President and Fellows of Middlebury College

BYLAWS
Revised December 12, 2013

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ARTICLE I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1 Background. To ensure the continued educational excellence and financial health of Middlebury, these Bylaws set forth a structure that is reflective of Middlebury’s innovative approach to education; is nimble and adaptable to the rapidly changing landscape of education; and facilitates the strategic work of trustees as they focus on issues that will affect the future of Middlebury.

1.2 Name and Purpose. The name of the corporation is “President and Fellows of Middlebury College,” referred to as the “Corporation” or “Middlebury.” The Corporation is organized for the purposes set forth in its Charter, including the establishment and operation of Middlebury College (hereafter referred to as the “College”), the Monterey Institute of International Studies (hereafter referred to as the “Institute”), and other educational programs (hereafter referred to as the “Schools”).

1.3 Powers. The Corporation shall have all of the powers accorded to a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the State of Vermont except that the Corporation shall at all times conduct its activities in a manner consistent with preserving its status as an organization exempt from tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or comparable provision of later law).

1.4 Location. The principal office of the Corporation shall be located at Old Chapel, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753.

ARTICLE II
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2.1 Powers and Duties. The President and Fellows of Middlebury College described in the Corporation’s Charter shall comprise a Board of Trustees, hereafter referred to as Trustees, which shall be responsible for the management of the business of Middlebury and shall have all the powers and duties usually attendant thereto and may exercise all the powers of the Corporation and do all such lawful acts and things as are authorized by law, by the Charter of the Corporation, and by these Bylaws. A complete and accurate record will be kept of all meetings of the Board of Trustees, the Standing Committees, and the Boards of Overseers. The chair of the respective body (Board of Trustees, Standing Committees, Boards of Overseers) will designate an individual to be responsible for keeping a record of the meeting. Meeting minutes will be shared with the Secretary of the Corporation and circulated for review and approval by the respective body.

2.2 Trustees. The number of Trustees will be set annually by action of the Trustees, but may not be less than ten nor more than thirty-five, and shall consist of the President of the College, who shall serve ex officio, up to ten Charter Trustees, up to six Alumni Trustees, and up to eighteen Term Trustees, all elected as provided below. The number of Trustees may not be increased to more than thirty-five except by amendment of these Bylaws. The Corporation may have an unlimited number of Trustees Emeriti.

Trustees shall be elected to terms as determined by the Trustees or these Bylaws at the Corporation’s Annual Meeting, with each term to commence as of July 1 following the Annual Meeting.

Alumni and Term Trustees shall not serve more than ten years, unless appointed as a Charter Trustee of the Corporation, and then the Trustee’s total service shall be limited to fifteen years, unless extended pursuant to Section 3.2. Trustees Emeriti may serve more than fifteen years. Any Trustee may be removed by majority vote of the full Board of Trustees.
2.3 **Charter Trustees.** Charter Trustees must serve as either a Term Trustee or Alumni Trustee prior to being elected as a Charter Trustee. Each Charter Trustee’s term shall be the difference between the fifteen year term limit and the total number of years that the Charter Trustee has previously served as either a Term Trustee or an Alumni Trustee.

2.4 **Alumni Trustees.** Alumni Trustees will serve terms of five years each. Nominations of candidates will be made jointly by the Trusteeship and Governance Committee and the College’s Alumni Association and then presented for approval by the alumni according to procedures provided in the Constitution of the Middlebury College Alumni Association. Persons so nominated and approved will be presented to the Trustees for election at the Annual Meeting. An Alumni Trustee completing a full term will be ineligible to serve again as an Alumni Trustee until one year has passed.

2.5 **Term Trustees.** The Trustees will elect Term Trustees for five year terms. A Term Trustee will not be elected for more than two terms of five years, or a single term of five years if the Trustee has previously served a full term as an Alumni Trustee.

2.6 **Trustees Emeriti.** Trustees Emeriti are elected by the Trustees. Trustees who have served fifteen years may be considered for election as Emeriti, after a one-year hiatus from the Board. A request on behalf of said Trustee must be addressed in writing to the Trusteeship and Governance Committee, or be recommended by the Trusteeship and Governance Committee, and will become effective after approval by the Trustees. Trustees Emeriti will be entitled to receive notices of all meetings of the Trustees, to attend all Trustee meetings, to be members of a Standing Committee, to attend all Overseer Board meetings for their assigned Overseer Board, and may be appointed to serve as a Partner Overseer. They will not have voting power either in Trustee meetings, in Standing Committee meetings, or in Overseer meetings unless appointed as a Partner Overseer, in which case they may vote on matters that come before the Overseer Board for which they serve as a Partner Overseer.

