governance are set forth in the Faculty Constitution which may be amended as needed by two-thirds of a quorum of the Faculty in residence, including at least a simple majority vote of the Faculty in residence on each of the campuses, after consultation with the President and the Deans, and provided that any amendment with material financial implications for the College shall require the approval of the President. Nothing in the Faculty Constitution shall conflict with or contravene the Polity, federal, state, or local law, or College policy promulgated in accordance with Article IV(1)(b) and IV(2)(f) of the Polity.

Article VI

The Faculty: College and Campus Officers and the Associates

(1) The Officers of the College shall manage its resources in such a way as to strengthen the College, and thereby improve each campus, in a collegial manner and with appropriate allowance for campus-specific needs and practices.

(a) The President may appoint a College Officer after consultation with the two Deans and the Chair. The President may appoint a Campus Officer in consultation with the Dean on that Campus. The President may remove a College or Campus Officer appointed by the President in consultation with the Chair.

(b) The President may create a new College Officer position after consultation with the Deans and the Chair. The President may create a new Campus Officer position after consultation with the Dean of that campus. The creation of a new Officer position shall be subject to Board approval.

(c) College and Campus Officers may be appointed Tutors under the provisions of Article V.

(2) The President may appoint Associate members of the Faculty to support the Program on either campus, as deemed necessary by the President, after consultation with the Dean of that campus. The President shall have executive authority over the Associates, who may establish for themselves an Associates Council for the purpose of considering College matters of concern to them and communicating with other members of the College.

Article VII

The Staff

(1) Members of the Staff assist with the administration and maintenance of the College, performing duties necessary to its well-being.

(2) Staff on either campus may establish for themselves a Staff Council for the purpose of better communication and understanding of College policies as a benefit to the College.

(3) Additional provisions and procedures for Staff governance may be set forth in the Staff Council Bylaws which shall be amended as needed by the procedures therein by the Staff on the Annapolis and Santa Fe campus. Nothing in the Staff Council Bylaws shall conflict with or contravene the Polity, College policy, or federal, state, or local law.

Article VIII

The Students

(1) The primary responsibilities of the Students are to study and to make themselves as competent as possible in all parts of the Program. Their advice and service shall be sought by the Faculty in such matters and in such ways as may best serve the general welfare of the College.

(2) The Students of the College shall constitute the Student Polity of St. John's College in Annapolis and in Santa Fe.

(3) The Student Polity in Annapolis or Santa Fe may establish for itself a government which is representative of all polity members. The Dean on each campus may delegate to the Student government a share of the responsibility for the general welfare of the Students and whatever government of the Students may be necessary for the greatest possible attainment of the aims of the Program. The duties of the Student Government may include: the management of funds available to the Student Polity; the sanctioning of all student clubs, organizations, and activities, and their regulation, if necessary; the representation of the Students of the College to the community outside the College; the establishment and maintenance of formal channels of communication between the Students and the Faculty; and any other duties agreed upon by the Students and the Dean.

Article IX

The Alumni

(1) Alumni shall be life-long members of the College, since St. John's College is a community not limited by geographical location or fixed periods of time. This life-long connection is one of mutual support between the College and its Alumni.

(2) The Alumni Association is a means by which Alumni participate in the life of the College. Through the election of Alumni members of the Board, Alumni share in the direction of that life. In these and other ways, Alumni shall be given the opportunity to serve the College. The College shall cooperate with the Alumni Association to enable Alumni to assist and may provide seminars and other appropriate educational activities in Annapolis, in Santa Fe, and in other places.

(3) Requirements, and procedures for Association governance shall be maintained in Bylaws of the Alumni Association of St. John's College. Nothing in the Bylaws shall conflict with or contravene the Polity, College policy, or federal, state law, or local law.

Article X

Amendments and Review

(1) Amendments to this Polity may be proposed by a majority of the Board Polity Review Committee, or by a petition submitted by not fewer than ten percent of the members of the Board, or by the Faculty as provided for in sections (2) and (3) below. Written notice of a proposed amendment must be provided to the Board and to the Faculty not less than thirty days prior to the date of the Board meeting at which the amendment is to be considered. The Faculty shall have the right to inform the Board in writing of its recommendation with respect to the

proposed amendment by the time of that meeting. This Polity may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those members voting at any regular or special meeting of the Board, provided that the votes of no fewer than one-third of the members of the entire Board eligible to vote are in favor of such amendment.

(2) Amendments may be proposed at any regular meeting of either the Faculty in Annapolis or the Faculty in Santa Fe upon petition of not less than ten percent of the members on either campus. No such proposal shall be acted upon earlier than the next regular meeting of the Faculty, whether in Annapolis or in Santa Fe. A two-thirds vote of the entire Faculty in residence, including at least a simple majority vote of the Faculty in residence on each of the campuses, shall be required for approval and the amendment shall not become effective unless approved by the Board in the manner set forth in section (1) above.

(3) Every five years after the prior review process concludes, this Polity shall be reviewed by a committee of six, three to be elected by the Faculty on each campus. That committee shall notify, to the extent they have been formed, the Associates Councils and the Staff Councils of each campus and consider any views expressed by those Councils. The report of the Committee shall be submitted to one regular Faculty meeting and voted upon at the next regular Faculty meeting. A majority vote of the entire Faculty in residence (as shall be defined in the Faculty Constitution), including at least a simple majority vote of the Faculty in residence on each of the campuses, shall be required for approval of any proposed amendments. Whatever action is thus recommended by the Faculty shall be submitted to the Board for final decision in the manner set forth in section (1) above.

Article XI

Compliance with Law

No provision of this Polity shall be construed to contravene any applicable federal, state, or local law. If any provision is determined to contravene any such law, that provision shall be deemed not a part of this Polity, and this Polity's remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

BOARD BYLAWS

Amended and Restated: TBD

Preamble

As mandated by the Polity, these Bylaws supplement and particularize certain provisions of the Polity and further provide for the governance of the Board and the proper execution of its duties. No provision of these Bylaws shall contravene or be construed to contravene the Polity or any of its provisions, and if any provision of the Bylaws is determined to contravene the Polity, such provision shall be deemed to be not part of this document, and its remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

(1) Board membership.

(a) Persons shall be eligible for membership on the Board who are concerned for the maintenance, progress, and vitality of St. John's College's educational program and who are willing and able to discharge the responsibilities of Board membership with devotion and energy.

(b) Honorary members of the Board are those elected by the Board in recognition of their meritorious service or contribution to the college. Honorary members may attend all regular meetings of the Board and have a voice in deliberation, but without a vote.

(c) Retired members of the Board who have served five terms on the Board as members in good standing may be elected to the Board as Emeriti members. Emeriti members may attend all regular meetings of the Board and have a voice in deliberation, but without a vote.

(d) Ex officio members are those members of the Board who serve by virtue of their office or position with or in support of the College. They have a voice in deliberation, may vote, and are vested with the same rights and privileges as other members of the Board, except as provided in the College's Conflicts of Interest Policy with respect to matters concerning their own employment.

(e) The Governors of the States of Maryland and New Mexico are Ex officio Honorary members of the Board. They may attend all regular meetings of the Board and have a voice in deliberation, but without a vote.

(2) Nomination and election of Board members.

