Mission Statement

The Undergraduate Affiliate Network (UAN) exists to advance undergraduate research, research-based undergraduate education, and K-12 science outreach in biochemistry and molecular biology. The UAN is comprised of chapters that can connect with each other and their local communities through seminars, conferences, and research opportunities. The UAN provides students and faculty associated with it access to travel awards, career resources, and professional development opportunities. Affiliated chapters may organize local chapters that may participate in UAN programs.

Article I - Name

The name of this program is the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Undergraduate Affiliate Network (ASBMB UAN).

Article II - Purpose

The purpose of the UAN shall be to assist in the development of undergraduate programs in biochemistry and molecular biology. The UAN will provide undergraduate programs access to information and funding for regional symposia, research opportunities, and outreach opportunities. The UAN will also serve as a network connecting undergraduate faculty and students, both regionally and nationally. The UAN will give recognition to outstanding educational activities in biochemistry and molecular biology by individuals and programs.

Article III - Abbreviation

Section 1. The official abbreviation of this program will be UAN.

Article IV - Membership

Section 1. Membership in UAN will be based on several qualifications for undergraduates enrolled in colleges and universities.

Section 2. Members shall be:

a) Undergraduates majoring in biochemistry and/or molecular biology or any related field.

b) Each chapter will be advised by at least one faculty member, one of whom must be a member of the ASBMB.

c) Students hold their membership with UAN for one calendar year. They must renew each year in order to retain membership.

Section 3. UAN members are undergraduate members of the ASBMB and will have access to ASBMB membership benefits including:

a.) Free online subscriptions to the Journal of Biological Chemistry (JBC), Molecular & Cellular Proteomics (MCP) and the Journals of Lipid Research (JLR)
b.) Free print and online subscription to the Society monthly magazine, *ASBMB Today*

c.) Free subscription to the UAN online newsletter *Enzymatic*

d.) Eligibility for $500 Travel Awards to attend the ASBMB Annual Meeting and the Annual Undergraduate Student Research Poster Competition

e.) UAN exclusive awards and scholarships: Undergraduate Research Awards, Outreach Support Award, Outstanding Chapter Award, and more.

f.) Election into the ASBMB National Honor Society

g.) Career Resources

**Section 4.** Faculty advisors must be regular members of the ASBMB in order to form a UAN. In addition to their ASBMB member benefits, faculty advisors’ UAN membership benefits include:

a.) Access to consulting services by EPD Committee Members to assist new or existing biochemistry and/or molecular biology departments in curriculum development as recommended by the ASBMB

b.) Access to accreditation of biochemistry and molecular biology programs at their institution.

c.) Financial support for K-12 science outreach and education

d.) Discounted registration fees to the ASBMB-sponsored meetings.

e.) Priority for competitive travel awards to attend the ASBMB Annual Meeting.

f.) Other education and professional development opportunities

**Section 5.** To gain membership to UAN, faculty advisors must register or renew their chapter online and pay $100 for up to ten members. Each additional member past ten pays a $10 membership fee. A minimum of five student members is required to receive full UAN member benefits.

**Section 6.** A regular member transferring from one institution to another shall be automatically eligible for membership in a chapter in her/his new institution unless he does not qualify under the normally prescribed requirements of his new chapter.

**Section 7.** Each chapter shall adopt specific membership requirements which are not in conflict with the requirements outlined in Article IV of this article and which are meaningful in the specific local situation. It is assumed that local chapters will require high standards of scientific conduct in their nominees and members. No person shall be refused membership on any basis other than failure to meet requirements in this constitution or in chapter by-laws.

**Section 8.** A regular member of a chapter may be removed from chapter membership only for cause by a vote of 3/4 of the entire voting membership. Any such removal must be approved by the chapter advisor and is subject to appeal to the National Executive Committee.

**Section 9.** Stated local membership requirements shall be submitted to the chapter advisor for approval. In case of disagreement or conflict between local requirements or local action and this constitution, the matter shall be referred to the National Office for adjudication subject to final appeal to the UAN Committee.
Section 10. The UAN Committee shall, from time to time, adopt such by-laws, regulations, and definitions as are necessary to accomplish the equitable and reasonable application of these provisions.