2.7 **Vacancies.** If a Trustee does not complete his or her term, the vacancy on the Board of Trustees may be filled by an affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining Trustees, at any meeting of the Trustees. The term of the newly elected Trustee will end when the term of the Trustee replaced would have ended.

**ARTICLE III**

**OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION**

3.1 **Officers.** The Officers of the Corporation will consist of a Chair, one or more Vice Chair(s), the President of the College, a Treasurer and a Secretary. There may also be an Assistant Treasurer and an Assistant Secretary. The Chair and Vice Chair(s) will be chosen from among the Trustees. The Trusteeship and Governance Committee will be responsible for presenting the slate of Officers to the Trustees for a vote. With the exception of the Chair, Officers will be elected annually by the Trustees. Officers will serve at the will of the Trustees. Any Officer may be removed by a majority vote of the full Board of Trustees.

3.2 **Chair Of The Corporation.** It will be the duty of the Chair of the Corporation, hereafter referred to as the Chair, to preside at meetings of the Trustees. In the absence of the Chair, a Vice Chair will preside. Otherwise, the Secretary will call the meeting to order and ask for the election of a Chair pro tempore. The Chair will be the general representative of the Trustees in the academic administration and the business management of Middlebury. The Trustees will elect the Chair, who may serve up to two terms of three years each. If a Trustee is appointed Chair, but, due to the term limits applicable to Trustees generally, the Trustee would not be able to complete a term of three years, then the term limits applicable to that Trustee may be waived to enable the Trustee to serve as Chair for a full three-year term. The term limits may not be waived, however, such that a Trustee could extend his or her term beyond the term
limits for more than three years or a total of eighteen years of service. The Chair of the Corporation will be an *ex officio* member of all Standing Committees and Boards of Overseers with full voting rights.

3.3 **Vice Chair(s) Of The Corporation.** The Vice-Chair(s) will perform such duties as may be delegated by the Chair. The Vice-Chair(s) will assist the Chair and will preside as Chair in the Chair’s absence.

3.4 **President.** The President of the College shall be the President of the Corporation and will have general charge under the Trustees of the administration of the College, the Institute and the Schools, and shall perform such other duties as usually pertain to that office. The President will be an *ex officio* member of the Board of Trustees, Standing Committees and the Boards of Overseers, with full voting rights except as specified otherwise in these Bylaws. The President will not vote on matters related to his or her compensation. The President may, with the consent of the Chair of the Board, the relevant Standing Committee Chair, or the relevant Overseer Board Chair invite members of the administration, staff, faculty, or students to attend all or a portion of a Board of Trustees, Standing Committee, or Overseer Board meeting.

3.5. **Treasurer.** It will be the duty of the Treasurer to keep, or cause to be kept, full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements and to obey all lawful orders of the Trustees respecting the funds, property and accounts of the Corporation. The Treasurer will not pay out any moneys unless by order of the Trustees or under such regulations or with such approval as the Resources Committee may prescribe.

3.6. **Assistant Treasurer.** The Assistant Treasurer will perform such duties as may be delegated by the Treasurer, and will perform the duties of the Treasurer whenever the Treasurer is unable to attend to the same through absence, sickness or other disability.

3.7 **Secretary of the Corporation.** The Secretary will be the clerk of the Trustees. It will be the duty of the Secretary to record all votes and proceedings of the Trustees. The Secretary or Assistant Secretary will keep a record of all instruments and papers required to be recorded in said office and perform all other duties incumbent upon the Secretary by law, usage, or by these Bylaws. The Secretary will keep or cause to be kept minutes of the Board of Trustee meetings, Standing Committee meetings, and Overseer Board meetings. The Secretary will circulate said minutes for review and approval as noted by these Bylaws. The Secretary or Assistant Secretary will give proper notice of all meetings of the Trustees, will have charge of the corporate seal of the Corporation and will seal such instruments as may be so directed by the Trustees or the Prudential Committee.

3.8 **Assistant Secretary of the Corporation.** The Assistant Secretary will perform such duties as may be delegated by the Secretary or the Trustees, and will perform the duties of the Secretary whenever the Secretary is unable to attend to the same through absence, sickness or other disability.