(a) The Trustee and Governance Committee shall nominate, by providing a written recommendation to each member of the Board not later than thirty days prior to the annual meeting at which the election is to be held, at least one candidate for each position for officer of the Board to be filled by that election, and for each Board position it proposes to be filled by that election.

(i) The Committee may propose a class of members in number less than the number of open Board positions.

(ii) Without extraordinary circumstances, the class of new appointments in any year shall not exceed six in number.

(b) Emeriti and Honorary members shall be nominated in the same manner as regular members, provided that the Trustee and Governance Committee shall prepare and provide to each member of the Board a written description of service regarding Emeriti nominees and a written statement of merit regarding Honorary nominees.

(c) Additional nominations may be made at least thirty days prior to the date above provided for the report of the Trustee and Governance Committee, in writing, addressed to the Chair and the chair of the Trustee and Governance Committee, and signed by at least five members of the Board. Any such additional nominations shall be reported to the Board by the committee at the time of its report.

(d) Voting on nominations at the annual meeting may be by voice vote or written ballot, as determined by the Chair, provided that the Board by majority vote may require a written ballot, and further provided that in the event there are more nominees than open Board positions allowed as provided in subsection (a)(ii) above, the vote shall be by a written ballot with each voting member entitled to cast a vote for the number of nominees not to exceed the number of open Board positions proposed to be filled at such meeting.

(i) In case the balloting results in a tie for one or more positions, the Board shall determine the procedure to resolve the tie.

(ii) If after the first ballot the number of nominees receiving a majority affirmative vote is less than the number of positions proposed to be filled at such meeting, the Chair may direct subsequent rounds of balloting, removing from consideration the nominee receiving the fewest number of votes in the preceding round, until the proposed number of Board positions has been filled.

(e) The president of the Alumni Association Board serving as a member of the Board shall consult with the chair of the Trustee and Governance Committee concerning the Association's Board member nominations and shall advise such committee of its nominations in advance of the Board's second meeting of the fiscal year so that the organizations' respective nominations can reasonably be coordinated. The vacancy of an Alumni-elected member may only be filled by the Alumni Association. Newly elected Alumni-elected members shall begin their terms immediately upon replacing their successor.

(3) Voting Procedures

(a) Unless otherwise specified in the Polity or herein, any vote of the Board shall carry if there is an affirmative vote of a majority of the eligible voting members present, in person or joining virtually, and who cast a vote. This procedure shall apply to votes requiring a supermajority of two-thirds, or otherwise. These same voting requirements shall apply to votes of committees, subcommittees, and task forces.

(b) In the event of a vote of the Board by ballot, a member recognized by the Chair as present and who has joined the meeting virtually may vote by email, text, or otherwise as directed by the Chair.

(c) Each vote of the Board shall be reported at the following plenary session of the Board.

(4) Membership Terms

(a) An elected member of the Board may be reelected before the expiration of the member's first term but may not serve more than two consecutive terms without extraordinary circumstances allowing the reelection by the Board of that member for two extended terms of up to three years.

(b) Interim appointments to the Board, those less than a three-year term, may be made at any time to fill vacancies. Interim appointments shall follow, to the extent applicable, the procedures established in section (2)(a) above. In exigent circumstances, the Chair may call for a special election of an interim appointment. Such a special election shall follow the requirements for a full vote of the Board as established in the Polity.

(c) Leaves of absence for elected Board members for up to one year may be permitted by the Chair and interim appointments may be made to fill the vacancies. Terms of the leave shall be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Chair in consultation with the chair of the Trustee and Governance Committee.

(5) Meetings of the Board.

(a) The Chair, in consultation with the President, shall schedule regular meetings of the Board at least one year in advance. Notice of schedule changes to regular meetings shall be given as soon as practicable but not less than fifteen days prior to such meetings.

(b) Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Chair, the Executive Committee, the President, or any nine members of the Board after notice of the time, location (if the meeting is not exclusively virtual), virtual access information, and the purposes of the meeting.

(c) Any business may be conducted at a regular meeting without specific notice of such business (except that which is required by law or as provided in the Polity or herein as to elections and Polity amendments), but, except as provided in section (5)(e) below, no business shall be conducted at any special meeting unless seven days' notice of such business has been provided or has been waived in writing by two-thirds of voting members of the Board either before or after the meeting.

(d) If, upon receipt of the request for an electronically administered vote, at least nine members of the Board respond that a special meeting of the Board is needed for discussion, the vote will be suspended and procedures for a special meeting will be implemented.

(e) In the event of the death or incapacitation of the President, or other circumstance that renders the President unable to perform the required duties, the Chair shall call a special meeting of the Board as soon as practicable, but in no event more than seventy-two hours after the Chair learns of the death, incapacitation, or other circumstance, for the Board to consider the appointment of an interim President and such other matters that may arise in connection therewith.

(6) Board Officers shall perform the customary duties of such offices, and such other duties as the Board may from time to time direct.

(7) Committees of the Board.

(a) Unless the Chair in the exercise of discretion determines otherwise, there shall be the following committees and subcommittee, in addition to those specifically established in the Polity:

(i) A Trustee and Governance Committee, responsible for the nomination, orientation, assessment, and development of members of the Board. The Committee shall develop and maintain Board composition guidelines and procedures for the selection of new and returning Board members to ensure Board effectiveness, expertise, diversity, and philanthropy. The Committee shall further be responsible for maintenance of the Board Bylaws and such other responsibilities as the Chair shall determine. The Chair and the President shall sit with the committee, ex officio, when nominations to Board membership are being considered.

(ii) An Audit and Compliance Committee, responsible for the review in detail of the annual report of the independent auditors and the discussion of audit findings with the auditors, including an executive session unattended by employees of the College. The Committee shall recommend to the Board the appointment or reappointment of independent auditors to conduct the audit for the next fiscal year. In addition, it is responsible for the annual review of Governing Documents for conformity with the Polity and for alerting the appropriate body to address any omissions or misalignments. The Committee shall further be responsible for the regular review of compliance by the College with all applicable local, state and federal laws, rules and regulations. The Committee shall report to the Board no less than annually on its review of the audit and compliance matters, shall bring to the attention of the Board any matters related thereto requiring Board action, and shall have such other responsibilities as the Chair shall determine. The Chief Financial Officer and Officers responsible for Title IX oversight shall serve as non-voting members of the committee.

(iii) An Advancement Committee, responsible for the oversight of the College's fundraising, communications, and alumni relations functions, and shall have such other responsibilities as the Chair shall determine. The Officers with responsibility in the areas of development and alumni relations shall serve as non-voting members of the Committee.

(iv) A Presidential Review Subcommittee of the Executive Committee, responsible for the performance management and development of the President.

(b) Chairs of committees other than the Executive Committee shall have term limits of two consecutive years, unless the Chair determines otherwise due to extraordinary circumstances.

(c) The Chair may appoint a subcommittee within any committee as needed. The chair of the subcommittee shall convene meetings regularly and report as needed at regular meetings of its parent committee.

(d) The chair of any committee or subcommittee may appoint ad hoc working groups to complete specific tasks in furtherance of the committee's responsibilities. The committee chair may invite Board members not appointed to the committee to participate in a working group.

