Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, Inc.

GRAND CHAPTER BYLAWS

AND

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES


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GRAND CHAPTER BYLAWS
BYLAWS

PREAMBLE

Sigma Phi Epsilon consists of three separate entities working independently as separate legal entities, but together cooperatively to promote and foster the ideals and principles of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

The undergraduate chapter is an unincorporated association of men that exists by virtue of a charter granted by the Grand Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon. The undergraduate chapter is responsible for all aspects of its own existence.

The alumni of an undergraduate chapter incorporate to form an Alumni and Volunteer Corporation to serve the alumni and volunteers of a given chapter, as well as to serve as a landlord for the undergraduate chapter and to provide advice and counsel to the undergraduate chapter.

The national Fraternity exists to advise and counsel the collective membership of Sigma Phi Epsilon. The national Fraternity exists at the pleasure of the Grand Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon, which convenes every other year to legislate and govern Sigma Phi Epsilon at-large. The Grand Chapter elects a Board of Directors, which is empowered to act on behalf of the undergraduate chapters when the Grand Chapter is not in session.
BYLAWS
ARTICLE I – PURPOSE

Section 1. The Fraternity shall strive to:

(a) Impress upon its members the true significance of fraternal relationship and create and perpetuate friendship among all persons;

(b) Develop and strengthen the character of its members, promote within its members the principles of Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love, and preserve the ideals upon which the Fraternity was founded;

(c) Instill those principles in its members which are the responsibilities of an individual as a member of society; and

(d) Enhance members’ academic careers and commitment to academic excellence.

Section 2. Any Fraternity activity shall be of a constructive nature in accordance with the purposes and objectives of the Fraternity, and all forms of hazing are prohibited at all times.
BYLAWS
ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. A member in the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity is a man of good moral character who is eligible for membership therein and, having been elected to membership pursuant to the provisions of the Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures, as well as chapter bylaws, is granted membership according to the Ritual of the Fraternity; provided, however, that no man shall be eligible for membership who has failed to meet the minimum academic requirements set forth in this Article, or who is a member of another general national college social fraternity. Eligibility for membership shall not, in any way, be affected or determined by race, color, religion, age, physical disability, ethnic background, sexual orientation, creed, or national origin.

Limitation of membership to a small, selective group of men, and the exclusion of women from membership is deemed to be consistent with the purposes for which the Fraternity was founded and Article I hereof. Such limitation is further intended to foster and develop (i) family-like ties of brotherhood comparable to those existing in members’ families, (ii) members’ collegial, social and emotional development, (iii) members’ academic commitment, (iv) associational relationships, and (v) adherence to the conduct of members’ lives consistent with the principles, values, and teachings of the Ritual.

Section 2. There shall be five classes of members:

(a) Undergraduate members are those who have been officially affiliated with an undergraduate chapter and are pursuing a baccalaureate degree program at the accredited college or university serving as host to the chapter.

(b) Alumni members are those who cease to be undergraduate members in the college or university chapter where they were initiated or affiliated through (1) graduation via a bachelor degree, (2) disaffiliation as a student for more than one academic year from the university or college serving as host to the chapter where they were initiated or affiliated unless they affiliate with another chapter as an undergraduate member, or (3) permission to obtain alumni status through application to the national Fraternity, via a formal application.

Standards for alumni status pursuant to Subsection (b)(3) shall be as follows:

— Member must be in good standing as identified by Article II, Section 3.

— Member must complete formal application in the form and content as established by the National Board of Directors.
— Majority vote of the members in good standing of his undergraduate chapter.

— Written consent of the president of the corresponding Alumni and Volunteer Corporation and the Chapter Counselor appointed to support the undergraduate chapter. In the absence of either an Alumni and Volunteer Corporation or Chapter Counselor, the District Governor’s consent shall be required.

This application procedure can be changed at the sole discretion of the National Board of Directors.

e) Renaissance members are those who are over 25 years of age; who have received an undergraduate degree or currently are not enrolled undergraduate students at a college or university, who are not a member of another national fraternity, who express values and ideals consistent with the cardinal principles of Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love; and who have been initiated in a manner prescribed by the Ritual and Guide of Sigma Phi Epsilon (“Ritual”). Following initiation, a Renaissance member shall be referred to as a Brother and be qualified to serve as an Alumni National Director. The initiation of a Renaissance member conducted by any group of members other than an undergraduate chapter shall occur only with the approval of the National Board of Directors.

d) Members-at-large are those who at the time of their affiliation are attending a college or university where no undergraduate chapter of the Fraternity is established. Members-at-large are recruited in anticipation of establishing an undergraduate chapter at such college or university, and authorization for such recruiting may be given only by the approval of the National Board of Directors.

e) Military members are those undergraduate members in good standing who undertake service in their nation’s armed forces and thereby withdraw from school. Each member leaving school for reasons of military service will become eligible for alumni status as prescribed in this section.

Section 3. A member in good standing is defined by one who is an undergraduate member, has not had his membership restricted for academics, and is not financially indebted to the undergraduate chapter, its Alumni and Volunteer Corporation, or the Fraternity.

Section 4. Any type of membership not specifically provided herein, including inactive membership, shall not be permitted.
Section 5. No member of the Fraternity shall belong to any society or organization which is inconsistent with the principles and objectives of the Fraternity.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR MEMBERS

Section 6. The following shall be the academic requirements for membership in the Fraternity:

(a) Each chapter, taking into consideration all relative statistics on its campus, shall establish a minimum grade point average for candidates for membership who are (i) incoming freshmen; and (ii) continuing college students. The minimum high school grade point average for incoming freshman to be eligible for membership shall be a 2.7 out of a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent). The minimum college grade point average for continuing college students to be eligible for membership shall be a 2.6 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent).

(b) Nothing shall prohibit a chapter from setting minimum member grade point averages that are higher than the standards set forth in Subsection (a), above, and the Grand Chapter challenges individual chapters to establish a minimum GPA reflecting or exceeding their all campus average.

(c) This minimum standard shall be established no later than the first month of the academic year. Further, the chapter will alert the Executive Director as to its standard immediately after ratification, and this minimum standard shall be re-evaluated at the beginning of each academic year.

(d) An undergraduate member of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity with a grade point average below a 2.6 term GPA or equivalent on a 4.0 scale for one term (semester/quarter) shall have his membership restricted for academics for the duration of the next consecutive term.

(e) If a member with academically restricted membership attains less than a 2.25 GPA for the next consecutive term, he shall be automatically expelled from the Fraternity with no right of appeal but the right to be reinstated as defined in this Section.

(f) If a member achieves below a 2.6 term GPA for a third academic term (semester/quarter), he shall be automatically expelled from the Fraternity with no right of appeal but the right to be reinstated as defined in this Section.

(g) A member expelled for academics may not seek reinstatement until the member has attained a term GPA (semester/quarter) of a 2.6 or greater and a cumulative GPA of 2.6 or greater.
A member with academically restricted membership shall not be permitted to be an officer of the undergraduate chapter or a committee chairman. During this period, he shall be required to meet with the chapter’s Standards Board to develop an academic support plan to improve his academic performance. He must also obtain an academic mentor approved by the chapter’s Standards Board and meet with his academic mentor regularly to review his progress.