3.9 **Vacancies.** If an Officer of the Corporation does not complete his or her term, the vacancy may be filled by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Trustees other than the Officer, if the Officer is also a Trustee. This vote may be held at any meeting of the Trustees. The term of the newly elected Officer will end when the term of the Officer replaced would have ended.
ARTICLE IV
COMMITTEES

4.1 Standing Committees. There will be the following standing committees of the Board of Trustees:

- Prudential Committee
- Trusteeship and Governance Committee
- Strategy Committee
- Resources Committee
- Risk Management Committee
- New Programs Committee

These Committees and their chairs will be appointed for one year (or until their successors are appointed) by the Chair in consultation with the President. The chair of each Standing Committee will designate an individual to be responsible for keeping minutes of the meeting. Meeting minutes will be shared with the Secretary of the Corporation and circulated for review and approval by the respective Standing Committee. The chair of a Standing Committee may call a meeting of the Committee whenever it is deemed necessary or best, and will call a meeting whenever requested to do so by the Chair, the President or a majority of the Committee. The chair of a Standing Committee may, with the consent of the President, invite members of the administration, faculty, staff, or students to attend all or a portion of a Standing Committee meeting. A majority of the voting members of a Standing Committee constitutes a quorum. Standing Committees may form sub-committees to facilitate the work of the Committee. These sub-committees should not replicate the work of other Standing Committees or the Boards of Overseers.

Each Standing Committee will consist of Trustees and, as a non-voting member, a designee of the President to serve as the Senior Administrative Officer (SAO). In the case of the Prudential Committee, the President shall serve as the Senior Administrative Officer and will have voting rights except as otherwise noted in these Bylaws.

4.2 Special Committees. The Chair may appoint special committees at any time for special purposes. So far as is applicable, the general provision with respect to Standing Committees will also apply to special committees. Special committees will have a finite duration not to exceed eighteen (18) months.

4.3 Prudential Committee. The Prudential Committee will consist of the President of the College, the Chair and Vice Chair(s) of the Board of Trustees, the Chair of each Standing Committee and the Chair of each Board of Overseers. The Secretary of the Trustees will be Secretary of the Prudential Committee. The Committee will have power to exercise the general duties of the Trustees in the interim between meetings. The Committee will establish goals for the President and an annual performance appraisal process. The Committee will review and set total compensation for the President as well as review and comment on compensation and contracts of other senior officers. A subset of the Prudential Committee will be appointed by the Chair to advise the Board on all matters related to presidential succession. Special meetings will be called by the Secretary whenever the Chair directs or any two members of the Committee so request.

4.4 Trusteeship and Governance Committee. The Trusteeship and Governance Committee will consist of the Chair of the Board, the President of the College, and other Trustees to be selected by them jointly. The Committee will consider the general composition of the Board of Trustees and make suggestions for new Emeriti, Charter, Term or Alumni Trustees. The Committee will also consider the general composition of the Boards of Overseers and make suggestions for Partner Overseers. The Committee will consider the recommendation of the President in appointing Constituent Overseers.
In making recommendations, the Committee will help the Board determine the desired board composition to create a diverse membership. All suggestions and nominations will be referred to said Committee for review. The Committee shall furnish information relating to the background and qualifications of all such nominees (Trustees and Partner Overseers) at least twenty days before the meeting at which the candidates are to be elected, and provide an opportunity to make suggestions regarding the desirability of each election. Trustees and Partner Overseers will be elected by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Trustees.

The Committee shall maintain a current profile of the membership and composition of the Board of Trustees and the Overseer Boards. The Committee will assist the President and Chair in the orientation and development of new Trustees and Overseers, and will oversee periodic evaluation by the Board of its own performance, the performance of the Standing Committees, the performance of the Boards of Overseers, and the performance of Advisory Councils.

The Committee will receive recommendations from the President on the formation of Advisory Councils. In consultation with the President, the Committee will recommend the formation of Advisory Councils to the full board. The Board of Trustees will have sole authority for the creation of Advisory Councils.

The Committee will present the slate of Officers of the Corporation to the Trustees for a vote annually; provided that no proposed Officer of the Corporation will vote on such slate. (NOTE: See Section 3.1) In addition to these duties, the Committee will review the Bylaws and make recommendations to the full Board of Trustees on all matters of trustee governance.

