BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY BLACK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

BY-LAWS

As Proposed on 10/21/2015
Revised 6/1/2016
ARTICLE I. ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP
A. The Bucknell University Black Alumni Association (the “Association”) shall operate as seamlessly as possible within the Division of Development and Alumni Relations (DAR) as the hub of Bucknell University black alumni stakeholders providing communication, strategic and tactical support as needed.

B. Membership in the Association shall be extended to alumni, parents and friends of Bucknell University.

ARTICLE II. THE MISSION AND GOALS
A. Mission

The mission of the Bucknell University Black Alumni Association is engagement, advocacy and fundraising:

1) To effectively engage Black alumni by sharing University updates and promoting involvement and awareness among black alumni, current students and University staff.

2) To proactively advocate for its constituency, providing appropriate support and coordination of initiatives and events that enhance the Bucknell University experience for black alums pre and post-graduation.

3) To strategically fundraise in order to support the Brawley Fund, and other initiatives and programs developed by the BAA, that support black alumni and aim to enhance diversity at Bucknell University.

B. Goals

The goals of the Bucknell University Black Alumni Association are to:

1) Represent black alumni by interacting with and soliciting input from constituents; supporting current students and alumni; and collaborating with the administration, faculty and Bucknell University Alumni Association concerning matters essential to the interests and concerns of black alumni.

2) Engage diverse Bucknellians as donors, volunteers and advocates for Bucknell, by fostering communication between campus and alumni groups; providing services and programs beneficial to individual alumni and alumni groups; participating in local and campus alumni activities and disseminating information about the University and the Association.

3) Promote and enhance Bucknell University by encouraging alumni and students to assume responsibility for supporting and strengthening the University; educating the black alumni community about developments on campus and about the work of the Black Alumni Association; and supporting efforts to advance the University’s standing and reputation with respect to diversity.
ARTICLE III. THE BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY BLACK ALUMNI BOARD

A. **Creation**

The Black Alumni Association Board, which is representative of Bucknell University’s black alumni, was created to manage the affairs of the BAA.

B. **Composition and Procedure**

1) The Black Alumni Board shall consist of a team of graduates of the University (“executive committee”). In considering individuals for service on the Board, attention should be given to attracting the most qualified people possible with appropriate consideration being given for balanced representation based on class year, gender, geography, diversity in all its forms, interest, service, talent and financial commitment to the University. The Black Alumni Board may also include up to two non-voting members who are current students at the University (“student members”). Executive committee and student members shall be selected in accordance with guidelines established by the Black Alumni Association.

2) Terms of service shall be four (4) years for all Executive Committee members. Executive Committee members may be reappointed for one (1) additional four-year term upon recommendation from the Membership and Nominations Committee. Terms of service for student members shall be from the start of their sophomore, junior or senior year, through their graduation from the University.

3) Attendance at Black Alumni Association meetings is mandatory absent compelling personal or professional circumstance. Black Alumni Association members who are absent from two (2) consecutive meetings may, at the recommendation of the Membership and Nominations Committee, be reviewed by the Black Alumni Association Executive Committee and removed at their discretion from the Board.

4) Regular meetings of the Black Alumni Association shall be held once a month, via conference call, Homecoming weekend and Reunion weekend. Other special meetings may be held in accordance to upcoming events, etc.

5) A quorum of the Black Alumni Association Board shall exist if either of two conditions are met: (1) a simple majority of members are present; or (2) if the meeting has been announced to all Black Alumni Association Board members at least two (2) weeks in advance, the Board may decide that a quorum exists. Business shall be dispatched by a majority of the Board members present and voting.

C. **Officers**

1) The Black Alumni Association Board shall elect the President from a slate submitted by the Membership and Nominations Committee at the Homecoming meeting. A ballot
containing the names of candidates shall be submitted to each Black Alumni Association Board member not less than thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting.

2) Additional names may be placed in nomination upon written request from ten (10) members of the black alumni constituency not more than twenty (20) days after publication of the slate by the Membership. Such petition must be accompanied by the written permission of the candidate.

3) The President, along with the chairpersons of the Black Alumni Associations standing committees shall comprise the Board. The President may also appoint up to two (2) additional members-at-large to the Board.

4) A Black Alumni Association Board member who is elected as an officer of the Board for a term that is longer than the member’s remaining term on the Board shall have his or her term on the Black Alumni Association Board extended for the length of the member’s term as an officer.

5) If the President is unable to complete his or her term, then the Communications Chair will assume the Presidency and complete the remaining term of the departed President. If the Communications Chair is unavailable to assume the office of President, then a special election will be held. If any other officer is unable to complete his or her term, then a replacement for the remaining term of the departed officer will be appointed by the President in consultation with the Black Alumni Association Board.

ARTICLE IV. COMMITTEES

A. The Board shall be charged with the responsibility of setting the agenda for Black Alumni Association Board meetings in coordination with the Office of Alumni Relations. The Board is also authorized to act on behalf of the full Board between regularly scheduled meetings and in emergency situations.

B. In addition to the Board there shall be created the following committees of the Alumni Board for operations: 1. Alumni Engagement Committee (Communications and Events) 2. Membership and Nominations Committee (By-laws and Recruitment) 3. Admissions and Student Support Committee (Just One! and Mentoring Program) 4. Development Committee (Giving Campaigns and the Brawley Fund).

C. There shall also be created, as a subcommittee of the Membership and Nominations Committee, an Alumni Awards Committee. A member in good standing of the Membership and Nominations Committee will chair the Alumni Awards Committee.

D. The Board shall have the flexibility to create, disband, rename or merge any Black Alumni Board committees, subcommittees, ad hoc committees, task forces and the like as it shall deem appropriate and necessary in order to support the mission of the Association and to address the business of the Board over time. The President shall have the authority to appoint the chairpersons of any such Black Alumni Association
Board, committees, subcommittees, ad hoc committees, or task forces.

**ARTICLE V. UNIVERSITY SUPPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION**

A strong, well-functioning Black Alumni Association is of great importance to Bucknell University. The University, therefore, shall provide administrative support to the Black Alumni Associations activities through the Office of Alumni Relations. This staff shall provide support to, collaborate, and partner with the Black Alumni Association and endorse initiatives and implement programs developed by the Black Alumni Association. The principal staff officer of the University will be an Associate Director within the Office of Alumni Relations. As appropriate, other University staff members may serve in liaison roles to each of the Black Alumni Associations’ standing committees.

**ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENTS**

A. The By-Laws shall be amended by a two-thirds (2/3s) vote of those Alumni Board members present at any regular meeting of the Alumni Board.

B. Upon such approvals, the Amendment shall take effect immediately and be communicated in written format to the Alumni Board in a timely manner thereafter.