Article V - Officers

Section 1. The National Officers shall be the UAN Committee made up of regional directors and the ASBMB Manager of Education and Professional Development and the ASBMB Education and Diversity Program Assistant. Each region will have at least one Regional Director. The Regional Directors are appointed by a joint-decision between the UAN Committee Chair and the National Office.

Section 3. The Regional Directors shall be particularly concerned with the functioning of the UAN in her/his region. They shall encourage the continuing development of existing chapters and the recruitment of new chapters. As a member of the UAN Committee, the Regional Director shall serve as a representative of the national headquarters in her/his region.

Section 4. The UAN Committee, as defined in Section 1 of this article, shall have power to transact urgent UAN business between conventions including replacements in its own membership if necessary. The Committee shall meet at least once prior to each ASBMB Annual Meeting and may hold interim meetings on the recommendations of the National Officers.

Section 7. Appointment of the UAN committee members shall be for a term of three years, renewable as appropriate. They shall be made up of members of the ASBMB.

Section 8. It shall be the duty of the UAN Committee to determine the boundaries of the geographical regions and to revise them when necessary in order to increase the effectiveness and reduce the problems of national operation. Regional boundaries shall be specified in the by-laws.

Article VI - Chapters and Clubs

Section 1. Any baccalaureate degree-granting college or university approved by the recognized accrediting association for its region and having one or more academic departments in the physical or biological sciences may apply for a chapter of UAN.

Section 2. A chapter may be granted to applicants who satisfy the conditions stated in Article IV sections 2.

Article VII - Chapter Government

Section 1. Each chapter shall adopt by-laws which set forth the specific policies and practices it deems necessary for the effective functioning of the chapter in the local situation. Each chapter shall have full authority to regulate its local affairs as it sees fit, subject to the restrictions of Section 2 of this article.

Section 2. There shall be no provisions in chapter by-laws which are contrary to this constitution or the national by-laws derived there from. The UAN Committee shall have the power to annul any local by-laws which it holds to be in violation of the provisions or clear intent of this constitution, but it shall not do so without prior consultation with the chapter concerned. Such consultation shall make clear the objection to the by-law concerned and give the chapter an opportunity to state its reasons regarding the provision as valid.
Section 3. Chapter by-laws and all amendments thereto shall be filed with the National Office.

Article IX - By-Laws

The UAN Committee shall, from time to time, adopt such by-laws as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this constitution. It shall be the purpose of the by-laws to state the specific procedures and practices in effect at any given time.

Article X - Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to this constitution may be proposed by a member of the UAN Committee, any National Officer, a UAN chapter advisor, or any regular member in good standing. A proposed amendment shall be submitted to the National Office.

Section 2. If a proposed amendment is approved by the National Officers, it shall be submitted by the Regional Director to a poll of the individual chapters. The amendment shall become effective if it is approved by two-thirds of the member chapters.

Section 3. A reply period of not less than sixty days and no or more than ninety days shall be specified in the request for approval. The ballot shall be declared closed at the end of the specified time. The timing shall be such that any poll will be completed within the same academic year in which it is initiated.
BY-LAWS

By-Law I - Membership Conditions
Section 1. Regular members of UAN have both national and chapter membership to the ASBMB. Once initiated, they are:
   a.) ASBMB members for as long as they pay their membership dues
   b.) Chapter members as long as they remain matriculated students in the chapter's home institution and meet their obligations to the chapter as specified by its by-laws.

Section 2. Members terminate chapter membership when they graduate or otherwise terminate their matriculation in the chapter's home institution. Except when they are absent on approved leave-of-absence which permits their return.

By-Laws II - Regions
Section 1. The geographical regions required by Article V of the National Constitution shall be as follows:
   a) The North Eastern Region shall consist of the States of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont
   b) The South Eastern Region shall consist of the States of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington D. C., and West Virginia.
   c) The North-central Region shall consist of the States of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.
   d) The South-central Region shall consist of the States of Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas.
   f) The South Western Region shall consist of the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Hawaii.

Section 2. When the needs or convenience of chapters will be better served by so doing, the UAN Committee and the National Office may redraw the geographical boundaries of a UAN region.

By-Law VII - Amendments
Section 1. These by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the National Officers. At least sixty days prior to the meeting, at which an amendment is to be acted upon, the exact wording must be circulated to all national officers.

Section 2. Proposed amendments may be submitted for consideration by any chapter, any district convention, or any group of ten or more individual regular members.