



Bylaws of the American Association of Indian Pharmacy Professors (AAIPP)

ARTICLE I: NAME AND LOCATION

Section 1. Name: The name of the organization shall be the American Association of Indian Pharmacy Professors (AAIPP).

Section 2. Location: The principal office of the association shall be located at a designated address within the United States, as determined by the founding members of AAIPP.

ARTICLE II: MISSION AND VISION

Section 1. Mission: The AAIPP's core mission is to enhance pharmacy education and research, promote diversity in the profession, and leverage member expertise for healthcare advancements with a global impact through the contributions of Indian pharmacy professors.

Section 2. Vision: The AAIPP aspires to be a leading professional association that empowers pharmacy professors, facilitates research collaboration, and advocates for diversity and inclusion in pharmacy education and practice.

ARTICLE III: PURPOSE

The purpose of AAIPP shall be to:

1. **Establishing a Collaborative Network:** We aim to create a dynamic network of pharmacy professors that transcends borders, fostering the exchange of insights, resources, and experiences. This network will catalyze partnerships in research, teaching, and service while embracing diversity and inclusivity.
2. **Nurturing Early-Career Development:** Our focus is on empowering pharmacy professors, particularly those in their early careers. Through tailored workshops, seminars, webinars, and developmental activities, we nurture mentorship and career growth across teaching, research, leadership, and service domains.

3. **Cultivating Research Excellence:** We champion research brilliance within the pharmacy faculty community. By organizing impactful research symposia, facilitating access to grants and awards, and forging connections with industry, government, and academia, we drive innovation and collaboration.
4. **Advocating for Diversity and Inclusion:** Our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion fuels advocacy efforts. We raise awareness, promote education, and share best practices related to cultural competence, health disparities, and social determinants of health within pharmacy education and practice.
5. **Collaborative Influence on Healthcare Policies:** Partnering with key stakeholders, including pharmacy organizations, healthcare associations, and policymakers, we are committed to actively shaping healthcare policies and practices that align with our mission and values, fostering positive impacts on patient care.
6. **Celebrating Contributions and Advancement:** Recognizing Indian pharmacy professors' valuable contributions to both the pharmacy profession and U.S. healthcare, we amplify their visibility. Through highlighting achievements, creating visibility, and providing avenues for professional recognition and growth, we elevate their standing.
7. **Fostering Discourse on Pertinent Issues:** Our platform serves as a forum for open dialogue on matters affecting Indian pharmacy professors. By addressing challenges, discussing issues, and seeking solutions, we ensure that our community remains informed and empowered.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility: Membership in AAIPP shall be open to all individuals who meet the criteria for pharmacy professors in the United States and elsewhere, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or national origin.

Section 2. Membership Categories: The association may establish different membership categories, such as regular members, student members, and honorary members, with corresponding rights and privileges.

Section 3. Rights and Privileges: Members shall have the right to vote in the association's elections, participate in meetings and activities, receive association communications, and access member-exclusive resources and benefits.

Section 4. Membership Dues: The association may establish membership dues, if applicable, and the payment schedule, subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Composition: The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Section 2. Roles and Responsibilities: The Board of Directors shall have the authority to make decisions on behalf of the association, subject to the approval of the membership.

- A. *President*: The President shall preside over meetings of the association and the Board of Directors, provide leadership and direction to AAIPP, and represent the association in external matters.
- B. *Vice-President*: The Vice-President shall support the President and assume their duties in their absence, as well as carry out special assignments as assigned by the President.
- C. *Treasurer*: The Treasurer shall manage the financial affairs of AAIPP, maintain financial records, and present financial reports to the membership as required.
- D. *Secretary*: The Secretary shall keep accurate records of meetings, handle correspondence, and maintain official records and documents of the association.

Section 3. Meetings: The Board of Directors shall meet regularly, and additional meetings may be called by the President or upon request of any Board member.

Section 4. Term of office: The term of office for the members of the Board of Directors shall be one year. Members may serve consecutive terms if re-elected. The term of office begins on January 1st following the election and continues until December 31st of the following year. For the first four years of the AAIPP's existence, the office holders will be assigned by the founding members. After this initial four-year period, elections will be held as described below.

Section 5. Elections:

- A. **Nomination Process**: After the initial four-year period, nominations for the membership of the Board of Directors shall be accepted from the active members of AAIPP. Members can nominate themselves or be nominated by a fellow member. Nomination forms must be submitted to the Board by a specified deadline.