Petitions for reinstatement after expulsion for academics must follow the reinstatement procedures as defined in these Grand Chapter Bylaws and the member’s local chapter bylaws.

Nothing shall prohibit a chapter from setting a higher minimum member grade point average standard or a shorter timeline for suspension and expulsion for academics.

For the purposes of this Section, a summer session shall not constitute a term. Grades achieved in summer sessions shall be considered for the calculations of cumulative GPAs.

The Standards Board shall have the authority and responsibility for enforcing both the academic provisions of this Section as well as the reinstatement process.

This Section cannot be amended by the National Board of Directors and can only be amended by a vote of the Grand Chapter at a Conclave or a special session.

**ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 7.** The selection of those candidates to be offered membership in Sigma Phi Epsilon shall be completed by the undergraduate chapter or a committee of its undergraduate members as established in the chapter’s bylaws.

**Section 8.** The selection of candidates shall be done at a regular meeting of an undergraduate chapter, at a special meeting called for that purpose, or at a meeting of the chapter’s designees, as established in the undergraduate chapter’s bylaws.

**Section 9.** All candidates shall be voted upon separately, and only members in good standing shall be entitled to vote.

**Section 10.** Each chapter shall establish the minimum standards for extending a bid for membership as long as those standards do not fall below the minimum requirements outlined in the Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures.
Section 11. A candidate rejected by a chapter may be reconsidered at the next meeting of the undergraduate chapter or at the next meeting of the chapter’s designees.

EXCLUSION FROM RITUAL RITES OF PASSAGE

Section 12. Sections 13-17 pertaining to the exclusion of members from the ritual rites of passage shall apply only to Balanced Man Program chapters.

Section 13. The Standards Board shall consider any and all requests to exclude a member from participation in the ritual rites of passage.

Section 14. The provisions governing membership jurisdiction as outlined in these Grand Chapter Bylaws and the Administrative Policies and Procedures shall govern the Standards Board in considering said requests.

Section 15. Only a member in good standing is eligible to participate in the ritual rites of passage.

Section 16. Each member shall experience the ritual rites of passage in the manner and form prescribed in the Ritual.

Section 17. A chapter may make a written request to another undergraduate chapter that said chapter may pass members of the requesting chapter through the ritual rites of passage for and in the name of the requesting chapter.

ELECTION TO INITIATION

Section 18. Sections 19-23 pertaining to the election of members for initiation shall only apply to pledging model chapters.

Section 19. A candidate may be considered for initiation for one calendar year’s continuous enrollment in school from the time he first pledged.

Section 20. To exclude a member from initiation in Sigma Phi Epsilon, the chapter must:

(a) Notify the member, through the Chapter President, at least two (2) weeks before a vote of elimination is cast, that his membership is in question; except in an emergency, in which event a two-thirds vote of the membership may suspend this provision.

(b) Conduct a chapter vote where a quorum of two-thirds of the initiated members in good standing is present and one-third of the initiated members in good standing votes to eliminate the member.

(c) In all cases, any votes on the member are done at a chapter meeting with only members present and no form of secret balloting.
Section 21. A candidate rejected by a chapter may be reconsidered at the next meeting of the undergraduate chapter.

Section 22. Each candidate shall be initiated in the manner and form prescribed in the *Ritual* at a regular or special meeting of the chapter.

Section 23. A chapter may make a written request to another undergraduate chapter that said other chapter may initiate a candidate inducted by the requesting chapter, for and in the name of the requesting chapter.

**AFFILIATING TRANSFER MEMBERS**

Section 24. Each undergraduate chapter shall have, as part of its chapter bylaws, a procedure to affiliate transfer members. To be eligible for affiliation, each member shall receive approval of undergraduate chapter members as prescribed by the chapter’s bylaws.

**MEMBERSHIP JURISDICTION**

Section 25. The National Board of Directors shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the Grand President, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, National Directors, District Governors, Lieutenant District Governors, Chapter Counselors, and all other members appointed by it to offices and positions of responsibility.

Section 26. Each undergraduate chapter shall have original jurisdiction over its undergraduate members for violation of membership obligations subject to trial and punishment.

Section 27. The National Board of Directors shall have power to require a chapter to receive and prosecute complaints against members under the jurisdiction of the chapter.

Section 28. The National Board of Directors shall have power to assume original jurisdiction over any member, undergraduate or otherwise, whose indebtedness to his chapter or to the Fraternity is 90 days past due, or is subject to trial and punishment for violation of membership obligations.

Section 29. The National Board of Directors may assume original jurisdiction over all members subject to trial and punishment for violation of membership obligations, and shall have appellate jurisdiction from the decision reached in a trial conducted by an undergraduate chapter.

**MEMBERSHIP DISCIPLINE**

Section 30. The following violations of membership obligations subject a member to trial and punishment:
(a) Offenses which constitute criminal activity under state or federal law, including but not limited to hazing, possession or use of controlled substances or other drugs, and assault or battery.

(b) Offenses against common law, not made crimes by any statute.

(c) Offenses against the Charter, Bylaws, Administrative Policies and Procedures, Statement on Chapter and Individual Responsibility, or Statement on Relationships of the Fraternity.

(d) Offenses against the bylaws of the member’s undergraduate chapter.

(e) Offenses generally which involve violation of a member’s Oath of Obligation as defined in the Ritual.

(f) Misrepresentation of eligibility for initiation of himself or another member.

(g) Causing to be written or printed, or revealing in any manner whatsoever, any of the secret work of the Fraternity.

(h) Being knowledgeable of a member’s violation of any of the preceding and not reporting such.

**MEMBERSHIP TRIALS**

**Section 31.** Each member of the Fraternity, undergraduate or otherwise, accused of any offense must be proceeded against by written charges called a complaint, and all members who are so accused shall have notice thereof, and each is entitled to an impartial trial.

**Section 32.** A trial under the *Grand Chapter Bylaws* of the Fraternity is defined to be a judicial examination of the issues arising out of the complaint of offenses. In the case of an undergraduate chapter in good standing, a trial shall be conducted by the undergraduate Standards Board. In all other cases, the National Board of Directors, or its delegate, shall consider and decide on the case.

**Section 33.** Trials of undergraduate members charged with violations of membership obligations shall be conducted by the undergraduate chapter’s Standards Board according to the following procedures:

(a) Allegations that an undergraduate member is in violation of his membership obligations may be reported to the Chaplain.

(b) Upon receipt of a complaint, the Chaplain shall call a meeting of the Standards Board at the earliest available opportunity to hold the trial.
(c) The Chaplain shall provide a written summary of the complaint, including specific details, as well as notice of the Standards Board meeting to the member alleged to be in violation at least 48 hours prior to the Standards Board meeting.

(d) Should the member be unable to attend the scheduled meeting of the Standards Board, he must notify the Chaplain of his inability to do so before the meeting has occurred and must request an alternate time, not to exceed 72 hours beyond the scheduled meeting.

(e) All trials held by the Standards Board shall be closed to all other members.

(f) At that trial, the member alleged to be in violation of membership obligations will be given the opportunity to state his position on the alleged violations. Any witnesses to the alleged violations shall be called upon by the Standards Board for relevant information.