(e) The Chair in consultation with the President may appoint a temporary task force to study or

address a matter of importance to the College. The Chair in consultation with the President shall establish specific outcomes and goals for the task force, which will inform its duration and composition. The Chair may appoint to the task force members of the college community or other persons with expertise to achieve its objectives. The task force will report to the Chair and will be accountable to the Board.

(f) Former members of the Board, Emeriti members, Honorary members, and Ex Officio Honorary members may be appointed by and at the discretion of the Chair to serve on committees, subcommittees, and task forces. Members thus appointed shall have the right to vote on matters coming before the committee, subcommittee, or task force on which they serve.

(g) Except for the Presidential Search Committee and the Polity Review Committee, committee appointments shall be made annually. Members of the Committees serve until their successors have been appointed.

(h) When a Capital Campaign is in progress, its chair shall be an ex-officio voting member of the Finance and Executive Committees.

(i) All Board committees, subcommittees, and task forces, except for the Executive Committee, shall create and maintain an annual operating calendar. This calendar shall be shared with the Executive Committee before the first Board meeting of the fiscal year.

(8) Execution of financial and legal contracts

(a) All contracts of $500,000 or more, notes, deeds, leases, mortgages, releases, bonds for security or indemnity, negotiable instruments, and like papers and documents on behalf of the College or the Endowment Funds shall receive written approval by two persons, of whom one shall be the President, the Chair, or Vice-Chair of the Board, and of whom the other shall be the Secretary of the Board or the Chief Financial Officer. Upon such written approval, any of the persons described in this sub-section may execute the document on behalf of the College.

(b) All stock transfers, certificates, powers, capital calls, and like documents and checks, drafts, acceptances, and similar orders for the payment of money on behalf of the College or the Endowment Funds may be signed or approved by the same persons authorized to execute documents as provided in subsection (a) above, but may also be signed or approved by such persons, and in such manner, as the Board may from time to time authorize and approve.

(9) Indemnification

(a) The indemnification obligation shall extend to any person who, while a member of the Board or a College or Campus Officer, may have served at the College's request as a director, officer, partner or trustee of another entity, provided that this obligation shall be non-primary and secondary to the indemnity and insurance offered by such entity and not available for contribution except to the extent that the indemnity and insurance offered by such other entity is insufficient to cover the person's personal liability.

(b) The College shall secure appropriate liability insurance policies for the benefit of the College, members of the Board, and College and Campus Officers providing coverage for

any alleged or actual liability in connection with their service as a member of the Board or College and Campus Officer. Such policy shall name each individual member of the Board and College and Campus Officer as an additional insured under the policy and shall provide for the advancement of attorneys' fees and litigation costs in the event of pending or actual litigation against Board members or College or Campus Officers in connection with such service past or present.

(c) Indemnification shall not be permitted or shall cease if it is established the act or omission of the current or former member of the Board or College or Campus Officer was material to the matter giving rise to the claim for indemnity and such act or omission was committed in bad faith or with deliberate dishonesty, involved receipt of an improper personal benefit, or, in the case of any criminal proceeding, the member of the Board or College or Campus Officer had reasonable cause to believe the conduct was unlawful.

(d) The indemnification provided in the Polity and herein shall not be deemed exclusive and shall not limit any other rights to which such member of the Board or College or Campus Officer may be entitled under any other insurance policy agreement, vote of the Board, or otherwise.

(10) Appointment and compensation of Campus and College Officers

(a) A College Chief Financial Officer shall be appointed by the President, in consultation with the two Deans. The Chief Financial Officer, under the supervision of the President, shall be responsible for all funds and property, and shall have authority to carry out fiscal and property transactions, and to receive and disburse funds, subject to the provisions of the Polity and other directions and arrangements pursuant thereto. The Chief Financial Officer shall review Staff employment regulations with the Staff Council and discuss with them any proposed changes.

(b) The President, after consultation with the Deans, may appoint a College Vice President with responsibility in the areas of development and alumni relations and a College Vice President responsible for the supervision of the Admissions and Financial Aid departments.

(c) Upon the recommendation of the President and approval of the Chair, the College may engage a campaign director.

(d) The President, after consultation with the Dean, may appoint a Campus Vice President with responsibility in the areas of student affairs and engagement and who shall also be responsible to the President on matters relating to the physical and mental health and well-being of the Students.

(e) There may be such other persons appointed with the title of Vice President as deemed appropriate by the President made after consultation with the two Deans, subject to Board approval as may be required by the Polity.

(f) The President may appoint, or delegate the power to appoint, campus committees as may be necessary for the carrying out of the President's duties for which no provision is made in the Polity.

(g) The compensation of the President shall be determined by the Chair in consultation with the

Vice-Chair of the Board and the chair of the Finance Committee.

(h) The compensation of the College Officers shall be determined by the President, in consultation with the Chair.

(11) General Provisions

(a) Written notice or writing includes a writing delivered by United States Postal Service or a generally recognized delivery service such as Federal Express or United Postal Service, email, or text. Notice shall be deemed delivered when it is properly addressed and deposited with the United States Postal Service or such other generally recognized delivery service, or if by email or text, when properly addressed and sent.

(b) If the Chair in the exercise of discretion shall eliminate a committee or subcommittee or reassign duties assigned herein, these Bylaws shall be deemed conformed accordingly.

(c) The fiscal year of the College is July1 to June 30.

(d) No provision of the Board Bylaws shall be construed to contravene any applicable federal, state, or local law. If any provision is determined to contravene such law, such provision shall be deemed to be not part of this document, and its remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

FACULTY CONSTITUTION

Amended and Restated: 3/12/26

PREAMBLE: The Program of Instruction ("the Program") defines and unites the College. The Program forms the Faculty, and the Faculty develops the Program. All members of the Faculty have as their primary duty the support and implementation of the Program and the promotion of the conditions of its flourishing. The primary responsibilities of the Tutors are to teach and to make themselves competent in all parts of the Program and to preserve the Program for the generations. The Faculty Constitution serves these ends by instituting collegial governance, and collegial governance, wherever possible, relies upon and fosters consensus. Consensus requires the free exchange of opinion and civil conduct. In accord with these standards of governance, the Faculty sets forth its Polity.

Article I, THE FACULTY AND FACULTY MEETINGS

(1) DEFINITION OF THE FACULTY: The Faculty comprises the Tutors, Officers, Associates and Tutors Emeriti. The term "Tutor" refers herein to the Presidents, the Deans, the Tutors with tenure and progressing toward tenure, visiting Tutors, and Tutors Emeriti currently teaching. In general, all Faculty may vote in the elections and on the resolutions occurring in the Faculty meeting. In those instances when the eligible voters are restricted, the restrictions are specifically indicated below.

(2) Faculty Meetings.

(a) Regular monthly meetings of the Faculty shall be called upon due notice by the Campus President; except that in the period comprising the months of December and January only one regular meeting need be called. The President or, in the absence of the President, the Dean, shall preside. In the absence of the President and the Dean, the Faculty shall elect one of its members to preside.

(b) Special meetings of the Faculty may be called upon due notice by the Campus President alone or at the request of five Faculty members.

(c) Due notice shall be construed to mean no less than three days' notice, except in cases of emergency.

(d) A quorum shall consist of a majority of the Faculty in residence except as otherwise provided. Faculty in residence shall include all Faculty as defined in I(1), excluding Tutors Emeriti not currently teaching, Tutors on sabbatical, and Tutors on full leave of absence.