- B. **Election Process:** After the initial four-year period, elections shall be conducted by secret ballot. All active members of the AAIPP are eligible to vote. Election ballots, including the names of all nominated candidates, shall be distributed to all members at least 30 days before the election deadline.
- C. **Vote Counting:** The Board will count the votes and declare the elected officers based on a simple majority. In case of a tie, a runoff election between the tied candidates may be conducted.
- D. **Notification:** The Board shall notify all members of the AAIPP of the election results within 14 days after the election.
- E. **Transition of Power:** The newly elected officers will assume their roles on January 1st following the election, allowing for an orderly transition of responsibilities from the outgoing officers.
- F. **Founding Members' Approval:** After the election, the elected officers will be presented to the founding members for their final approval. The appointment of the elected officers will be considered official only upon the agreement and final approval of all the founding members.

Section 6. *Ad Hoc* Members of the Board: The founding members may, from time to time, invite individual/s from the AAIPP membership at-large or elsewhere to serve as advisors on the Board on an *Ad Hoc* basis to lend their experience, expertise, and/or wisdom consistent with the mission, vision, and purpose of AAIPP. The nature and duration of such membership will be determined by the founding members on a case-by-case basis.

ARTICLE VI: FOUNDING MEMBERS

The founding members of AAIPP are **Dr. Hardeep Saluja, Dr. Vivek S. Dave, and Dr. Deepak Gupta**

Section 1. Membership: In recognition of their pivotal role in the formation and sustenance of the AAIPP, the founding members of the AAIPP shall hold permanent membership on the Board of Directors. Their enduring contribution to the establishment and development of the AAIPP warrants their ongoing influence and governance within the organization.

Section 2. Officer Positions: The founding members are eligible to hold officer positions, including President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary, as per the need and discretion of the Board. They may either be elected to these positions following the standard election procedures of the AAIPP or may be appointed directly by consensus among the founding members.

Section 3. Final Authority: All significant activities and decisions undertaken by the AAIPP, including elections, financial decisions, amendments to bylaws, and other major actions, are subject to the review and final approval of the three founding members. The activities and decisions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. **Elections:** The results of elections for the Board of Directors and other elected positions within the AAIPP will be considered official only upon the agreement and final approval of all three founding members.
- B. **Financial Decisions:** All major financial transactions, budget approvals, and financial planning strategies must be reviewed and receive the final approval of the founding members.
- C. **Amendments to Bylaws:** Any proposed changes to the bylaws of the AAIPP must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors and are considered official only upon the agreement and final approval of all three founding members.
- D. **Programs and Initiatives:** The launch of new programs, partnerships, or initiatives by the AAIPP must be reviewed and receive the final approval of the founding members.
- E. **Public Statements and Communications:** Official statements, press releases, or significant communications made on behalf of the AAIPP must be reviewed and receive the final approval of the founding members.
- F. **Conflict Resolution:** In cases of disputes or conflicts within the association, the founding members hold the authority to mediate and their decision will be considered final.
- G. **Dissolution of the Association:** Any decision regarding the dissolution or significant restructuring of the AAIPP must be reviewed and receive the final approval of the founding members.

H. **Other Significant Actions:** Any other action or decision that may have a substantial impact on the AAIPP's operations, reputation, or members must be reviewed and approved by the founding members.

Section 4. Advisory Role: Even when not holding an official officer position, the founding members shall continue to serve in an advisory capacity, providing guidance, wisdom, and insight to the Board of Directors and the association at large.

Section 5. Succession Planning: If a founding member is unable to continue in their role, the remaining founding members may nominate a successor who embodies the vision and values of the AAIPP. This nomination must be approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

Section 1. Establishment: The association may establish committees, as needed, to carry out specific tasks, projects, or functions.

Section 2. Committee Membership: Committee members may be appointed by the President or elected by the membership, as determined by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Meeting: AAIPP shall hold an annual meeting for its members to conduct business, receive reports, and discuss matters related to the association's goals and activities. The meeting shall be held at a time and place determined by the officers. Notice of meetings shall be sent to all members at least two weeks before the meeting.

Section 2. Special Meetings: Special meetings may be called by the President or upon written request of a specified number of members, as defined in the association's policies. Notice of meetings shall be sent to all members at least two weeks before the meeting.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendment Process: These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting, provided that written notice of the proposed amendments is sent to all members at least two weeks in advance. However, all amendments must also receive the express approval of the Founding Members to be enacted.

ARTICLE X: DISSOLUTION

Section 1. Dissolution: In the event of the dissolution of AAIPP, any remaining assets shall be distributed to one or more nonprofit organizations that share a similar mission and are tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.


ARTICLE XI: ADOPTION

Section 1. Adoption: These bylaws shall become effective upon approval by a majority vote of the Board of Directors present at the association's first official meeting.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned, certify that these bylaws were adopted by the founding members of the American Association of Indian Pharmacy Professors (AAIPP) on September 7, 2023.

President (Founding Member): *Dr. Hardeep Saluja* Hardeep S. Saluja

Vice-President (Founding Member): *Dr. Vivek S. Dave* 

Treasurer (Founding Member): *Dr. Deepak Gupta* Deepak Gupta

Secretary: *Dr. Ankit Rochani* 