(g) Any member-witness who fails to or refuses to cooperate with the Standards Board upon request shall be subject to discipline.

(h) Should the member fail to appear for his trial, the Standards Board may still consider the facts and make its decision.

(i) During the trial, the member may represent himself or designate a representative, as long as that representative is a current undergraduate member in good standing of the same chapter. The member is not entitled to an attorney.

(j) The Chaplain shall appoint a member of the Standards Board to record all minutes of and statements made or summary thereof during any Standards Board meeting.

(k) During the trial, the member alleged to be in violation shall have an opportunity to state his position, the Standards Board may call any available witnesses for testimony, and all other evidence shall be considered. The Standards Board shall have the sole discretion to determine the exact order of proceedings.

(l) The member alleged to be in violation shall have the right to be present for the testimony of all witnesses but neither he nor his representative shall have the right to directly confront or cross examine any witness.

(m) Neither the member alleged to be in violation nor any witness shall be required to make testimony that would self-incriminate themselves.
The Standards Board shall deliberate by itself and determine whether it is more likely than not that a violation has occurred.

If a violation is found, the Standards Board shall determine, from among the options set forth in Section 36 of this Article, the appropriate penalty to be imposed. All five members of the Board must be present to vote, and a majority vote of the Standards Board shall constitute the decision of the chapter, on both the offense and the penalty, if any.

All decisions of the Standards Board, other than expulsion, shall be final.

Should the Standards Board vote that a member’s violation should result in the member’s expulsion, that member shall have the right to appeal the decision to the undergraduate chapter as a whole. Should the member appeal, his membership rights shall stand suspended until the chapter has considered and decided upon his appeal.

To exercise this right to appeal, the appealing member must notify the undergraduate Chapter President of his appeal in writing, within 20 days. The Chapter President will notify the Chaplain.

A copy of these procedures contained in this section shall be furnished by the Chapter President to both the member found in violation and the Chaplain, who, as chairman of the Standards Board, will represent its position to the chapter.

At the first available chapter meeting, either regular or special, occurring at least 96 hours after the appealing member notifies the Chapter President, at which a quorum of two-thirds (2/3) of the members in good standing are present, the chapter shall hear the appeal.

In no more than 15 minutes, the Chaplain will present the Standards Board’s report of the member’s specific violation as well as a report of the board’s justification for expelling the member.

Following the Chaplain’s report, in no more than 15 minutes, the appealing member will have the opportunity to present his appeal. He can represent himself or designate a representative as long as that representative is a current undergraduate member in good standing of the same chapter. The member is not entitled to an attorney.

Immediately, without debate, the Chapter President will call for a vote by secret ballot as to whether or not the decision of Standards Board to expel the member should be upheld.
If two-thirds (2/3) of the members in good standing in attendance vote to overturn the decision of expulsion, then the member is not expelled, and his violations are referred back to the Standards Board for a decision of an appropriate penalty other than expulsion. If two-thirds (2/3) of the members in good standing in attendance do not vote to overturn the decision for expulsion, then the member is expelled, effective immediately.

It shall be the duty of the Vice President of Communications to keep a complete record of the appeal proceedings, including the results of voting, to direct such record to become part of the records of the chapter, and to notify promptly, in writing, the member found in violation and the Executive Director, or his designee, of the outcome.

A member expelled by his chapter has the opportunity to file a final appeal to the National Board of Directors, or its designee. Any appeal must be filed in writing with the Executive Director. The appeal must be received no later than thirty (30) days after the member is notified in writing of the decision of the chapter. Such appeal shall include all reasons for the appeal.

Upon receipt of the appeal, the Executive Director shall notify the President of the undergraduate chapter, enclosing a copy of the appeal. The chapter shall have thirty (30) days to respond in writing to the appeal, which response shall include a record of the proceedings.

The Executive Director shall forward the response of the chapter to the appealing member who shall have fifteen (15) days to submit a response to the Executive Director.

The Executive Director will thereafter submit the appeal to the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors, which shall, within sixty (60) days thereafter, determine if such appeal has a reasonable basis. If it determines there is no reasonable basis, the appeal is denied. If it is determined that the appeal does have a reasonable basis, then the National Board of Directors shall decide the appeal at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

The National Board of Directors shall have the power to uphold the decision of the chapter or remand the decision of the chapter back to the Standards Board for an alternate penalty.

The forgoing provisions are procedural in nature and substantial compliance therewith shall be sufficient for enforcement.
Section 34. Whenever deemed necessary, the Executive Director shall recommend, and the National Board of Directors shall appoint, alumni members of the Fraternity to serve on an Alumni Standards Commission for the purposes of holding trials and determining membership violations for alumni and other non-undergraduate members of the Fraternity. This commission should constitute no fewer than three (3) alumni members, one of whom shall be the chairman.

Section 35. Trials of alumni or any other non-undergraduate members shall be held in the manner and form outlined in Section 33 subject to the following modifications:

(a) Allegations shall be reported by written complaint to the Executive Director, not the undergraduate chapter Chaplain.

(b) All references to the Standards Board shall be replaced with the Alumni Standards Commission.

(c) Before a meeting of the Alumni Standards Commission, the Executive Director shall notify the Alumni Standards Commission Chairman of the complaint within seven (7) days of receiving said complaint. The Chairman will randomly select two members appointed to the Commission from among those without a conflict of interest to the complaint in question to evaluate the complaint at their earliest convenience.

(d) With respect to the scheduling and execution of the trial, the Chairman of the Alumni Standards Commission shall fill the responsibilities delegated to the undergraduate chapter Chaplain.

(e) All trials may be held by conference call or electronic meeting of the Commission when an in person meeting is not possible.

(f) An alumnus alleged to have violated his obligation shall have the right to be represented by any alumnus of the Fraternity provided the representative is not acting in the capacity of legal counsel.

(g) The intent to appeal shall be filed in writing with the Executive Director, not the Chapter President.

(h) All appeals will be heard directly by the National Board of Directors or its designee as outlined in Section 33 (z) – (dd).

The forgoing provisions are procedural in nature and substantial compliance therewith shall be sufficient for enforcement.
PENALTIES

Section 36. The penalties which may be imposed for violations of membership obligations are:

(a) Reprimand or censure.

(b) Imposition of a fine to a maximum of five hundred dollars ($500).

(c) Denial of specific privileges.

(d) Suspension for a definite time, not to exceed one calendar year.

(e) Expulsion from the Fraternity.

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

Section 37. Suspension is defined to be the denial for a definite period of the privileges and benefits of membership, including wearing or displaying the Fraternity insignia, attending undergraduate chapter functions and meetings, use of chapter facilities, and otherwise identifying himself as a member of the Fraternity.

Section 38. Expulsion is defined to be the permanent denial of all privileges and benefits of membership, including wearing or displaying the Fraternity insignia, attending undergraduate chapter functions and meetings, use of chapter facilities, and otherwise identifying himself as a member of the Fraternity.