(e) Only Tutors may vote on instructional matters.

(f) The Secretary of the Faculty. At the last regular meeting of an academic year, the Faculty on each campus shall elect one of its members, then in at least the member's third year at the College, as Secretary. The Secretary shall assist in the preparation and circulation of the agenda for Faculty meetings, shall keep the minutes of such meetings, and shall collect and circulate reports of Faculty committees.

Article II: THE DEANS

(1) The Deans.

(a) As stated in the Polity of the College (V(1)(a)), the Deans on their respective campuses shall have the responsibility and authority for the supervision of the Program and for the general welfare of the Students and for whatever government of the Students is necessary for the greatest possible attainment of aims of the Program. In carrying out the Dean's duties, each Dean shall consult regularly with the Campus President and with the Campus Instruction Committee and the other appropriate Faculty committees on that campus.

(b) The process for appointing a Dean and the term of office are determined by the Polity of the College (V(1)(b)).

(c) To assist them in carrying out their duties, the Deans may recommend one or more Tutors to be appointed by the corresponding Campus President with the title of Assistant Dean.

(d) As stated in the Polity of the College, VIII.3, the Student Polity on either campus may "establish for itself a government which is representative of all polity members. The Dean on each campus may delegate to the Student government a share of the responsibility for the general welfare of the Students and whatever government of the Students may be necessary for the greatest possible attainment of the aims of the Program."

(e) Absence or Incapacity of the Dean

(i) Temporary Absence or Incapacity. If the Dean anticipates being temporarily absent or otherwise incapable of performing the duties of the office, the Dean, after consultation with the President, shall appoint a Tutor with tenure to act as Dean during this period, or if no such appointment has been made, the Associate Dean shall act as Dean during this period.

(ii) Permanent Absence or Incapacity. If the Dean becomes permanently absent or otherwise incapable of performing the duties of the office, the Associate Dean shall act as Dean until a successor is chosen by the means prescribed in the Polity, which shall be done as promptly as possible.

(2) The Associate Deans for Graduate Programs.

(a) There shall be an Associate Dean for Graduate Programs on each campus who shall have responsibility and authority for the organization and supervision on the Associate Dean's campus of Graduate Programs and for matters concerning the general welfare of the Graduate Students. Concerning matters that affect the Graduate Institute as a whole, the Associate Dean shall, in consultation with the other Associate Dean, be responsible to the Chair of the College Instruction Committee. Concerning matters limited to one campus, the Associate Dean on that campus shall be responsible to the Dean on that campus.

(b) The process for appointing an Associate Dean and the term of office are determined by the Polity of the College (V(3)(b)).

Article III, THE FACULTY: THE TUTORS

(1) As stated in V(5)(a) of the Polity, the primary responsibilities of the Tutors are to teach and to become as competent as possible in all parts of the St. John's Program.

(2) As stated in V(5)(c) of the Polity, Tutors shall be appointed, reappointed, and granted tenure by the Board upon recommendation of the Campus President in accordance with the recommendation of the Dean and the Instruction Committee on that campus where the Tutors so appointed shall teach. Associates may be appointed Tutors.

(a) The schedule of regular appointment of Tutors on each campus shall be either (i)(A) or (i)(B) below, to be decided by the Campus President in accordance with the recommendation of the Dean and the Instruction Committee on that campus where the Tutors so appointed shall teach:

(i) (A) New Tutors shall be appointed for one year unless they are appointed at mid-year, in which case the initial appointment shall be for a year and a half. First reappointments shall be for one year. Second and third reappointments shall be for two and three years respectively.

(ii) (B) New Tutors shall be appointed for two years unless they are appointed at mid-year, in which case the initial appointment shall be for a year and a half. First and second reappointments shall be for two and three years respectively.

(iii) A Tutor who has completed a three-year appointment must either be given a tenure appointment or not be reappointed as Tutor. A Tutor may, however, be given a tenure appointment as early as the conclusion of the first year of a three-year appointment. Procedures leading to a recommendation for an early tenure appointment shall be initiated by the Dean and Instruction Committee, but not without the consent of the appointee, and shall not prejudice subsequent consideration for a tenure appointment. Tenure appointments shall not continue beyond retirement. Tutors Emeriti shall retain their privileges and responsibilities in voting at Faculty meetings.

(iv) Before making recommendations to the President on tenure appointments the Dean on each campus shall consult with the Instruction Committee on that campus, after seeking the advice of the Tutors on that campus.

(v) A Tutor, to be recommended for a tenure appointment, must have served full-time at the campus where the recommendation is to be made for the two years immediately preceding the year in which that recommendation is made, the provisions of (ii) above notwithstanding. In ordinary cases, these two years of service will be the second year of a two-year appointment and the first year of a three-year appointment. These requirements may be waived by the President on the recommendation of the Dean and Instruction Committee on that campus.

(b) A non-tenure appointment as Tutor establishes the possibility, but not the presumption, of its renewal and the granting of a tenure appointment. Procedures for considering non-tenure appointments differ from those for considering tenure appointments. Satisfaction of appointment criteria admits of degree. With each successive reappointment, the criteria are applied more rigorously. For a tenure appointment the application is especially strict.

(c) For the purpose of temporary transfer between campuses, special appointments of one or two years may be granted to a Tutor in addition to the Tutor's regular appointments. The Tutor may ask that such an appointment be counted as a regular appointment for the purpose of (a) above. In the case of a permanent transfer a Tutor may ask that years of service at the other campus be counted toward tenure according to the provisions of (a) above. Nevertheless, the provisions of (2)(a)(iv) prevail.

(d) Special one-year appointments and reappointments may be given to Tutors who intend to teach on a part-time basis only. Such a Tutor may subsequently apply for and receive a regular appointment. Special part-time appointments may then be counted on a fractional basis toward eligibility for tenure, subject to the provisions of (2)(a)(iv). In establishing eligibility for sabbatical leave, special part-time appointments shall be computed proportionately.

(e) Visiting Tutors may be appointed for a term or a year.

(3) Notification.

(a) A Tutor under consideration for a non-tenure appointment to begin in a certain calendar year shall be notified by the Campus President no later than December 15th of the preceding calendar year whether reappointment will be recommended to the Board of Visitors and Governors. A Tutor who is reappointed shall be notified by the President by March 1st of the calendar year in which the new appointment is to begin.

(b) A Tutor under consideration for a tenure appointment to begin in a certain calendar year shall be notified by the President no later than May 31st of the preceding calendar year whether the appointment will be recommended to the Board of Visitors and Governors. A Tutor who is appointed shall be notified by the President by July 31st of that same preceding year.

(4) The procedures for appointing and reappointing Tutors, including tenure appointments, may be found in the Tutor Handbook or Tutor Book of Customs and Policies. The Dean of each campus, in consultation with the Instruction Committee of that campus, may amend its procedures for appointment and tenure decision.

(5) The Faculty Teaching in the Graduate Institute.

(a) Each Associate Dean, after consultation with the Committee for the Graduate Institute on that campus, and in accordance with the recommendation of the Instruction Committee on the same campus, shall recommend to the Dean and President Tutors for appointment in the summer session of the Graduate Institute.

