

CONSTITUTION OF THE Latin American and Caribbean Consortium of Engineering Institutions

ARTICLE 1 – NAME

This consortium shall be named the "Latin American and Caribbean Consortium of Engineering Institutions," herein referred to as "LACCEI." LACCEI is a non-profit organization of Latin American and Caribbean institutions that offer academic programs in Engineering and Technology. The word "institution" includes universities, colleges and schools.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSES

The mission of LACCEI is to facilitate and promote global collaborations in the advancement and continuous improvement of engineering and technology education, practice, research, and innovation linking Latin America and the Caribbean to the rest of the world.

The goals and objectives of LACCEI include the following.

Cooperation and partnerships among member institutions in the areas of engineering education, research, and technology advancement with emphasis on:

- Faculty and student exchange
- New and/or higher level academic programs
- Dual/joint degree and certificate programs
- Distance, continuing and e-education
- Laboratory development and sharing of resources
- Curriculum development, course equivalency and accreditation support
- Faculty development including higher degrees
- Industry internship, cooperative programs and career development
- Joint training and research programs, and solicitation of funds
- Development, commercialization and transfer of technology
- Dissemination of scholarly achievements and other accomplishments by member institutions.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Any institution that offers academic programs in engineering and technology, that meets the membership qualifications specified in the bylaws, and that subscribes to the mission, goals and objectives of LACCEI shall be eligible for membership in LACCEI. Each member institution shall designate a liaison person, hereinafter referred to as "liaison" who will represent the institution in LACCEI.

Section 2. Types of membership. LACCEI shall have one type of membership: Institutional Membership. Qualifications, privileges, and voting rights are specified in the Bylaws of LACCEI.

ARTICLE IV – THE BOARD

Section 1. Composition. LACCEI shall be governed by a board of directors, hereinafter, referred to as the "Board," "Board of LACCEI," or "LACCEI's Board." The Board shall be composed of its officers, the immediate Past President, and one Member at Large without any portfolios.

Section 2. Authority and Duties. The Board shall be the chief policy making legislative and judicial body of LACCEI. The Board shall establish policies and programs and shall authorize their implementation by means of appropriate budgets, resolutions, authority for contracts and expenditures; by creating and staffing positions and committees; through amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws; and by such other actions as it may deem necessary. The Board shall have preemptive authority over all officers, members, and other bodies created by LACCEI.

Section 3. Eligibility. An individual may be elected to become a member of the Board provided his/her institution is a member of LACCEI in good standing at the time of his/her nomination to the office.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

Section 1. Title and Authority. The officers of LACCEI shall be a President; President Elect; three functional Vice Presidents as specified in the Bylaws; and the executive director that will act as Secretary. The responsibility of individual officers, except as prescribed by this constitution and the Bylaws of LACCEI shall be established by actions of the Board.

Section 2. Duties

a. The President. The President shall be the chief executive officer of LACCEI, performing all duties required by the Constitution and Bylaws as well as any additional duties specified by the Board. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board or of LACCEI.

b. The President-Elect. The President-Elect shall serve as a general assistant to the President.

c. Vice Presidents. Vice President designations shall be as provided in the Bylaws. Each Vice President shall plan and administer the affairs of LACCEI within his/her particular functional area.

d. The Secretary. The Secretary shall perform the duties usual to the office of an organization secretary and those required by this constitution and Bylaws or by actions of the Board. The Secretary will not have voting rights on the board.

Section 3. Tenure. The tenure of officers shall be as specified in the Bylaws. Officers shall serve until notified by the Secretary that their successors have taken office.

Section 4. Precedence. The order of precedence shall be President; President-Elect; The Vice Presidents, in the order established in the Bylaws; and the Secretary.

ARTICLE VI – ELECTIONS

There shall be an annual election. Every member institution in good standing shall be allowed to vote for officers and members to represent them on the Board, in accordance with the election process specified in the Bylaws of LACCEI.

ARTICLE VII – DIVISIONS

With the approval of the Board, members may establish divisions for the furtherance of the purposes of LACCEI as stated in Article II. Such divisions shall conduct their affairs in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of LACCEI as interpreted by the Board. The Board may dissolve a division for a due cause.

ARTICLE VIII – COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

Section 1: Advisory Council: The advisory council shall consist of all member institutions. All past presidents and Academic Merit recipients of LACCEI will part of the advisory Council.

Section 2: Standing Committees: The Standing Committees are created by the Board and report to the Board. Chairmen of Standing Committees and members to fill vacancies on Standing Committees shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board. The composition and terms of membership shall be in accordance with the Bylaws of LACCEI.

Section 3: Ad Hoc Committees: Any officer of LACCEI may appoint Ad Hoc Committee to assist her/him in carrying out her/his duties, provided that the term of said committee falls within her/his own term of office, and provided said committee does not infringe unduly upon the authority of a Standing Committee or an officer of LACCEI.

All committees shall conduct their business in accordance with such standing rules as the Board may adopt for their guidance.

ARTICLE IX – MEETINGS

Section 1: Board Meetings. The Board shall meet at least once each month. Board meetings may be called at other times in response to a request by the President or by the majority of the members of the Board, but only upon notice to all members of the Board.

Section 2: Conference. The Board shall schedule at least one conference of LACCEI per year.

Section 3: The Advisory Council, shall meet at least once per year.

Section 4: General Business Meeting: There shall be at least one general business meeting of LACCEI each year that will be open to all institutional members. This meeting will generally be held in conjunction with the Conference. At these General business meeting, the President shall render a report on the status of LACCEI, entertain suggestions from the members, and transcend such other items of

business as may be relevant. Other General business meeting may be called at such times and in such manner as may be determined by the Board.

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

1. No article shall be added to this Constitution and no part shall be amended or annulled, except by formal proposal, followed by opportunity for discussion at a general business meeting of LACCEI and then followed by voting.
2. Proposal of a change may be made by the Board, or by a petition to the President with knowledge of the Secretary, requested by at least 25% of institutional members.
3. The Secretary shall distribute copies of the proposed change to all members of the Consortium not less than three weeks before a general business meeting, and opportunity shall be given to members for discussion at this general business meeting.
4. Not more than eight weeks after this general business meeting, the Secretary shall distribute to all members copies of the proposed change, an explanation of the purpose of the change, voting mechanisms, and the effective date of the change, if approved.
5. A change proposed by the Board may, at the discretion of the Board, be submitted with modifications made in the light of the discussion at the general business meeting. A change proposed by the petition shall be submitted in the original form, but the Board shall have the right to submit an amendment to the change in the light of the discussion at the general business meeting.
6. The adoption of the proposed changes shall require the affirmative votes of not fewer than three-fourths (75%) of the active members voting, provided that votes are received from at least one-half (50%) of the active members of LACCEI.
7. The result of the voting process shall be announced to the membership by the Secretary and, if approved, the change shall become effective at the date previously stipulated by the Secretary.

ARTICLE XI – BYLAWS

The Bylaws of LACCEI may be adopted, annulled, or amended by an affirmative vote of the majority of all active members of the Board. The Board shall have the authority to interpret the Bylaws.

Bylaws may also be adopted, annulled or amended by an affirmative vote of at least three-fifths of the active members present at a general assembly of LACCEI. Members shall be given adequate notice of proposed changes prior to such a meeting.

Approved by the General Assembly of LACCEI, Feb 14, 2017