Section 39. A member expelled for any reason other than indebtedness may request reinstatement after six months from the date of expulsion, and such request shall be granted only upon unanimous approval of his undergraduate chapter, as to a student member, or the unanimous approval of the board of directors of his Alumni and Volunteer Corporation, as to an alumnus. In the event the undergraduate chapter or the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation, as applicable, has been dissolved, the unanimous approval of the National Board of Directors is required for reinstatement.

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION FOR INDEBTEDNESS

Section 40. A member whose account (room, board, parlor fees, or dues) with his undergraduate chapter or Alumni and Volunteer Corporation is thirty (30) days past due shall be suspended immediately unless a two-thirds vote of the undergraduate members or its Alumni and Volunteer Corporation allows an extension.

Section 41. A member whose account (room, board, parlor fees, or dues) with his undergraduate chapter or Alumni and Volunteer Corporation is sixty (60) days past due shall be expelled unless a two-thirds vote of the undergraduate members or its Alumni and Volunteer Corporation allows an extension.
Section 42. Expulsion for indebtedness shall become effective ten (10) days after written notice of the action has been given to the member.

Section 43. A member suspended for indebtedness shall automatically be reinstated when his indebtedness is paid in addition to a fine of up to ten percent (10%) of the amount due or another punishment deemed appropriate by the chapter’s Standards Board.

Section 44. A member expelled for indebtedness may be reinstated provided his petition for reinstatement is unanimously approved by the undergraduate chapter, as to a student member, and its Alumni and Volunteer Corporation Board of Directors, and provided his petition is accompanied by a reinstatement fee of fifty dollars ($50) or twenty-five percent of the amount of his indebtedness, whichever is greater, in addition to the amount of his indebtedness, none of which shall be refunded if the petition is denied.

If the petitioner is no longer enrolled in school as an undergraduate, he may be reinstated provided his petition for reinstatement is unanimously approved by the chapter’s Alumni and Volunteer Corporation Board of Directors, and provided his petition is accompanied by a reinstatement fee of fifty dollars ($50) or twenty-five percent of the amount of his indebtedness, whichever is greater, in addition to the amount of his indebtedness, none of which shall be refunded if the petition is denied.

NOTIFICATION AND REINSTATEMENT

Section 45. Written notification shall be submitted to the Executive Director by the undergraduate chapter or Alumni and Volunteer Corporation when a member is suspended, expelled, or reinstated.

Section 46. A report of a petition for reinstatement and the action taken thereon shall be delivered to the Executive Director within seven (7) days of consideration of the petition.

Section 47. Each undergraduate chapter shall pay a reinstatement fee of ten (10) dollars to the Fraternity when expelled persons are restored to full membership.

Section 48. No more than one reinstatement fee shall be paid per individual.

Section 49. Petitions for reinstatement, other than the first made, shall be made to the National Board of Directors.
BYLAWS
ARTICLE III – LEGISLATIVE GOVERNANCE (GRAND CHAPTER)

Section 1. The supreme governing body of the Fraternity shall be known as the Grand Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, and when such Grand Chapter is not in session the supreme authority shall be vested in a National Board of Directors which shall take any and all actions necessary and proper for carrying out the objectives of the Fraternity.

VOTING DELEGATES

Section 2. The voting members of the Grand Chapter shall consist of the following:

(a) One undergraduate delegate elected by each undergraduate chapter holding a charter; and

(b) One undergraduate delegate from each undergraduate chapter with a charter held by an Alumni Advisory Council appointed by said Alumni Advisory Council; and

(c) One undergraduate delegate elected by each Sigma Epsilon chapter which has been in existence for a period of at least one year; and

(d) One undergraduate delegate elected by each Sigma Epsilon chapter which has been in existence for less than one year, provided that said delegate has participated in a national leadership program prior to Conclave; and

(e) District Governors; and

(f) Members of the National Board of Directors.

Each of the foregoing members is entitled to cast one vote, in person, upon all questions.

Section 3. Should a Sigma Epsilon chapter in existence for less than one year shall elect an undergraduate delegate or alternate who has not attended a national leadership program, said delegate or alternate shall have no voting privileges but shall be eligible to attend all meetings of the Grand Chapter with all other rights and privileges.

Section 4. Each chapter operating with a suspended charter shall elect an undergraduate delegate. This delegate shall have no voting privileges but shall attend all meetings of the Grand Chapter.

Section 5. If the delegate of an undergraduate chapter is absent or unable to serve, the vote of such chapter may be cast in person by a duly elected alternate delegate.
Section 6. A member of the National Board of Directors or a District Governor shall not be a delegate or alternate delegate of any undergraduate chapter at any session of the Grand Chapter.

Section 7. A majority of the Grand Chapter, all duly accredited by the Committee on Credentials, shall constitute the quorum necessary for the transaction of all business.

POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 8. The Grand Chapter shall elect the National Board of Directors and officers of the Fraternity and shall possess all powers incident to a legislative assembly.

Section 9. The Grand Chapter shall determine the sources of revenue to meet the expenses of the Grand Chapter and shall fix the amount of fees, other than charter fees and insurance assessments, as may be required.

Section 10. The laws and regulations as adopted by the Grand Chapter and the National Board of Directors shall be appropriately contained in the Charter, Bylaws, Ritual, Administrative Policies and Procedures of Sigma Phi Epsilon, and shall govern uniformly throughout the Fraternity.

Section 11. The Grand Chapter shall have no power to pass retroactive laws or laws impairing the obligation of contracts, or to require or attempt to compel any member of the Fraternity to do anything in violation of the laws of the United States, or of any state of which he is a citizen, or of the institution at which he is a student, or to engage in any act or ceremony in conflict with his convictions or the dictates of his conscience.

Section 12. The Grand Chapter shall keep a correct record of its proceedings which shall be published and distributed to the chapters, District Governors, and National Board of Directors. This record shall not contain debate or immaterial matter delivered or uttered during the session of the Grand Chapter.

RULES OF ORDER

Section 13. Rules of order and procedures for any regular session of the Grand Chapter shall be set out in the Administrative Policies and Procedures of the Fraternity.

Section 14. Questions presented to the Grand Chapter shall be decided by a majority vote, a quorum being present, except the following which shall be decided by a two-thirds vote:

(a) Questions involving the expenditure of money for which provision is not
specifically made; and

(b) The removal of or the infliction of punishment upon a member of the National Board of Directors; and

(c) Changes in the Ritual of the Fraternity; and

(d) Those required in Roberts Rules of Order.

Section 15. To determine the result of a vote on any question presented to the Grand Chapter, only the votes of those persons present and entitled to vote at the time the vote is taken shall be counted.

Section 16. A roll call vote upon any question shall be taken and recorded upon demand by one member of the National Board of Directors or by three members of the Grand Chapter entitled to vote.

Section 17. The Grand Chapter shall fix the time and place for its next regular session, provided, however, that the Grand Chapter may delegate to the National Board of Directors the power to fix the time and place for holding any regular sessions.

SPECIAL SESSION

Section 18. The Grand President, with the approval of the National Board of Directors, may, in case of extreme emergency, call a special session of the Grand Chapter; provided, however, that no special session shall be called within thirty (30) days prior to the time fixed for a regular session of the Grand Chapter.