(b) During the summer term the Tutors teaching in the Graduate Institute on each campus shall have the authority to recommend to the Board of Visitors and Governors candidates for degrees.

(6) Transfer between campuses:

(a) A Tutor may apply to the Instruction Committee of the College not later than January 15th for a transfer of campus for the next academic year. Transfers shall require approval of both Deans after consultation with their Instruction Committees and both Presidents, with regard to financial implications.

(b) Tutors having transferred from one campus to the other generally spend no more than three years at the other campus. The Tutor in question may request that a transfer be made permanent. Permanent transfer requires the approval of both Deans, after consultation with their Instruction Committees. The Dean of the campus to which transfer is requested will, in consultation with the Instruction Committee, determine the procedure for making the decision.

(7) Leaves of absence and sabbatical leave.

(a) Eligibility for sabbatical leave shall be upon the following conditions:

(i) A Tutor who has received a tenure appointment may apply for a full year of sabbatical leave at full salary, to be taken upon completion of the equivalent of seven full years of service to the College since the original appointment, or the equivalent of seven full years of service since any previous sabbatical leave.

(ii) Such a Tutor may apply for an earlier sabbatical leave of a full year at partial salary, or a partial year at full salary. The fractional salary or fractional year shall be determined by the number of years of teaching completed in relation to the prescribed total for either an initial or a subsequent sabbatical leave, as the case may be. In no case shall a Tutor be paid more than the Tutor's regular salary.

(iii) Upon completion of sabbatical leave, a Tutor is expected to return to the College for at least two more years.

(b) If in a year there are more qualified applicants for sabbatical leave at any one campus than there are leaves to be granted at that campus, then those members shall have precedence who meet the following conditions in the order set forth:

(i) Those who have served for the greater number of years since their first appointment as Tutor or since their last sabbatical leave, whichever is more recent;

(ii) Those whose service has been continuous throughout those years;

(iii) Those whose last sabbatical leave was postponed pursuant to 7(b);

(iv) Those who are requesting their first sabbatical;

(v) Those who have seniority of appointment.

When there is a conflict of precedence, the Dean and the Instruction Committee on the campus concerned shall be consulted.

(c) A Tutor eligible for sabbatical leave shall make application to the President before November 1st for leave to begin the following July 1st and shall be informed of the action upon the application not later than January 1st.

(8) The President, with the concurrence of the Dean after consultation with the Instruction Committee on the campus concerned, may grant leaves of absence to Tutors for a period of one year or less. At that time, it shall be determined whether the leave shall be counted as service to the College with respect to eligibility for sabbatical leave and, if so, how. The decision with

respect to a request for leave of absence shall be made in the light of the requirements both of the applicant Tutor and of the whole College.

(a) Leave of absence may be renewed upon request but not more than twice in succession except in extraordinary circumstances.

(b) A request for a leave of absence shall be submitted to the President as early as possible in the academic year before the year in which the leave is to be taken, but not later than January 15th of that year. Requests for leaves of absence may be withdrawn at any time prior to April 1st of the year in which the request is submitted. Requests for leaves of absence for the second semester must be submitted no later than October 15th.

(c) Tutors on sabbatical leave or leave of absence remain members of the Faculty with the right of full participation in Faculty meetings and all other College exercises.

(9) Termination of appointment and temporary relief from teaching duties.

(a) In accord with Article V(6)(a) of the Polity of the College, a Tutor's appointment or Emeritus status may be terminated by the Board for one of the following reasons only:

(i) failure or inability to perform teaching duties in a satisfactory manner,

(ii) an act of moral turpitude,

(iii) or violation of the College's institutional policies governing sexual misconduct or protected class discrimination, where a violation has been found and invocation of Article V(6)(a) of the Polity is determined pursuant to the relevant Policy to be an appropriate sanction, after all provided appeals under the relevant Policy have either been exhausted or not taken.

Further information regarding the process for a termination of appointment may be found in the relevant article of the Polity of the College.

(b) In accord with Article V(6)(f) of the Polity of the College, either Dean, with the approval of the Instruction Committee on the campus concerned, may recommend to the Campus President that in the interest of instruction a Tutor be temporarily relieved of duties in whole or in part at any time. When such action is taken, the Tutor's salary shall be continued for the remainder of the current academic year.

Article IV, THE FACULTY: THE ASSOCIATES

(1) Associate members of the Faculty on each campus shall be appointed by the President in consultation with the Dean of that campus. On each campus, the President shall have ultimate executive authority over the Associates.

(2) Associates may be appointed Tutors under the provisions of Article III(2) of this document.

(3) The Associates on either campus may establish for themselves an Associates Council for the purpose of considering College matters of concern to them and communicating with other members of the College.

(4) The Associates Councils may establish such committees as they deem appropriate.

(5) There shall be the following Associates, as deemed necessary by the President on each campus, with the powers and responsibilities provided.

(a) The Registrars. The Registrars shall be responsible to the Deans on their respective campuses. They shall prepare and supervise the registration of students and shall be responsible for the academic records and schedules of students.

(b) The Librarians. The Librarians shall be responsible to the Deans on their respective campuses for the operation of the library. Appointments of professional members of the Library Staff shall be made upon the recommendation of the Librarian to the Dean on each campus.

(c) The Director of Athletics, Annapolis. The Director of Athletics shall be responsible to the Dean for devising and directing programs of recreational activities.

(d) The Director of Student Activities, Santa Fe. The Director of Student Activities shall be responsible to the Vice President for Student Engagement for devising and directing programs recreational activities.

(e) The Director of Admissions (or comparable position). The Director of Admissions shall be responsible to the Vice President of Enrollment and shall assist that Vice President in admissions policies decided in consultation with the Deans and shall support the Deans in their final authority over individual admissions decisions.

(f) The Director of Alumni Relations. The Director of Alumni Relations shall be responsible to the Vice President of Advancement and Alumni Engagement. The primary duty is to enable the College and the Alumni Association to be of service to alumni.

(g) The Directors of Financial Aid. The Directors of Financial Aid shall be responsible to the Vice President of Enrollment for the administration of financial aid programs. Since it belongs to the Deans to supervise the composition of the student body with a view to the conduct of the Program of Instruction, financial aid policies will be decided in concert with the Deans.

(h) The Director of Career Development and of Personal and Professional Development. The said Directors shall be responsible to the Deans on their respective campuses for helping and counseling students with respect to graduate and professional schools and careers.

(i) The Directors of Laboratories. The Directors of Laboratories shall be responsible to the Dean, in consultation with the Laboratory archons, for training and directing the student laboratory assistants, designing experiments for the laboratory program, and purchasing and maintaining laboratory equipment.

Article V, FACULTY COMMITTEES

(1) College Committees

(a) The Instruction Committee

(i) In accord with Article V(2) of the Polity of the College, there shall be a Campus Instruction Committee on each campus and the Instruction Committee of the College, the latter comprising the two Deans and the members of the Campus Instruction Committees.

