



Guidelines for Use of Membership Dues

BACKGROUND

The Wayne State University Alumni Association is a membership-based organization.

Our mission is to build loyalty and support among our graduates by:

- providing a positive image of the university
- strengthening feelings of identity with the university
- offering opportunities for alumni to serve the university

Under the umbrella of the national alumni association are 14 school, college and interest constituent groups to which WSUAA allocates a portion of membership dues based on selection by individual members.

GUIDELINES

Membership dues currently account for more than half the association's annual income. Because members have entrusted us to be the diligent steward of their dues, we take seriously the responsibility to utilize those dues in ways that are compliant with the By-laws and consistent with both the organization's mission and the nonprofit status we have been granted under the university's umbrella.

Membership dues are used to:

- Encourage alumni to join and renew their membership, both in the national alumni association and its constituent groups
- Increase alumni and student involvement through events and activities
- Strengthen alumni support and participation through communications
- Develop volunteer leadership

Not included in these purposes are philanthropic initiatives (e.g., scholarships, support for academic programs, etc.) that are also a worthy measure of university support. However, these initiatives should be addressed through funds raised from members and friends, either generally or for a specific purpose, and for which the contributor receives the benefit of a tax-deductible gift.

It is never appropriate to utilize membership dues to financially support another non-profit organization outside Wayne State University.

Constituent groups are encouraged to utilize these guidelines in developing annual budgets and making decisions on the use of membership dues.