Section 19. Notice of a special session shall be mailed to all chapters, District Governors, and members of the National Board of Directors, and shall set forth specifically the time, place and purposes of such sessions; provided, however, the time for holding such special session shall be fixed not earlier than thirty (30) days from the date such notice is mailed.

Section 20. The business transacted at a special session shall be limited to the purpose for which the session was called; except that by a two-thirds vote the Grand Chapter may elect to consider and dispose of other business.
BYLAWS

ARTICLE IV – EXECUTIVE GOVERNANCE (NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS)

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. The affairs of this Corporation shall be managed by a board of directors composed of at least three and not more than eleven members, three of whom shall be the Grand President, the Grand Secretary, and the Grand Treasurer, who shall be selected in the manner determined by the voting members of this Corporation as set forth in its bylaws, subject to the provisions of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, governing the election of such directors. The term of office of the Grand President, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, and Student National Directors shall be two years, and the term of office of all other Directors shall be six years.

Section 2. The national directors and officers of the Fraternity to be elected by the Grand Chapter shall be chosen by secret ballot on the last day of each regular session. All officers elected who are present at such time shall be installed as the last order of business of the last meeting of said session.

Section 3. The Grand President shall not be eligible for reelection.

Section 4. To be eligible for election as Grand President, a member of the Fraternity shall have been an Alumni Director of the National Board of Directors for a minimum of four consecutive years.

Section 5. To be eligible for selection as Grand Secretary, a member must have served no less than two years as an Alumni Director of the National Board of Directors.

Section 6. In the event the Grand President is unable to perform the duties of his office at any meeting or other occasion, the Grand Secretary shall act as President pro tempore until such time as the Grand President can resume the duties of his office. His service as President pro tempore shall not be applicable to the term limit established for service as Grand President.

Section 7. The Grand Treasurer shall be elected for a term of two years and shall be eligible for unlimited reelection to this office. He may serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Audit Committee and may serve as an ex-officio, voting member of the Investment Committee.

Section 8. The National Board of Directors shall select from its own membership, a Grand Secretary.

Section 9. A vacancy occurring in the office of the Grand President between sessions of the Grand Chapter by reason of death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled by the Grand Secretary. A vacancy occurring in the office of the Grand Secretary or Grand
Treasurer between sessions of the Grand Chapter by reason of death, resignation or otherwise shall be filled by an appointee selected by a majority of the remaining directors. The replacement so appointed shall hold office until the next regular session of the Grand Chapter.

Section 10. There shall be elected every two years at each regular session of the Grand Chapter at least two Alumni National Directors and three Student National Directors to fill the vacancies on the National Board of Directors regularly occurring at such time.

Section 11. Any vacancy occurring in the office of National Director, except Grand President, Grand Secretary, or Grand Treasurer, for any reason whatsoever, at any time other than at a regular session of the Grand Chapter, shall be filled by an appointee selected by a majority of the remaining directors, regardless of quorum, to serve until the installation of officers and directors at the next meeting of the Grand Chapter, at which time the Grand Chapter shall elect a National Director to hold office for the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 12. Any vacancy occurring in the office of National Director, except Grand President, Grand Secretary, or Grand Treasurer, concurrent with a regular session of the Grand Chapter, for any reason whatsoever other than the normal expiration of the term, shall be filled by Grand Chapter election, and the National Director so elected shall hold office for the unexpired portion of the six-year term.

Section 13. A member to be eligible for election to the office of National Director shall not have served in the capacity of Alumni Director for a period equal to or in excess of twelve years, except that service as Grand President or Grand Treasurer shall not be considered.

Section 14. To be eligible for election, a candidate for Student National Director must be an undergraduate member in good standing and must have attained a 3.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 system (or the equivalent on other systems).

Section 15. A Grand Chapter officer or director may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the Grand Chapter.

Section 16. A Grand Chapter officer or director may be removed from office when the Grand Chapter is not in session by the vote of eight directors.

Section 17. Each member of the National Board of Directors shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed from the funds of the Fraternity for all reasonable and necessary expenses in connection with official business of the Fraternity.
Section 18. The process for the nomination of Grand Chapter officers and directors shall be as follows:

(a) The Grand President shall nominate, and the National Board of Directors shall appoint, an alumni nominations committee.

(b) Members of the committee shall be selected from among one or both of the following categories: (i) undergraduate chapter delegates to Conclave; (ii) student members of the National Board of Directors.

(c) The Grand President, or his designees, shall serve as non-voting advisors to the committee.

(d) The National Board of Directors shall appoint as many committee members as it determines necessary to evaluate thoroughly all candidates, provided that undergraduate members shall comprise a majority of the committee. No member of the committee may be a candidate for, accept nomination to, or be eligible to serve in, any alumni office selected at that Conclave.

(e) The Executive Director shall solicit nominations for alumni officer and director positions on the National Board of Directors, provide the deadline for nominations to be submitted, and invite all interested persons to nominate any eligible person (including themselves) by submitting a completed application, on a form approved by the National Board of Directors. The deadline for submission of nominations shall be no later than six weeks before the Conclave.

(f) The Grand President or his designee may serve or appoint any member of the committee to serve as interim chairman, for the purpose of convening the committee and meeting the requirements of subsection (g), below; provided that the committee itself shall select, at its first meeting at Conclave, an undergraduate to replace the interim chairman.

(g) In advance of Conclave, the committee shall evaluate all nominations timely submitted and confer electronically, or by teleconference or similar means. The committee, or any person designated by the committee, may seek the advice of any person(s) in the course of that evaluation. The committee shall determine in its sole discretion which candidates are “highly qualified” for office and shall invite them to be interviewed by the committee at Conclave.
(h) All “highly qualified” candidates shall be interviewed in person by the committee at Conclave; provided, however, that if a personal exigency prevents a candidate from attending, the committee may interview him by any other reasonable means.

(i) The identity of the members of the committee, and the list of nominees under consideration, shall be kept confidential until the committee’s nominating report is presented to the Grand Chapter. No campaigning shall be allowed, except as expressly permitted by this Section. No candidate for nomination may lobby members of the committee, other than during his interview with the committee as-a-whole, or ask any person to lobby on his behalf. The committee, or any person designated by the committee, may seek the advice of any person(s) in the course of its interviews and deliberations, but no person may address the committee or be present for its deliberations except upon its invitation.

(j) The committee shall recommend at least one candidate for each open officer and director position in a nominations report to the Grand Chapter. The committee may, but shall not be required to, recommend more than one candidate for each open position. The committee in its nominations report shall provide a summary of each recommended candidate’s qualifications.

(k) In the event the committee recommends more than one candidate for an open officer or director position, or in the event that a nomination has been made and seconded from the floor, a nominating speech may be made by each candidate or his designee. Candidates are eligible for floor nomination only if they were previously found “highly qualified” and interviewed by the committee, and only if their floor nomination is seconded by at least one voting undergraduate or alumni delegate.

Section 19. The order of election of Grand Chapter officers and National Directors shall be: Student Directors, Grand President Grand Treasurer, Alumni Directors to fill unexpired terms, Alumni Directors to fill regularly expired terms.

Section 20. From among eligible alumni directors, the National Board of Directors shall select a Grand Secretary who shall serve as Secretary of the Corporation for two (2) years or until his successor is elected. This selection shall be done at the first meeting of the National Board of Directors following a regular meeting of the Grand Chapter.

