OLD STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
CYMDEITHAS Y CYN-FYFYRWYR

CONSTITUTION
As revised at the Annual General Meeting held on the 5th April, 2008.

1. NAME
The name of the Association shall be ‘The Old Students’ Association, Aberystwyth University, (hereinafter referred to as 'the Association') and its abbreviation shall be 'Old Students’ Association'.

2. AIMS
The Association exists for the public benefit through the furtherance of the educational interests of Aberystwyth University (hereinafter referred to as 'A.U.') and the promotion of links between its past and present members.

3. MEMBERSHIP
a) Full Membership All former students of A.U. and of the (former) Welsh Agricultural College of Aberystwyth and of the (former) College of Librarianship Wales Aberystwyth together with past and present members of A.U.’s academic and academic-related staff shall be eligible for Full Membership of the Association. The membership fee, which will cover the member for life, shall be determined by a resolution of an Annual General Meeting. Only Full Members of the Association are entitled to hold office, and to take part in and to vote at Annual General Meetings and in postal ballots.

b) Associate Membership The wife or husband of a Full Member shall be eligible for Associate Membership, and any adult son or daughter of a Full Member shall be eligible for Associate Membership on the recommendation of the Committee. Associate Membership may also be conferred upon other individuals by an Annual General Meeting. The fee for Associate Membership shall be the same as for Full Membership.

c) Honorary Membership The President and the Vice-Chancellor of A.U. shall be Honorary Presidents, and the Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Pro-Vice-Chancellors, the Registrar of A.U., and the President of the Student Organisation recognised by A.U. by virtue of its charter, shall be Honorary Members of the Association (all such appointments to be for the duration of the tenure of their respective offices). Honorary Membership may also be conferred on other individuals at the discretion of an Annual General Meeting, such Membership to be for the lifetime of each recipient.

4. BRANCH ASSOCIATIONS
Branch Associations may be recognised by the Association from time to time. Such recognition may be conferred, or may be withdrawn, by a resolution of an Annual General Meeting.
The finances of Branch Associations shall be completely independent of those of the Association. To this end Branch Associations shall be empowered to levy annual subscriptions on their members. Membership of the Association does not automatically carry with it membership of any Branch Association, nor does membership of any Branch Association automatically carry with it membership of the Association.
5. ACTIVITIES
In furtherance of its aims the Association shall:

a) hold a Reunion of its members Annually, preferably in Aberystwyth, and at Easter, but exceptionally and with the approval of the General Committee at another venue and/or on dates other that Easter;

b) hold its Annual General Meeting during the Annual Reunion;

c) actively recruit new members, especially from new graduands;

d) encourage the establishment of recognised branches in suitable centres in the UK and abroad to further the links between members of A.U.;

e) seek to establish and maintain links with like organisations in other colleges and universities in the furtherance of their common educational interests;

f) from time to time, organise through its branches lectures and discussions on educational subjects, and

g) encourage members to support A.U. in all possible ways.

6. OFFICERS AND GENERAL COMMITTEE

a) The Officers of the Association shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents (one woman and one man), a Treasurer, a Secretary (assisted by one or more Assistant Secretaries to be appointed from time to time by the General Committee) and the Editor of the Association's Annual.

b) The affairs of the Association shall be entrusted to a General Committee (hereinafter called 'the Committee' or 'Committee') consisting of:

   i) The Officers of the Association

   ii) All past Presidents

   iii) The Assistant Secretaries

   iv) One Secretary from each recognised Branch Association

   v) A second representative nominated by each recognised Branch Association

   vi) The President of the Students' Organisation

   vii) Representatives of the Association on the A.U. Court.

   viii) Six other members to be elected by the Annual General Meeting from among the Full Members of the Association.

   ix) Members of the Association (Full or Associate) co-opted by the Committee for specific purposes.

7. TENURE OF OFFICE
The Officers and elected members of the Committee of the Association shall normally assume office on 1st May for a period of one year.

8. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

a) The quorum of members at any Committee meeting shall be 10.

b) The Committee shall meet twice during the period of the Reunion. At the first meeting, the Committee will receive, and if it so decides will itself make, nominations of Officers of the Association and of representatives on A.U. Court for the following year. It will also prepare the business of the Annual General Meeting. The second meeting will take place immediately before the Annual General Meeting.

c) The Committee shall meet in the Summer when a draft programme for the Reunion will be prepared. Normally there will also be an Autumn meeting, and other meetings will be held as necessary.
d) The Committee shall have power to appoint sub-committees to carry out such duties as may be entrusted to them by the Committee. In appointing a sub-committee, the Committee shall define its terms of reference and appoint its chairman who shall be responsible for ensuring that its mandate is discharged.

e) Notification of the date of a Committee Meeting, a copy of its Agenda and a copy of the Minutes of the preceding Committee shall be sent to each Committee member at least three weeks beforehand except in the case of the second of the Committee meetings held during the period of the Reunion.

f) All questions and matters brought before the Committee shall be decided by a simple majority, but in the case of an equality of votes the chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

9. FINANCE
a) The Association's financial year shall run from 1 October to 30 September.

b) The Treasurer shall keep proper accounts of the Association's finances and shall operate at one or more financial institutions approved by the Committee a General Account a Reunion Account and an Investment Account and such other accounts as may prove necessary from time to time.

c) All arrangements for the operation and supervision of the accounts shall be made by the Treasurer.