(ii) Each of the members of a Campus Instruction Committee shall serve for a term of three years, and the terms shall be arranged in such a way that each year the terms of two members at each campus shall expire. Terms begin and end the day following commencement exercises. Annually, and separately at each campus, the President with the Dean on his campus, after consulting with the Instruction Committee and seeking the advice of the other Tutors on that campus, shall at the last regular Faculty meeting on that campus nominate four Tutors of whom two shall be elected by the Tutors to membership on the Instruction Committee. The Faculty shall be informed of the names of the nominees prior to the meeting at which the election occurs. At the expiration of the three-year term a member of the Instruction Committee shall for one year be ineligible for reelection.

(iii) If for any reason a member of the Instruction Committee is unable to serve for a part of his or her term, another Tutor shall be chosen to serve for that part of the term. For this purpose, the President and the Dean, in consultation with the Instruction Committee on the campus where the vacancy occurs, shall nominate two Tutors of whom the Tutors shall elect one in a regular Faculty meeting.

(iv) If the Instruction Committee resigns with the Dean on a matter of confidence and the resignations are accepted, the President, in consultation with the new Dean and after seeking the advice of the other Tutors, shall nominate nine Tutors for the six vacancies on each campus in such a manner that two out of each three nominees shall be elected by the Tutors for each of the three classes to fill the unexpired terms.

(b) The Tutors' Compensation Committee

(i) There shall be a Tutors' Compensation Committee of six Tutors, three to be elected by the Tutors on each campus, and the chair shall annually alternate between campuses. The Committee shall advise the Presidents concerning Tutors' compensation and related matters; it shall make annual reviews of the College's statement of Tutors' salaries and other compensation of Tutors and report to the Tutors and the Presidents recommendations consequent upon the review.

(ii) Members of the Committee shall be elected annually on each campus for terms of three years in such a manner that the term of one member on each campus terminates each

year. The Tutors' Compensation Committee on each campus shall provide the Tutors on that campus with two nominations for each vacancy on the Committee on that campus. Additional nominations may be made at the Faculty meeting when election shall be made.

(c) Campus Committees

(d) The Committee for the Graduate Institute. On each campus the Committee for the Graduate Institute shares with the Associate Dean on the same campus responsibility for carrying out the Graduate Program and for the general welfare of the students. Members of each Committee shall be appointed by the Associate Dean with the concurrence of the Dean on the same campus. Each Committee shall consist of three Tutors who have experience in the Institute, in addition to the Associate Dean, who shall serve as chair.

(e) The Campus Planning Committees. The Faculty on each campus shall elect five of its members as a Campus Planning Committee. Two members shall be elected to the Committee annually except in every third year, when one member shall be chosen. The President, the Dean, one of the Assistant Deans, and the CFO (or representative) on each campus shall sit ex officio with the Committee on that campus. It shall be the duty of the respective committees to advise the President on the construction of new buildings, the renovation of old buildings, landscaping of grounds, and all matters relating to the maintenance and development of the campus.

(f) The Library Committees. The President on each campus, in consultation with the Librarian and the Dean, shall appoint three Tutors on each campus to serve as a Library Committee. The President, the Dean, and the Librarian shall themselves be ex officio members of the Committee, and the Librarian shall serve as chair. It shall be the duty of the Library Committees to assist the Librarians in making the Libraries serve the ends of the College and its Program; it shall be their duty to advise the Librarians in regard to Library policy and acquisitions.

(g) The Information Technology Committees. The Dean on each campus shall appoint three Tutors to serve as an Information Technology Committee, one of whom shall serve as chair. Each Tutor shall serve a three-year term. The Dean, the Director of College Information Technology Services, and the Librarian shall be ex officio members. It shall be the duty of the Information Technology Committees to advise the Director of College Information Technology Services in regard to the needs of the College and its Program.

(h) The Prize Committees. The President on each campus shall appoint Tutors on each campus to supervise the awarding of prizes on the respective campuses. The Committees shall have full authority to decide what prizes shall be awarded and to name the recipients of the prizes.

(i) The Fellowship Committees. On each campus there shall be a Fellowship Committee appointed by the President. It shall be the duty of this Committee to inform students of fellowships for which they may be eligible, to assist them in applying for fellowships, and to act on behalf of the College in any matter relating to application for fellowships.

(j) The Dean on each campus may appoint committees for the carrying out of the Dean's duties for which no other provision is made.

Article VI, STATEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL POLICY AND INSTRUCTIONAL PROPOSALS

(1) In accord with Article V(2)(d) of the Polity of the College, each year the Chair of the Instruction Committee of the College shall, after consultation with the Instruction Committee on the chair's campus, and after discussion with the Instruction Committee of the College, submit a Statement of Educational Policy and Program to the Faculty as a whole for discussion. The author shall present the Statement, together with an account of the Faculty discussion of it, and the author's response, as a report to the Board for its consideration.

(2) Every three years, in alternation, one of the Associate Deans shall write a Statement of Educational Policy and Program for the Graduate Institute. The Associate Dean who writes the Statement, after consulting with the Committee for the Graduate Institute on his or her campus, and with the other Associate Dean, shall submit the Statement to the Instruction Committee for discussion at its joint meeting. Should an Associate Dean be asked to write a statement in the first year of his or her term, the Associate Dean may delay this statement for a year. In such a case, the other Associate Dean shall write his or her statement in the following year.

(3) Procedure for Instructional Proposals.

(a)

(i) A decision as to whether a proposal is for the College or campus-specific shall be made by the Deans and Instruction Committee of the College. They shall make this decision after notifying the Faculty on both campuses and inviting their comment.

Written statements of College instructional proposals shall be distributed to the Faculty at least two weeks before the Faculty meeting at which they are to be presented; the proposal shall be presented to the whole Faculty by the Chair of the Instruction Committee, either in person or through the other Dean. If, after full discussion of any proposal so presented, there be no objection on the part of any Tutor, the measure stands approved and becomes effective as of the date specified. If, after full discussion, a Tutor objects to the proposal and holds to the objection, the proposal shall be submitted to vote of the Tutors at special Faculty meetings called by the Presidents within a month. Any objections that have been made and held to and submitted in writing shall be transmitted immediately in writing to the whole Faculty. Any objections that have been made and held to but not submitted in writing shall be reported immediately in writing to the whole Faculty. If, after discussion, any objection has been made and held to, the Presidents, in calling special Faculty meetings, shall report the statement of the Chair of the Instruction and the Dean on the other campus as to whether it be a matter of confidence; and in submitting the proposal to vote, the Chair of the Instruction Committee and the Dean on the other campus shall, at the special Faculty meetings, repeat their statement as to whether it be a matter of confidence. The vote may then be taken and tallied by the Presidents in such a fashion that the Tutors shall have recorded their decision acting as a whole. If the proposal be one that the Chair of the Instruction Committee and the other Dean have declared a matter of confidence and if it be defeated by majority vote, the Deans and the Instruction Committee shall immediately resign. If it be passed by majority vote, it shall become effective as of the date specified therefore. For the confidence procedure a quorum shall consist of three-fourths of all resident Tutors on each campus.

(ii) Any instructional proposal that has been deemed campus-specific shall be subject to the procedure set forth above, except that, if an objection is made and held to on either campus, voting shall proceed only on the campus were the proposal is intended to be put

into effect. Any objections that have been made and held to and submitted in writing on the other campus shall be transmitted immediately to the voting Faculty. Any objections that have been made and held to but not submitted in writing shall be reported immediately in writing to the voting Faculty. If the confidence procedure is invoked, it shall be only by the Dean on the voting campus, and it shall affect the Dean and the Instruction Committee only on that campus.