Section 21. A majority of votes cast shall be necessary to elect; provided, however, when there is only one candidate for an office or alumni directorship, the Grand Chapter may elect by acclamation.
Section 22. If there are more than two candidates for any one office or alumni directorship, there shall first be a primary vote, and if no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, all but the two leading candidates are dropped, and a vote is then taken on the two remaining candidates.

Section 23. If there are more than three candidates for the three Student Director positions, then each delegate, in order for his ballot to be counted, must cast three votes, one vote for each of three different candidates, with the three candidates receiving the largest number of votes being elected.

Section 24. The Grand President or his designee shall appoint three tellers and a tally clerk who shall supervise the distribution and collection of ballots and the counting of votes cast.

Section 25. The tally clerk shall keep tally of the votes cast and at the conclusion of the counting of the votes shall inform the Grand President or his designee of the results.

Section 26. When the officers-elect and directors-elect are called for installation, the Grand President or any one designated by him shall proceed with the installation according to the manner and form prescribed in the Ritual of the Fraternity.

Section 27. In case of absence of any officer-elect or director-elect, the Grand President shall at once notify him of his election and authorize him to appear before the President of any undergraduate chapter in open meeting and receive the oath of office.

MEETINGS OF NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 28. The National Board of Directors shall meet at least annually. Additional meetings may be called by the Grand President or by four directors.

Section 29. Six directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business; except as permitted in Section 11 of this Article.

Section 30. Notices for meetings of the National Board of Directors shall be given to each director by mail, electronic mail, facsimile, or other means of written communication. A director’s attendance at or participation in a meeting waives any required notice to the director of the meeting unless the director, at the beginning of the meeting or promptly upon arrival, objects to holding the meeting or transacting business at the meeting and does not thereafter vote for or assent to action taken at the meeting.

Section 31. The National Board of Directors may permit any or all directors to participate in a regular or special meeting by, or conduct the meeting through the use of, any means of communication by which all directors participating may simultaneously hear each other during the meeting. A director participating in a meeting by this means is deemed to be present in person at the meeting.
Section 32. Action required or permitted to be taken at a National Board of Directors’ meeting may be taken without a meeting if the action is taken by all members of the Board. The action shall be evidenced by one or more written consents stating the action taken, signed by each director, and included in the minutes or filed with the corporate records reflecting the action taken. Action taken under this section shall be effective when the last director signs the consent unless the consent specifies a different effective date and states the date of execution by each director, in which event it shall be effective as to the date specified therein.

Section 33. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern the National Board of Directors in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures of the Fraternity.

Section 34. Whenever practicable, all matters to be presented for consideration by directors shall be taken up by correspondence through the Executive Director.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF DIRECTORS

Section 35. The National Board of Directors shall have such powers and perform such duties as prescribed in the Charter, Ritual, Bylaws, and Administrative Policies and Procedures.

Section 36. The judicial power of the Fraternity shall be vested in the National Board of Directors which shall have original and appellate jurisdiction over all controversies arising between chapters or between members, and over the trial of chapters or members for violation of the Bylaw and Administrative Policies and Procedures, or the Ritual.

Section 37. A National Director shall have all the powers prescribed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia not inconsistent with these Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures. Upon appointment by the Grand President he shall act as chairman of one or more committees or task forces on specific phases of the Fraternity’s activities. He shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Grand Chapter.

Section 38. The National Board of Directors shall have full power and authority to request any persons to attend a meeting of the National Board of Directors of the Fraternity, and to provide reimbursement for their reasonable and necessary expenses from the funds of the Fraternity.

Section 39. The National Board of Directors shall have full power and authority to appoint members of the Fraternity to offices and positions of responsibility to fulfill the objectives of the Fraternity and requirements of the Ritual, and Bylaws and
Administrative Policies and Procedures, including an Executive Director, and to prescribe their duties and to provide for their compensation and reimbursement of reasonable and necessary expenses.

Section 40. The National Board of Directors shall have full power and authority to appoint licensed vendors for the manufacture, sale and distribution of all items bearing the trademarked or copyrighted insignia of the Fraternity.

Section 41. The National Board of Directors may authorize the Grand Treasurer to transfer monies from any fund or funds of the Fraternity to any other fund or funds of the Fraternity, consistent with provisions of the *Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures*, the amount transferred to be determined and stated by the National Board of Directors; provided, however, that no such transfers shall be made from the Chapter Investment Fund. All monies thus transferred shall be returned to the proper funds together with simple interest at a rate approved by the National Board of Directors. All transfers of monies made under this section shall be clearly indicated in the annual audit of the Fraternity.

Section 42. The National Board of Directors is responsible to the Grand Chapter for the determination of the applicable policies, procedures, rules and regulations to administer the management, collection, disbursement and accounting of fees.

Section 43. The National Board of Directors shall be responsible to the Grand Chapter for the establishment from time to time of appropriate funds and the management thereof. The Grand Chapter may also establish appropriate funds and provide for the management thereof.

Section 44. The National Board of Directors shall report fully on all questions that may have been under its consideration when so requested by the Grand Chapter.

Section 45. The National Board of Directors shall be responsible to the Grand Chapter for the establishment from time to time of appropriate publications and the management thereof. The Grand Chapter may also establish appropriate publications and provide for the management thereof.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Grand President

Section 46. The Grand President shall preside at the sessions of the Grand Chapter and at the meetings of the National Board of Directors. He shall sign all charters, membership certificates, membership cards and papers that require authentication. He may assign ritualistic titles to directors when required for ritualistic or ceremonial purposes. He shall have the power to convene an undergraduate chapter at any time when the college is in session. He shall have such other powers and shall perform
such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Grand Chapter or the National Board of Directors and he shall have the authority to delegate such powers as needed.

**Grand Treasurer**

**Section 47.** The Grand Treasurer shall keep or cause to be kept full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books to be kept for that purpose. He shall receive and deposit, or cause to be received and deposited, all monies and other valuables of the Fraternity, in the name and to the credit of the Fraternity, in such depositories as may be designated by the National Board of Directors. He shall disburse, or cause to be disbursed, the monies of the Fraternity as may be directed by the National Board of Directors, taking proper vouchers for such disbursements. He shall render, or cause to be rendered, to the Grand Chapter, Grand President and the National Board of Directors, whenever they may require, accounts of all his transactions as Grand Treasurer and of the financial condition of the Fraternity. He shall, in general, perform all the duties incident to the office of Grand Treasurer, subject to the control of the National Board of Directors.

**Grand Secretary**

**Section 48.** The Grand Secretary shall perform such duties as are prescribed by the National Board of Directors and those of a Corporate Secretary as prescribed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

**Executive Committee**

**Section 49.** Following the Grand Chapter Conclave, the Board of Directors shall designate an Executive Committee of the Board of Directors that shall be comprised of the Grand President, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, and a current Student Director elected by the Student Directors on the Board.

**Section 50.** The Grand President shall preside over any meeting of the Executive Committee. In the absence of the Grand President, the Grand Secretary shall preside over any meeting of the Executive Committee.