4.5 **Strategy Committee.** The Strategy Committee, working in partnership with the President and other members of the administration identified by the President, will be responsible for setting forth Middlebury's strategic direction. Within the Board of Trustees the Strategy Committee will have primary responsibility for monitoring trends in higher education, Middlebury’s leadership role, and the emergent factors affecting global education strategy. The Committee will have responsibility for the strategic consideration of collaborations and intersections between and among Middlebury’s educational programs, and will be responsible for providing direction with respect to strategic communication, institutional advancement and competitive positioning.

4.6 **Resources Committee.** The Resources Committee will assist the Board of Trustees in fulfilling its oversight and stewardship responsibilities for all of Middlebury’s financial, material and human resources. The Committee will review performance metrics, financial reports and related information; will be responsible for oversight of the investment of the Corporation’s endowment portfolio and trust fund assets in accordance with policy established by the Trustees; will review the annual budget and financial model; will have oversight of Middlebury property in all locations; will have general charge over the financial affairs of the Corporation, including recommending the comprehensive fee, tuitions, and the budget for approval by the full Board.

4.7 **Risk Management Committee.** The Risk Management Committee will be responsible for evaluating, monitoring and addressing all matters of institutional risk, including oversight of all operating policies and handbooks. The Committee will review internal controls established by the administration and the Trustees; will make recommendations to the Board regarding all areas of risk (reputational, brand, financial, legal, governance and operational); and will ensure the completion of an annual financial audit. The Committee will also recommend to the Board, after consultation with the designee of the President, the independent public accounting firms to be selected for any required audit and the fees to be paid to outside auditors. Members of the Committee will meet periodically with the College’s independent public accounting firms and the College’s legal counsel.
4.8 **New Programs Committee.** The New Programs Committee will be responsible for evaluating, monitoring and supporting new programs, partnerships, acquisitions and joint ventures. The Committee will undertake an ongoing review of the mission, academic quality, viability, program policies, market position and prominence, and financial underpinnings of new programs after they have been established.

**ARTICLE V**

**BOARDS OF OVERSEEERS**

5.1 **Duties.** The Middlebury Board of Trustees will establish three separate Boards of Overseers, each of which will function like a committee of the Board of Trustees, making recommendations to the Standing Committees and to the Board of Trustees. Boards of Overseers may form sub-committees to facilitate their work. These sub-committees should not replicate the work of the Standing Committees or other Boards of Overseers.

Each Board of Overseers will consist of Trustee Overseers, Partner Overseers, Constituent Overseers and as a non-voting member, a designee of the President to serve as the Senior Administrative Officer (SAO). The majority of each Board of Overseers must consist of Trustee Overseers. The chair of a Board of Overseers may, with the consent of the President, invite Middlebury administrators, faculty, staff or students to attend all or a portion of an Overseer Board’s meeting. The chair of each Board of Overseers will designate an individual to be responsible for keeping minutes of the meeting. Meeting minutes will be shared with the Secretary of the Corporation and circulated for review and approval by the respective board.

Selected members of each Board of Overseers will be designated by the respective Chair to hold at least one meeting annually, in executive session, with members of the faculty; and at least one meeting annually, in executive session, with members of the staff. Such members of the faculty and staff will be designated by a committee(s) selected by the President for the College, the Institute and the Schools. These meetings will focus primarily on items of concern to members of the faculty and the staff respectively.

The members of the Overseer Boards and their chairs will be appointed for one year (or until their successors are appointed) by the Chair in consultation with the President. The chair of each Overseer Board must be a Trustee Overseer. At the discretion of the chair, a Constituent Overseer may be asked to recuse himself/herself from Overseer Board meeting discussions.

There will be a separate Overseer Board for the College, the Institute, and the Schools, with responsibilities as described below:

**The College Board of Overseers.** The College Board of Overseers has primary responsibility for reviewing and monitoring the academic and student affairs of Middlebury College including instruction, academic policies, academic appointments, and a formal recommendation to the Board of Trustees regarding appointments without limit of tenure. The College Board of Overseers will review and comment on the College’s plans for facilities and grounds, advancement, undergraduate enrollment, and new initiatives and programs. The College Board of Overseers will also comment on the College’s proposed budget before formal consideration by the Resources Committee.

**The Institute Board of Overseers.** The Institute Board of Overseers has primary responsibility for reviewing and monitoring the academic and student affairs of the Institute, including instruction and academic policy. The Institute Board of Overseers will review and comment on
the Institute’s plans for facilities and grounds, advancement, enrollment, and new initiatives and programs. The Institute Board of Overseers will review all academic and senior staff appointments at the Institute. The Institute Board of Overseers will also comment on the Institute’s proposed budget prior to its consideration by the Resources Committee.

