

WESTSTAR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

BYLAWS

Adopted September 2008

A Program of the *WestStar* Leadership Program
The University of Tennessee at Martin

**BYLAWS
WESTSTAR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

**ARTICLE I
GENERAL**

SECTION 1. NAME

This organization shall be known as the WestStar Alumni Association, an association of the WestStar Leadership Program at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

SECTION 2. PURPOSE

The WestStar Alumni Association is organized to promote the further development of WestStar graduates by exposing them to continuing educational opportunities; promote networking among alumni; and to serve as a support organization for the WestStar program, all in an effort to have a positive impact on our region by encouraging leadership development in West Tennessee.

**ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION I. ELIGIBILITY

Any person who is a graduate of WestStar Leadership shall be eligible for membership in the alumni association and will be included in WestStar program mailings upon graduation via e-mail communications.

SECTION 2. EXCLUSIONS

Any member of the alumni association who moves out of state will continue to receive all of the WestStar mailings, via e-mail communications.

SECTION 3. GIFTS & BENEFITS

Membership gifts in the amount of \$50 shall be accepted annually. Membership entitles the following:

- A copy of the annual updated WestStar alumni directory.
- Recognition in WestStar publications as an alumni association member
- Gifts may be considered tax deductible
- Access to Alumni Association “Members” section of the WestStar web site.
- To participate in all WestStar program sessions including social/dinners following each session during the year at no cost.
- Other benefits that may be available in the future.

ARTICLE III
MEETINGS

SECTION 1. GENERAL

The Alumni Association shall hold a minimum of two (graduation/reunion) functions each year involving all of the Alumni Association members.

SECTION 2. EDUCATION

A continuing education program shall be held each year for alumni to keep them updated on current issues and current events.

SECTION 3. SUPPORT

The Alumni Association will be invited to participate in all WestStar program sessions including social/dinners following each session during the year at no cost.

ARTICLE IV
ALUMNI COUNCIL

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Alumni Council will be to increase support and involvement in the WestStar Alumni Association; develop and execute special educational programs for members; expand the influence of WestStar alumni in the development of West Tennessee; serve as an advisory council to the WestStar Board of Trustees with suggestions from alumni; help with recruiting new class members; develop new ideas to increase additional benefits for Alumni Association members; increase communications for WestStar alumni; to plan special activities for WestStar alumni; develop a better communications between alumni; and develop and organize a speakers bureau which is recruited from each graduating class and updated on an annual basis.

This purpose for handling any business of the Council including budget requests, approval of the Bylaws and amendments thereto.

SECTION 2. MEMBERSHIP

The Alumni Council will include an individual from each WestStar class and up to three at-large members.

SECTION 3. SELECTION AND ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Alumni Council will be nominated by the Executive Director and Coordinator of the program. The CP Boyd Leadership Award winner each year will become a representative of the most recent WestStar graduating class on the Alumni Council. To remain active, a member must attend at least one meeting annually. All Alumni Council members must be a member of the Alumni association and in good standing.

SECTION 4. TERMS AND EXCLUSIONS

The Alumni Council will each serve a three-year term, not to exceed three successive three-year term per council member. The Alumni Council shall be structured with a Chair and Vice Chair. Terms will begin July 1.

SECTION 5. MEETINGS

The Council shall meet at least, but not limited to, two times per year. Called Council meetings shall be held as deemed necessary by the Chair, Executive Director or Coordinator of WestStar. Most communications will be done via email communications.

SECTION 6: QUORUM

There has to be 25% of the Alumni Council present for any actions of a Council meeting to be official.

ARTICLE V
BUDGET

SECTION 1. FUNDS

The Alumni Association budget and appropriate line items must be approved by the WestStar Board of Trustees. All funds shall go into WestStar’s general fund.

SECTION 2. FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the WestStar Alumni Association shall coincide with the WestStar Leadership Program and UT Martin’s fiscal year of July 1 through June 30.

ARTICLE VI
AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. REVISIONS

These bylaws may be amended or altered by a majority vote of the WestStar Alumni Council. Any proposed amendments or alternations shall be submitted any time during the fiscal year to be discussed and approved at a scheduled WestStar Alumni Council meeting unless otherwise specified.

_____	_____
Chair	Date
_____	_____
Executive Director, WestStar	Date
Adopted _____	