**Section 51.** The Executive Committee shall have such powers and authorities as are from time to time delegated to it by the National Board of Directors. The Executive Committee shall report at the next regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors all action which it has taken since the preceding meeting of the Board of Directors. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called at any time by the Grand President or at the request of at least two (2) members of the Executive Committee.
SigEp National Advancement Council

Section 52. The SigEp National Advancement Council shall be a standing committee of the Grand Chapter.

Section 53. The SigEp National Advancement Council shall support the development and implementation of the Fraternity’s fundraising strategy.

Section 54. The Council shall consist of up to 12 members appointed by the National Board of Directors to serve staggered six-year terms at the pleasure of the National Board of Directors. Council members are eligible to serve multiple terms.

Section 55. The National Board of Directors shall appoint a chairman at each Conclave. The chairman shall serve a two-year term at the pleasure of the National Board of Directors and be eligible to serve multiple terms.

Regional Directors and District Governors

Section 56. Regional Directors (educational and leadership consultants), hired by the Executive Director, shall visit the chapters at such times prescribed by the Executive Director and shall have such powers as prescribed by the Executive Director.

Section 57. The National Board of Directors shall appoint District Governors with such powers, responsibilities, and term of office as prescribed by the National Board of Directors, including, but not limited, to the appointment and removal of Chapter Counselors, Balanced Man Stewards, and Lieutenant District Governors. District Governors shall be representatives of the Fraternity and serve at the pleasure of the National Board of Directors. In the event of a District Governor vacancy, the Executive Director of the Fraternity shall assume such powers and responsibilities.

Section 58. A District Governor may appoint one or more Lieutenant District Governors, who shall have only those responsibilities assigned by the District Governor from among those prescribed by the National Board of Directors. A District Governor may appoint one Lieutenant District Governor for every four chapters in the district. Additional lieutenants may be appointed at the discretion of the National Board of Directors.

Section 59: For each chapter in the district, a District Governor shall appoint a Chapter Counselor and Balanced Man Steward, who shall have such powers and responsibilities as prescribed by the National Board of Directors.
BYLAWS
ARTICLE V – CHAPTERS, CHARTERS, AND AVCs

UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTERS

Section 1. An undergraduate chapter of the Fraternity shall be categorized as either:

(a) A Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter holding a charter as granted and in a status as determined by the National Board of Directors; or

(b) A Sigma Epsilon chapter (SEC) established by the National Board of Directors in anticipation of said chapter petitioning for a Sigma Phi Epsilon charter.

Section 2. A chartered Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter may be dissolved only by the withdrawal or surrender of its charter.

Section 3. A Sigma Epsilon chapter may be dissolved at any time, with or without cause, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the National Board of Directors.

Section 4. Chartered undergraduate chapters shall be designated by the State and the Greek Alphabet in alphabetical order of installation subject to any modification which the National Board of Directors deems necessary to promulgate the growth of the Fraternity.

Section 5. Sigma Epsilon chapters shall be designated by the name of the host institution paired with the designation of SEC.

Section 6. When, in the sole discretion of the Fraternity’s Executive Director, there exists an immediate and credible threat or risk to the Fraternity from accusations against or actions by any undergraduate chapter or its members, the Executive Director, or his designee, may issue an administrative order for the chapter to cease and desist operations for a period of no longer than sixty (60) days by giving notice to the undergraduate Chapter President for the purposes of completing an investigation into violation(s).

CHARTERING

Section 7. A Sigma Epsilon chapter shall be granted a charter by the National Board of Directors under the following conditions:

(a) The National Board of Directors shall determine the minimum number of eligible undergraduate members of a Sigma Epsilon chapter who shall submit an application for a charter; and
(b) This application shall be accompanied by a signed petition in a form prescribed by the National Board of Directors together with such other data as the Board may require; and

(c) The Sigma Epsilon chapter shall be of sufficient size and quality to be considered competitive on its campus; and

(d) The District Governor for the district of the Sigma Epsilon chapter shall have voted in favor of the application; and

(e) The National Board of Directors shall have voted unanimously in favor of the application; and

(f) A charter fee in an amount designated by the National Board of Directors shall have been paid to the Fraternity by the Sigma Epsilon chapter; and

(g) The Sigma Epsilon chapter shall have purchased through the Headquarters of the Fraternity, prior to installation, the ritualistic equipment required by the Ritual of the Fraternity.

Section 8. Installation of an undergraduate chapter shall be in the manner and form prescribed by the National Board of Directors.

CHARTER STATUS

Section 9. The charter of an undergraduate chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon shall be designated with one of the following statuses:

- (a) In good standing
- (b) Subject to charter action
- (c) Alumni Advisory Council
- (d) Suspended
- (e) Withdrown
- (f) Surrendered

CHARTER IN GOOD STANDING

Section 10. Each undergraduate chapter holding a charter in good standing shall have the rights, responsibilities, and powers as set forth in these *Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures*
SUBJECT TO CHARTER ACTION

Section 11. A chartered undergraduate chapter may subject itself to charter action through:

(a) Failure to conform to federal, state, or municipal law;

(b) Failure to conform to the rules and regulations of the college or university where the undergraduate chapter is located;

(c) Disorderly conduct on the part of its members tending to bring the Fraternity into disrepute;

(d) Violation of the Fraternity’s “Statement on Chapter & Individual Responsibility”;

(e) Violation of the *Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures*;

(f) Departure from the procedures set forth in the Ritual of the Fraternity;

(g) Contumacy to the authority of the Grand Chapter, National Board of Directors, or anyone exercising the delegated powers thereof;

(h) Printing or writing, in any manner whatsoever for its own or other use, or knowingly permitting any of its members to print or write, in any manner whatsoever, for his own or other use, any of the secret work of the Fraternity;

(i) Failure to pay assessments or money due to the Fraternity;

(j) Failure to pay past due accounts owing to any person, firm, or corporation or failure to satisfactorily meet any other financial obligations which it is legally obligated to pay;

(k) Failure to maintain minimum standards as established for academics, manpower, and other areas of chapter operations by the Grand Chapter;

(l) Failure to make reports as required by the *Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures*;

(m) Failure to send the stipulated number of members to two consecutive events that require attendance, e.g., Carlson Leadership Academies and Grand Chapter Conclaves;

(n) Failure to hold regular meeting in accordance with the *Grand Chapter*
Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures of the Fraternity; or

(o) Failure to conform to the constitution and bylaws of any local Interfraternity Council of which said undergraduate chapter may be a member, with an exemption to be granted only by the National Board of Directors.

Section 12. A national director, member of the Headquarters’ staff, District Governor, the chapter’s Alumni and Volunteer Corporation or Chapter Counselor may recommend that the Executive Director pursue charter action against a chapter alleged to have violated one or more of the provisions outlined in Section 11. Upon such recommendation, the Executive Director shall:

(a) Notify the Chapter President of the charges with respect to violation(s); and

(b) Allow the chapter 15 days to respond to said charges; and

(c) Provide all relevant materials, responses, and recommendations to the National Board of Directors for consideration.

Section 13. The National Board of Directors shall determine, on the basis of the evidence submitted to it, whether a violation has occurred and, if so, what charter action should be imposed. The Board shall reserve the right to request additional information before making any such decision.