d) Membership subscriptions shall be paid into the Investment Account as shall as much as is prudent of the Association's funds so as to maximise as far as possible the Association's investment income.

e) Payment of any monies received from the branches or any individual members of the association as a separate contribution towards A.U. uses should be paid into a separate Trust Fund to be administered in accordance with Clause 14 hereof.

f) All money received on behalf of the Association shall as soon as possible be banked for the credit of the Association.

g) All cheques drawn on the Association's accounts shall be signed by the Treasurer or in the absence of the Treasurer by an alternative appointed by the Committee.

h) The income and property of the Association wheresoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the Association's Aims as defined above and no payment shall be made to any member of the Committee, except for the repayment of out-of-pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the Association.

i) The Treasurer shall present a report on the Association's accounts to each meeting of the Committee.

j) At the end of each financial year the Association's accounts shall be audited by Auditors appointed by the Committee, at least one of whom shall not be a member of the Association.

10. REPRESENTATION ON A.U.’s COURT
A.U. Statutes entitle the Association to appoint ten representatives to the A.U. Court of Governors. The President, the Secretary and the Treasurer shall be ex-officio representatives on the A.U. Court. Full members of the Association shall, once every three years, elect a further seven of their number as representatives on the A.U. Court. Election shall be by postal ballot based on nominations obtained by postal request. Requests for nominations shall normally be sent with the Annual one year prior to the election, and ballot papers with the next Annual. Retiring representatives shall be eligible for re-election. The Committee shall be responsible for ensuring that casual vacancies are filled.

11. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
a) Only Full Members of the Association shall be entitled to take part in and vote at the Annual General Meeting and to be nominated for election as an Officer, Committee member or as any other representative of the Association.
b) The quorum of Full Members at any Annual General Meeting shall be 20.
c) The date and place of the Annual General Meeting, its Agenda, the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and a statement of the Association's accounts at the end of the last financial year shall be published in the Annual.
d) The Annual General Meeting shall:
i) Consider, and adopt if it so agrees, the Association's accounts as published in the current issue of the Annual.
ii) Receive and consider reports from the President about the Association's affairs, and from the Association's representatives on the A.U. Court.
iii) Elect Officers and six Committee members. Written nominations for the office of President, duly signed by two nominators and including a declaration by them that the nominee consents, must be in the hands of the Secretary not less than 48 hours before the time fixed for the Annual General Meeting. Written nominations for other offices and for committee membership, duly signed by one nominator and including a declaration that the nominatee consents, shall be accepted by the Secretary up to the time of the Committee Meeting immediately preceding the Annual General Meeting.
iv) Elect representatives on the A.U. Court in accordance with clause 10 above, and on such other A.U. committees as might invite Association representation.
v) Consider motions of which written notice duly signed has been given to the Secretary not less than 48 hours before the time fixed for the Annual General Meeting.
vi) Consider any motion to change the Association's Constitution for which notice has been given in accordance with clause 16 a) below.
vii) Consider any motion to dissolve the Association for which notice has been given in accordance with clause 15 below.
viii) Transact other business, leave of the meeting having first been obtained by a simple majority.
e) All motions shall be deemed to be carried by a simple majority except those relating to changes in the Constitution which shall require to be approved by two thirds of the Full Members present and voting.

12. ANNUAL
The official publication of the Old Students' Association shall be known as ‘The Annual' which shall be published each year. Its preparation shall be the responsibility of the Editor and a copy of the Annual shall as a rule be sent to each member of the Association no later than 31 January each year.

13. MEMBERSHIP LIST
The Association shall keep a list of members, and members will be notified every four years that copies of it are available and will be supplied on request. The Association shall promptly provide the name and address of any newly enrolled member to the Secretary of the Branch, should there be one to which the new member might have access, and shall provide all Branch Secretaries with an up-to-date membership list each year.

14. TRUSTEES
The Committee may appoint and may determine the appointment of a custodian trustee or a trust corporation of not more than three persons to act as trustees for the purpose of holding any moneys and
property belonging to the Association specifically appropriated for the benefit and use of A.U. and for this purpose to enter into a separate Trust Deed with the Association for the administration of the said Trust monies on behalf of the Association and A.U.

15. DISSOLUTION
If the Committee considers that the Association is no longer capable of fulfilling its Aims as defined above and that it is desirable that the Association should be dissolved, it shall pass a resolution to that effect at one of its meetings, shall publish it in the next issue of the Annual and cause it to be put to the vote at the next Annual General Meeting. If the resolution is approved by two thirds of those present and eligible to vote, the Committee shall forthwith wind up the affairs of the Association. Any assets of the Association remaining after settlement of all of its liabilities shall not be distributed among its members but shall be given solely for the use of Aberystwyth University.

16. THE CONSTITUTION
a) Any motion to amend this Constitution of which Notice comprising the full text of an amendment proposed by two or more Full Members that
i) has been communicated by the first day of December preceding the next A.G.M. to the Secretary
ii) has been mailed in the ordinary mail on or before the following 15 December to the Secretaries of all local branches and
iii) is published in or distributed with the next issue of the Annual, shall be considered and voted upon at that A.G.M. and shall be approved only if it has the support of two thirds of those eligible and voting.
(b) Full copies of every newly-amended statement of the constitution shall be available to all Members of the Association (Full and Associate) and notified in the next issue of The Annual.