

ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE LIBERAL STUDIES PROGRAMS

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

There are four categories of membership in the Association of Graduate Liberal Studies Programs: Full, Associate, Fellow, and Individual. Full and Associate memberships are open to institutions only. Fellow and Individual memberships are open to individuals.

FULL MEMBERSHIP

Full Membership is open to institutions of higher learning offering Graduate Liberal Studies Programs. Institutions must have been an Associate Member for at least one year and have attended at least one Annual Business Meeting. One representative from each member institution is empowered to vote or to hold office in the Association. Additional institutional representatives may serve on committees or in an advisory capacity to the Officers and Board of Directors of the Association. Representatives of any institution interested in the graduate liberal studies program concept are welcome to participate in Association meetings.

Substantive Criteria

- (1) The institution will give evidence that the program has clear and definable administrative responsibility for the program, as well as an infrastructure to support it. The administrator of the program must have adequate and on-going voice in the decision-making process of the program and appropriate autonomy for program-specific decisions, such as program structure and curriculum. Resources of faculty, facilities, equipment, and materials should be in place.
- (2) The program must indicate incorporation of graduate liberal studies philosophy. The description should include a clear statement of the program's goals, have a well-structured, coherent curriculum, and have an assessment procedure to ensure program quality.
- (3) Programs must require some inter- or multi-disciplinary core course(s) or special liberal studies seminar(s) created specially for the program. Such courses should require and promote student interaction and discussion.
- (4) Programs should explicitly address the special circumstances of adult students, e.g., academic counseling, flexible scheduling, and reentry procedures.

Formal application for Full Membership may be made upon submission of the Full Membership application with supporting documentation (self study), and upon completion of the site visit. The Membership Committee will review Full Membership applications and make recommendations at the Annual Business Meeting. Election to Full Membership requires a simple majority vote of a quorum of Full Member institutions at the Annual Business Meeting. Contact the AGLSP Office for additional information on application to Full Membership.

Institutions may be asked to reapply to the Board for reinstatement to Full Membership if the program undergoes substantial change, does not maintain the ongoing integrity of the program, fails to pay membership dues, or ceases to have a representative at the Annual Business Meeting.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Associate Membership is open to institutions with existing Graduate Liberal Studies Programs, to those in the early development phase of a program, and to those interested in establishing a program. Associate Members are non-voting members.

The application process for Associate Membership requires an understanding of and agreement with the mission of the Association (see Constitution, Article II-Mission), evidence of their intention to explore and develop a Graduate Liberal Studies Program, or evidence of an existing program. Evidence may be indicated by, but is not limited to, actions such as establishing a committee to assess Graduate Liberal Studies programming for the institution or seeking consultation through the Association of Graduate Liberal Studies Programs or other agencies to study the feasibility of Graduate Liberal Studies programming, or documentation of an existing program.

FELLOW MEMBERSHIP

In an honorary category of non-voting membership are individuals who hold membership without fee, called Fellows of the Association of Graduate Liberal Studies Programs. The title of Fellow is extended to persons who have provided substantial service to the Association and Graduate Liberal Studies. Nominations may come from Association members and are reviewed by the Membership Committee and voted on by Full Members of the Association.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Individual Membership shall be open to individuals who have a professional interest in the purposes of the Association. These members are welcome to attend the Annual Business Meeting and to participate as non-voting members.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

The membership dues of the Association are for the period corresponding to the fiscal year. The dues structure is as follows:

Full Members: \$350
Associate Members: \$300
Fellows: no fee
Individual Members: \$40

All dues are in USD.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information regarding membership in the Association of Graduate Liberal Studies Programs, please contact:

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