(iii) The President may refuse to accept the resignation of the Deans or the Instruction Committee, any or all of them, whenever in the judgment of the President such resignation would be detrimental to the proper functioning of the College; provided, however, that if any six or more Tutors shall petition the Board, the latter shall review the President's decision within four weeks, during which time the Deans and the Instruction Committee shall continue in office.

(iv) In the event that the proposal be defeated and the resignations be accepted, the President shall proceed to the choice of new Deans in accordance with the provisions of the Polity of the College, Article V(2)(b).

(b) Upon either a petition of not less than one-tenth of the Tutors on either campus or a request from the President, the Dean and Instruction Committee on that campus shall consider any recommendation concerning instruction and shall report to the Faculty within one year concerning it. If the Dean and Instruction Committee make a proposal, the procedure of Article X(1) in the Polity of the College shall apply.

Article VII, AMENDMENT AND REVIEW OF THE FACULTY CONSTITUTION

(1) Every five years this document and the Polity of the College shall be reviewed by a committee of six faculty members, three to be elected by the Faculty on each campus. In reviewing this document, the committee will consult with the Deans and Presidents. In reviewing both documents, the committee shall notify, to the extent they have been formed, the Associates Councils and the Staff Councils of each campus and give consideration to any views expressed by those Councils. Any amendment with material financial implications for the College shall require the approval of the College President. The report of the Committee shall be submitted to one regular Faculty meeting and voted upon at the next regular Faculty meeting. A quorum for this vote shall consist of two-thirds of the Faculty in residence on each campus; a two-thirds majority of those voting, including at least a simple majority of those voting on each of the campuses, shall be required for approval of any proposed amendments.

(2) Amendments to this document may be proposed at any regular meeting of either the Faculty in Annapolis or the Faculty in Santa Fe upon petition of not less than ten percent of the members on either campus. No such proposal shall be acted upon earlier than the next regular meeting of the Faculty, whether in Annapolis or in Santa Fe. For a vote on such a proposal, a quorum shall consist of two-thirds of the Faculty in residence on each campus; a two-thirds majority of those voting, including at least a simple majority of those voting on each of the campuses, shall be required for approval.

(3) In accord with the Polity of the College (V)(9), no article of the Faculty Constitution shall conflict with or contravene the Polity, federal, state, or local law, or College policy promulgated in accordance with Article IV(1)(b) and IV(2)(b) of the Polity.

(4) The Dean of each campus shall maintain and publish a Tutor Handbook or Book of Customs and Policies to provide further information to the Faculty about the duties, responsibilities, and prerogatives of the Tutors, to be amended by the Dean of the relevant campus, in consultation with the Instruction Committee.

CHARTER OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

WHEREAS, institutions for the liberal education of youth in the principles of virtue, knowledge and useful literature are of the highest benefit to society, in order to train up and perpetuate a succession of able and honest men for discharging the various offices and duties of life, both civil and religious, with usefulness and reputation, and such institutions of learning have accordingly been promoted and encouraged by the wisest and best regulated States; And whereas, it appears to this General Assembly that many public spirited individuals, from an earnest desire to promote the founding a college or seminary of learning on the Western Shore of this State have subscribed and procured subscriptions to a considerable amount, and there is reason to believe that very large additions will be obtained to the same throughout the different counties of the said Shore, if they were made capable in law to receive and apply the same towards founding and carrying on a college or general seminary of learning with such salutary plan and with such legislative assistance and direction as the General Assembly might think fit, and this General Assembly, highly approving those generous exertions of individuals, are desirous to embrace the present favorable occasion of peace and prosperity for making lasting provision for the encouragement and advancement of all useful knowledge and literature through every part of this State;

BE IT ENACTED:

I. That a college or general seminary of learning by the name of "St. John's College" be established on the said Western Shore upon the following fundamental and inviolable principles; namely, first, the said college shall be founded and maintained forever upon a most liberal plan for the benefit of youth of every religious denomination, who shall be freely admitted to equal privileges and advantages of education and to all the literary honors of the college, according to their merit without requiring or enforcing any religious or civil test, or urging their attendance upon any particular religious worship or service other than what they have been educated in or have the consent and approbation of their parents or guardians to attend; nor shall any preference be given in the choice of a Principal, Vice-Principal or other Professor, Master or Tutor in said college on account of his particular religious profession, having regard solely to his moral character and literary abilities and other necessary qualifications to fill the place for which he shall be chosen.

II. That the governing body or board of said College shall consist of not more than sixty nor less than thirteen Visitors and Governors, to be chosen and to hold office in such manner as the said Visitors and Governors may determine and prescribe by their fundamental ordinances; provided, however, that the Governors of the States of Maryland and New Mexico shall act ex officio as two of the total number of Visitors and Governors of said college during their respective terms in said offices; and that the said Visitors and Governors and their successors duly chosen shall be and are hereby declared to be one community, corporation and body politic to have continuance forever by the name of

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

and by the same name they shall have perpetual succession.

III. That if the City of Annapolis should be fixed upon as a proper place for establishing the said intended college, this General Assembly give and grant, and upon that condition do hereby give and grant to the Visitors and Governors of the said College by the name of "The Visitors and Governors of Saint John's College in the State of Maryland," and their successors all that four acres within the City of Annapolis purchased for the use by the public and conveyed on the 2nd day of October, 1744, by Stephen Bordley, Esq., to Thos. Bladen, Esq., then Governor, to have and to hold the said four acres of land with the appurtenances to the said Visitors and Governors and their successors for the only use, benefit and behoof of the said college and seminary of universal learning forever.

IV. That the said Visitors and Governors and their successors by the same name shall be able and capable in law to purchase, have and enjoy to them and their successors in fee, or for any other less estate or estates, any lands, tenements, rents, annuities, pensions or other hereditaments by the gift, grant, bargain, sale, alienation, enfeoffment, release, confirmation, or devise of any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate capable to make the same, and such lands, tenements, rents, annuities, pensions or other hereditaments or any less estates, rights or interests of or in the same at their pleasure to grant, alien, sell and transfer in such manner and form as they shall think meet and convenient for the furtherance of the said college; And also that they may take and receive any sum or sums of money, and any kind, manner or portion of goods and chattels that shall be given, sold or bequeathed to them by any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate capable to make a gift, sale or bequest thereof and employ the same towards erecting, setting up and maintaining the said college in such manner as they shall judge most necessary and convenient for the instruction, improvement and education of youth in the vernacular and learned languages, and generally in any kind of literature, arts and sciences, which they shall think proper to be taught for training up good, useful and accomplished men for the service of their country, in church and state.

V. That the said Visitors and Governors and their successors by the name aforesaid shall be able in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleadable in any court or courts, before any judge, judges, or justices within this State and elsewhere in all and all manner of suits, complaints, pleas, causes, matters and demands of whatsoever kind, nature or form they be and all and every other matter and thing therein to do in as full and effectual a manner as any other person or persons, bodies politic or corporate within this State or any of the United States of America in like cases may or can do.

VI. That the said Visitors and Governors and their successors shall have full power and authority to have, make and use one common and public seal and likewise one privy seal with such devices and inscriptions as they shall think proper, and to ascertain, fix and regulate the uses of both seals, by their own laws and the same seals or either of them to change, break, alter and renew at their pleasure.