**The Schools Board of Overseers.** The Schools Board of Overseers has primary responsibility for reviewing and monitoring the portfolio of programs and initiatives operated by the Middlebury Language Schools, the Middlebury Schools Abroad, the Bread Loaf School of English and the Bread Loaf Writer’s Conference. The Schools Board of Overseers will review and comment on academic and student affairs, facilities and grounds, advancement, enrollment and new initiatives of these programs. The Schools Board of Overseers will also comment on the finances of the schools and programs.

5.2 **Trustee Overseers.** Trustees assigned to an Overseer Board will be referred to as Trustee Overseers. A Trustee may serve on only one Overseer Board. The President of the College and the Chair of the Board shall serve as *ex officio* members of all of the Overseer Boards.

5.3 **Partner Overseers.** Trustees will elect Partner Overseers for a term of up to three years. A Partner Overseer will not be elected for more than four terms. Partner Overseers shall be elected at the Corporation’s Annual Meeting, with each term to commence as of July 1 following the Annual Meeting.

5.4 **Constituent Overseers.** Upon the recommendation of the President the Trusteeship and Governance Committee will appoint Constituent Overseers for a term of up to three years. The President will recommend one member each from the faculty, the staff and the student body within the purview of an Overseer Board for consideration by the Trusteeship and Governance Committee. Constituent Overseers shall be appointed to terms by the Trusteeship and Governance Committee at the Annual Meeting, with each term to commence as of July 1 following the Annual Meeting.

5.5 **Overseers.** The total number of Overseers for each Board of Overseers will be set annually by action of the Trustees. Each Overseer shall be a voting member of his or her respective Overseer Board. Any Overseer may be removed by a majority vote of the full Board of Trustees.

5.6 **Vacancies.** If an Overseer does not complete his or her term, the vacancy on the Overseer Board may be filled by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Trustees, at any meeting of the Trustees. The term of the newly elected Overseer will end when the term of the Overseer replaced would have ended.

5.7 **Meetings and Attendance.** Board of Overseer Meetings will be held contemporaneously with the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees and the two Regular Meetings of the Board of Trustees. In addition to these three meetings, Overseer Boards will hold a minimum of one additional meeting per year. These additional Overseer meetings will be held at a time and in a location to be determined by the respective Overseer Board. The Overseer meetings shall be scheduled by a resolution of the Trustees at the Annual Meeting.

A majority of the voting members of an Overseer Board constitutes a quorum. Overseers participating via telephone or videoconference will be considered present and will count towards a quorum. A majority vote of the members present will be deemed the act of the whole. If less than a quorum of Overseers is present at any meeting, it may be adjourned to any date fixed by those present, provided notice of the adjourned meeting is sent to all Overseers at least two days before said meeting.

Special meetings of an Overseer Board will be held whenever and wherever called by the respective chair with the concurrence of at least two members of said Overseer Board or by the Secretary upon written request of any four members of the respective Overseer Board. Notice of special meetings of Overseers

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will be sent to the respective Overseers at least two days prior to the meeting. Any Overseer may waive notice of any meeting. The attendance of an Overseer at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting.

Attendance at meetings of the Overseers will be limited to Overseers except as otherwise noted in these Bylaws or by invitation of the President, the Chair, or the respective Overseer Chair as noted in these Bylaws.

Overseers are expected to attend all scheduled meetings of their respective Overseer Board. Overseers participating via telephone or videoconference will be considered present. Overseers are expected to attend at least two Overseer meetings per year in person.

ARTICLE VI
MEETINGS

6.1 Annual Board of Trustees’ Meeting. The Annual Meeting of the Trustees will be held during May in Middlebury, Vermont.

6.2 Regular Board of Trustees’ Meetings. There will be two regularly scheduled meetings of the Trustees each year in addition to the Annual Meeting. The Regular Meetings shall be scheduled by resolution of the Trustees at the Annual Meeting.

6.3 Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Trustees will be held whenever and wherever called by the Chair with the concurrence of at least two other Trustees or by the Secretary upon written request of any four trustees.

6.4 Notice. Notice of special meetings of the Trustees will be sent to the Trustees at least two days prior to the meeting. Any Trustee may waive notice of any meeting. The attendance of a Trustee at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a Trustee attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened. The business to be transacted at the meeting need not be specified in the notice of waiver of notice of such meeting, unless specifically required by law or by these Bylaws.

