Bylaws

Academy of Distinguished Researchers (ADR)
University of Texas at San Antonio

Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Academy of Distinguished Researchers (ADR)

Article II. Purpose and Objectives

A. Mission: To foster and promote excellence in research, discovery and training at UTSA.
B. Vision: To advance and sustain UTSA as a premier research university.
C. Values: Research excellence, integrity, diversity, collaboration, creativity, ingenuity

Article III. Membership

A. Membership in the ADR
   a. Members of the ADR shall be elected by a vote of at least two-thirds of the active ADR membership present during an annual ADR meeting called to review nominations.
   b. Candidates for membership shall be nominated by the Dean of the College in which the candidate holds a faculty appointment or by the Vice President for Research (VPR).
   c. Election to membership shall be based on consideration of the following criteria among others:
      i. Senior standing in the relevant field of research – typically having achieved the rank of full professor and/or having demonstrated exceptional research accomplishments and recognition
      ii. Publication record in peer-reviewed high quality and leading scientific journals
      iii. Citation counts in high quality and leading academic journals
      iv. Recognized works, performances, exhibitions, presentations
      v. Sustained research support
      vi. Inventions and/or patents
      vii. Path-breaking academic research books and monographs
      viii. Other recognition(s) of research excellence
   d. New members shall be inducted once per year – normally in the fall.
   e. ADR membership shall not exceed 2% of the overall faculty.
   f. Active membership shall continue for the duration of a member’s active faculty appointment at UTSA unless otherwise modified by a vote of at least two-thirds of the active ADR membership.
g. Upon cessation of an active faculty appointment at UTSA an active ADR member can be elected to emeritus status by a vote of at least two-thirds of the active ADR membership.

h. Members may resign by submitting a letter of resignation to the VPR.

i. A delegate of the VPR shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member of the ADR.

B. Responsibilities of membership
   a. To provide institutional leadership and guidance toward excellence in research at UTSA.
   b. To provide mentorship in research to junior or new faculty.
   c. To promote institutional activities, initiatives or resources that:
      i. Enhance research capabilities or infrastructure at UTSA.
      ii. Advance training of future researchers at UTSA.
      iii. Elevate faculty, student or public interest in research activities at UTSA.
   d. To advise and assist the University administration in matters that impact research potential, capabilities or training.
   e. To attend ADR meetings and participate in ADR initiatives and activities including election of new members to the ADR.

C. Categories of membership
   a. Active
   b. Emeritus

Article IV. Governance of the ADR

A. The ADR shall have a Chair
   a. The Chair shall be elected by a vote of at least two-thirds of the active ADR membership.
   b. The term of the Chair position shall be three years with the potential for re-election for another term.
   c. The Chair shall call and preside over meetings of the entire ADR or the Executive Committee.
   d. The Chair shall be responsible for establishing ad hoc committees or task forces as needed.
   e. The Chair may appoint an assistant Chair to fill in during any absence of the Chair or to assist the Chair as needed.
   f. The Chair may resign prior to the end of the elected term by submitting a letter of resignation to the VPR.
   g. In the event of a vacancy in the position of the Chair, a new Chair shall be elected by a vote of at least two-thirds of the active ADR membership as soon as possible.

B. The ADR shall have an Executive Committee made up of the ADR Chair and three other active members of the ADR.
a. Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected to membership on the Executive Committee by a vote of at least two-thirds of the active ADR membership.
b. The term of membership on the Executive Committee shall be one year with the potential for re-election for one or more additional terms.
c. The Executive Committee will assist the Chair with initial vetting of any matters arising or with representation of the ADR to the Administration.

Article V. Meetings of the ADR

A. The full active membership of the ADR shall meet at least once per year to review nominations and elect new active ADR members – normally in the spring.
B. The Chair may call additional meetings of the full active membership as needed.
C. The Chair may also call meetings of the Executive Committee as needed.
D. Active ADR members are expected to participate in all ADR meetings to the greatest extent possible.

Article VI. Validation of the bylaws

The initial bylaws shall become effective upon approval by a vote of at least two-thirds of the active ADR membership.

Article VII. Amendments

These bylaws may be amended by a vote of at least two-thirds of the active ADR membership.