VII. That the said Visitors and Governors and their successors from time to time and at all times hereafter, forever, shall have full power and authority to constitute and appoint in such manner as they shall think best and most convenient, a principal, a vice-principal of the said college and professors with proper tutors and assistants for instructing the students and scholars of the said seminary in all the liberal arts and sciences, and in the ancient and modem tongues and languages; and the said principal, vice-principal and professors so

constituted and appointed from time to time shall be known and distinguished forever as one learned body or faculty by the name of "The Principal, Vice-Principal and Professors of St. John's College"; and by that name shall be capable of exercising such powers and authorities as the Visitors and Governors of the said college and their successors shall by their ordinances think necessary to delegate to them for the instruction, discipline and government of the said seminary and of all the students, scholars, ministers and servants belonging to the same.

VIII. That a majority of the said Visitors and Governors for the time being and duly assembled at any meeting upon due notice given to the whole body of Visitors and Governors shall have full power and authority to make fundamental ordinances for the government of the said college and the instruction of youth as aforesaid, and by these ordinances to appoint such a number of their own body not less than seven, as they may think proper for transacting all general and necessary business of the said seminary and making temporary rules for the government of the same; and also by the said fundamental ordinances to delegate to the principal, vice-principal and professors such powers and authorities as they may think best for the standing government of the said seminary and of the execution of the ordinances and rules of the same; provided always that they be not repugnant to the form of government of any law of this State.

IX. And for animating and encouraging the students of said college to a laudable diligence, industry and progress in useful literature and science, be it enacted that the said Visitors and Governors and their successors shall by a written mandate under their privy seal and the hand of someone of the Visitors and Governors to be chosen annually as their President, according to the ordinance to be made for that purpose, have full power and authority to direct the principal, vice-principal and professors to hold public commencements either on stated annual days, or occasionally as the future ordinances of the said seminary may direct and at such commencements to admit any of the students in the said college or any other persons meriting the same (whose names shall be severally inserted in the same mandate) to any degree or degrees in any of the faculties, arts and sciences and liberal professions to which persons are usually admitted in other colleges or universities in America or Europe; And it is hereby enacted that the principal, or in the case of his death or absence, the vice-principal, and in case of the death or absence of both, the senior professor who may be present, shall make out and sign with his name diplomas or certificates of the admission to such degree or degrees, which shall be sealed with the public or greater seal of the said corporation or college and delivered to the graduates as honorable and perpetual testimonials of such admission; which diplomas, if thought necessary for doing greater honor to such graduates, shall also be signed with the names of the different professors or as many of them as can conveniently sign the same; provided always that no student or students within the said college shall ever be admitted to any such degree or degrees, or have their name inserted in any mandate for a degree, until such student or students have been first duly examined, and thought worthy of the same.

X. That the ordinances which shall be from time to time made by the Visitors and Governors of the said college and their successors with an account of their other proceedings and of the management of the estate and moneys committed to their trust, shall when required be laid before the General Assembly for their inspection and examination, but in case at any time hereafter through oversight, or otherwise through misapprehension and mistaken

constructions of the powers, liberties and franchises in this Charter or Act of Incorporation granted, or intended to be granted, any ordinance should be made by the said corporation of Visitors and Governors or any matters done and transacted by the corporation contrary to the tenor hereof, it is enacted that although such ordinances, acts and doings shall in themselves be null and void, yet they shall not, however, in any courts of law, or by the General Assembly, be deemed, taken, interpreted or adjudged into an avoidance or forfeiture of this Charter and Act of Incorporation, but the same shall be and remain unhurt, inviolate and entire unto the said corporation of Visitors and Governors in perpetual succession; and all their acts conformable to the powers, true intent and meaning hereof shall be and remain in full force and validity, the nullity and avoidance of such illegal acts to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

XI. That this Charter and Act of Incorporation and every part thereof shall be good and available in all things in the law according to the true intent and meaning thereof, and shall be construed, reputed and adjudged in all cases most favorably on the behalf and for the best benefit and behoof of the said Visitors and Governors and their successors, so as most effectually to answer the valuable end of this Act of Incorporation towards the general advancement and promotion of useful knowledge, science and virtue.

XII. That the College may establish and operate one or more branches in one or more states of the United States.

HISTORY OF THE CHARTER AND POLITY

St. John's College was founded in 1696 as King William's School in accordance with a Petitionary Act for free-schools of the General Assembly of the Colony of Maryland. Following the Revolutionary War, the General Assembly of the new State of Maryland granted a Charter to St. John's College pursuant to and as a part of Chapter 37 of the Laws of Maryland of 1784. This Charter was subsequently amended by the General Assembly through Resolution No. 41 of 1832.

The Visitors and Governors of St. John's College in 1950 revised the Charter to eliminate extraneous and obsolete matter and to make certain other amendments consistent with present requirements and conditions. It was the opinion of the Attorney General of Maryland that the original Charter of the College was subject to the general Corporation Laws of Maryland and might accordingly be amended by the Visitors and Governors, pursuant to these laws, without legislative action by the General Assembly. Subsequent amendments were made in 1961, in 1963, in 1965, in 1970, and in 1975.

When the decision was reached to establish a second St. John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico, amendments were made to the Charter to authorize branches or extensions of the College. The Charter was then filed with the Corporations Commission of the State of New Mexico as a foreign corporation. The College was thus empowered to grant degrees in New Mexico under the provisions of its Maryland Charter.

A Polity for the College was first suggested in 1940 by St. John’s College President and New Program founder Stringfellow Barr, who requested that the instruction committee, “investigate thoroughly the type of polity that might service the college community best and would be appropriately adapted to and coordinated with the aims of the program.” In November 1943, the faculty elected a committee to draft this Polity, which was completed on January 14, 1945, and ultimately instituted by President Barr on March 3, 1945. In 1949, during the first year of Richard Weigle’s presidency, the faculty elected a second committee to revise the existing Polity. Among the provisions was a mandate for future quinquennial Polity reviews by the faculty and the Board. This Polity revision was approved by the faculty on April 9, 1950, and adopted by the Board of Visitors and Governors on July 8, 1950. Since that time the Polity has remained the College’s principal governing document, overseen by the Board in consultation with the faculty. The Polity was thus amended at regular meetings of the Board held on May 14, 1955; May 21, 1960; May 15, 1965; June 6, 1970; April 19, 1975; January 16, 1982; April 19, 1986; and October 19, 1991.

Other amendments were adopted by the Board at regular meetings on February 22 and December 9, 1961; February 23 and September 28, 1963; October 3, 1970; February 18, 1972; October 25, 1975; January 24, 1976; November 6, 1982; July 21, 1984; April 20, 1985; October 25, 1986; April 11, 1987; October 19, 1991; July 18, 1992; April 17, 1993; April 22, 1995; April 19, 1996; April 24 and November 6, 1999; January 27, 2001; April 26, 2003; April 24, 2004; January 27 and April 22, 2006; April 25, 2009; April 24, 2010; October 29, 2011; February 23, 2013; June 17, 2016; November 9, 2019; February 29, 2020; October, 21, 2023; February 22 and June 14, 2025; and October 31, 2026.