6.5 Quorum. A majority of the full Board of Trustees (excluding Trustees Emeriti) will constitute a quorum. Trustees participating via telephone or videoconference will be considered present and will count towards a quorum. A majority vote of the members present will be deemed the act of the whole. If less than a quorum of Trustees is present at any meeting, it may be adjourned to any date fixed by those present, provided notice of the adjourned meeting is sent to all Trustees at least two days before said meeting.

6.6 Attendance. Attendance at meetings of the Trustees will be limited to Trustees except as otherwise noted in these Bylaws or by invitation of the President and Chair. Trustees participating via telephone or videoconference will be considered present. Trustees are expected to be present at all scheduled meetings of the Board. Trustees are expected to attend a majority of the meetings in person.

ARTICLE VII
OTHER PROVISIONS
7.1 Corporate Seal. The Corporate Seal will be a double circle in form with the words: “Coll. Med. Virid. Mon.” and “1800” in the outer circle, and an open book and the words “Scientia et Virtus” in the inner circle. The seal may be altered by the Trustees from time to time.

7.2 Indemnification. The Corporation will indemnify any Trustee, Overseer or any officer or former Trustee, Overseer or officer of the Corporation, or any person who may be serving or has served at the request of the Corporation as a Trustee or officer of another entity in which the Corporation has an interest, for expenses actually and reasonably incurred including the amount of judgments and the amount of reasonable settlements made to curtail costs of litigation in connection with or arising out of any action, suit, or proceeding in which the Trustee, Overseer or officer may be involved by reason of being or having been a Trustee, Overseer or officer, except in relation to matters as to which the Trustee, Overseer or officer will be adjudged in such action, suit, or proceeding to be liable for gross negligence or misconduct in the performance of duty to the Corporation; and to make any other indemnification that will be authorized by the Charter or resolution adopted after notice by the members entitled to vote.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Corporation shall not pay or reimburse any person under this Article (including the payment of liability insurance premiums for the purpose of making any such payment or reimbursement) for any expense which is not reasonably incurred by the person in connection with a civil judicial or civil administrative proceeding arising out of the person's performance of services on behalf of the Corporation (within the meaning of Treasury Regulation § 53.4948-4(b)(1)(ii)(B)(2) or comparable provisions of subsequent regulations) or which results from an act or failure to act with respect to which the person has acted willfully and without reasonable cause (within the meaning of Treasury Regulation § 53.4948-4(b)(1)(ii)(B)(2) or comparable provisions of subsequent regulations) unless (i) the Board of Trustees has first determined that such payment or reimbursement, when added to all other economic benefits provided to the person and included in the determination of reasonableness of compensation paid to the person under Section 4958 of the Internal Revenue Code, will not result in the payment of unreasonable compensation under Section 4958 to such person and (ii) such amount is included in the person’s compensation for the year in which the amount is paid.

7.3 Conflict Of Interest. All Trustees and Overseers will comply annually with the Corporation’s Conflict-of-Interest Policy. Statements submitted by the Trustees and Overseers will be reviewed annually by the Resources Committee. Any conflicts noted will be referred to the Trusteeship and Governance Committee for resolution.

7.4 Amendment. These Bylaws may be changed or amended at any meeting of the Trustees by a two-thirds vote of those present, provided notice of the substance of the proposed amendment is sent to all Trustees at least ten days before the meeting.

7.5 Advisory Councils. It may be in the best interests of Middlebury to form Advisory Councils to provide guidance to programs or activities. The consideration of whether an Advisory Council shall be formed shall require a recommendation of the President to Trusteeship and Governance Committee and, after consideration by the Trusteeship and Governance Committee, approval of the full Board of Trustees. The approval of an Advisory Council must state the purpose of the Advisory Council, the scope of authority, and the intended duration. If approved by the full Board of Trustees, then the appointment of members of the Advisory Council may be delegated to one of the Boards of Overseers or the New Programs Committee. Any and all Advisory Councils must provide an annual report to the President and the Trusteeship and Governance Committee, to be distributed to the Board of Trustees and other relevant Standing Committees and Overseer Boards. Advisory Councils will be reviewed by the Trusteeship and Governance Committee every three years. Advisory Councils shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees.
7.6 **Miscellaneous.** These Bylaws shall be subject to and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Vermont. The provisions hereof shall be deemed independent and severable, and the invalidity or partial invalidity or unenforceability of any one provision or portion thereof shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision hereof. As used herein, all singular words shall include the plural and all plural words shall include the singular, as the context may require.