Section 14. The suspension, withdrawal, or surrender of a charter as well as the transfer of a charter to an Alumni Advisory Council shall require a majority vote of the National Board of Directors unless otherwise provided for in Section 15.

Section 15. The provisions in Sections 12-14 may be waived with respect to violations outlined in Section 11 (a) – (g) if there is clear and convincing evidence that a violation occurred and a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the National Board of Directors approves the creation of an Alumni Advisory Council, the suspension of a charter, or the withdrawal of the charter.

ALUMNI ADVISORY COUNCIL

Section 16. When suspension or withdrawal of the chapter charter may be avoided by alumni assistance with chapter operations, responsibility for the chapter charter and operations of the chapter may be transferred to an Alumni Advisory Council appointed by the National Board of Directors. The powers shall include, but not be limited to, expulsion or suspension of membership privileges for a definite period of time, and operational procedures of such Alumni Advisory Councils as prescribed and publicized by the National Board of Directors.
CHARTER SUSPENSION

Section 17. In lieu of the withdrawal of the charter of any chapter, the charter of such chapter may be suspended by the National Board of Directors for a specific period of time.

Section 18. The National Board of Directors shall have the authority to determine the terms of the suspension and the requirements to return the charter to good standing.

CHARTER WITHDRAWAL

Section 19. For any of the causes enumerated in Section 12, and, pursuant to the process outlined in Sections 13 – 16 of this Article, the National Board of Directors may withdraw the charter of a chapter.

Section 20. When the National Board of Directors has withdrawn the charter of a chapter, the Grand President, or his designee, shall within thirty (30) days notify the chapter in writing, giving the reasons for the withdrawal.

Section 21. Upon receipt of a notice of charter withdrawal, any member or members of the chapter shall have thirty (30) days to petition the National Board of Directors to consider an appeal of its decision.

Section 22. Said petition shall be in a manner and form as prescribed by the National Board of Directors.

Section 23. Should a majority of the National Board of Directors vote to hear the petition for appeal, the chapter shall be provided no less than sixty (60) days to complete an appeal for reinstatement in a manner and form as prescribed by the National Board of Directors.

Section 24. The National Board of Directors, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of its members, shall take such action in granting an appeal for reinstatement or rejecting an appeal for reinstatement as it may deem necessary for the best interests of the Fraternity, including subjecting the appealing members to alternate charter action.

Section 25. A chapter to be reinstated shall be installed in the manner and form prescribed by the National Board of Directors.

CHARTER SURRENDER

Section 26. A chapter desiring to surrender its charter voluntarily must petition the National Board of Directors in a form prescribed by the National Board of Directors, accompanied by such other data as the Board may require.
Section 27. The National Board of Directors shall consider the petition and shall have the authority, by a majority vote of the directors, to receive the surrender of such charter and dissolve the chapter.

**DISSOLVED CHAPTERS**

Section 28. When the National Board of Directors has accepted the voluntary surrender of a charter, or when it has withdrawn a charter, this action shall be conclusive upon the chapter and the members thereof. All official books, papers, copies of the *Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures*, *Ritual* and other articles necessary to conduct the affairs of the chapter and the ceremonies of initiation of candidates shall become the property of the Fraternity and must be surrendered upon demand to the National Board of Directors by the individuals having custody of same.

Section 29. When a chapter has been dissolved, the Grand President shall notify all other chapters stating the reasons for dissolution.

Section 30. Undergraduate members of an undergraduate chapter which has had its charter surrendered or withdrawn shall become subject to the jurisdiction of the National Board of Directors until said members shall have affiliated with another undergraduate chapter or until the charter is reinstated.

**UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTER OPERATING PROVISIONS**

Section 31. Each undergraduate chapter shall have authority to enact bylaws for its government. These bylaws shall contain only those provisions necessary for local government and consistent with the *Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures* of the Fraternity, and shall follow the outline recommended by the National Board of Directors. A copy of such undergraduate chapter bylaws shall be filed with the Executive Director.

Section 32. Each undergraduate chapter shall hold a regular meeting each week when the college or university is in session. Upon a two-thirds vote a chapter may omit a regular meeting, but no chapter shall omit more than two regular meetings in succession.

Section 33. To be eligible to hold an elected position in Sigma Phi Epsilon, a member must be in good standing and must maintain a cumulative grade point average which exceeds the Fraternity’s minimum grade point average for candidates for membership by no less than .2 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent), or the local chapter’s minimum grade point average for candidates for membership, as established in the chapter’s bylaws, whichever is greater.
Section 34. Each of the officers of an undergraduate chapter shall have such powers and perform such duties as prescribed in the *Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures* or the *Ritual* of the Fraternity, in the bylaws of the undergraduate chapter or as may be directed by the Grand Chapter.

Section 35. An undergraduate chapter shall have the power, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of all its undergraduate members in good standing, to declare vacant any office of the chapter. Further, the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation shall have the right to declare vacant the office of Vice President of Finance for non-performance of his stated duties and obligations.

Section 36. Each chapter shall support unrestricted and open expansion of North American Interfraternity Conference member organizations on its campus.

Section 37. No chapter may create, recognize, or support a women-only auxiliary group or program that is associated with said chapter.

**ALUMNI AND VOLUNTEER CORPORATIONS**

Section 38. The alumni and volunteers in the area of an undergraduate chapter shall form a corporation for the purpose of assisting the undergraduate chapter in matters of finance, chapter house construction, maintenance, and operation. The Alumni and Volunteer Corporation of an undergraduate chapter shall be referred to herein as Alumni and Volunteer Corporation, and the board of directors of an Alumni and Volunteer Corporation shall be referred to herein as an Alumni and Volunteer Board. Each Alumni and Volunteer Corporation shall provide in its corporate bylaws, initially or by amendment, a provision acknowledging that any and all assets, funds, or other property, whether personal or real, cash or non-cash, which are held by or titled to the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation or any of its affiliates or subsidiaries, are trust funds to be held and administered for the benefit of the local chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon and that such property shall be held to promote the ideals and interests of the Fraternity and managed in accordance with the charter, *Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures* of the Fraternity. Further, each Alumni and Volunteer Corporation shall adopt and properly execute bylaws, initially or by amendment, which, where legally permissible, shall substantially comply with the form of local Alumni and Volunteer Corporation bylaws furnished by the Executive Director. In the event that an Alumni and Volunteer Corporation has executed any corporate charter, bylaws, or resolutions which contain any contrary, contradictory or overriding provision or otherwise fail to conform substantially to the form of local Alumni and Volunteer Corporation bylaws, such Alumni and Volunteer Corporation shall execute revised or amended bylaws which conform substantially.
CHAPTER ASSETS

Section 39. Legal title to the lands, buildings, and furnishings acquired for use by an undergraduate chapter, and all other Alumni and Volunteer Corporation property, shall be held by the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation or by the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation and an affiliate of the Fraternity in trust for the benefit of the respective undergraduate chapter (“Trust Assets”). Nothing in this section is intended to apply to assets held by an undergraduate chapter.

ASSETS UPON CHAPTER CLOSURE

Section 40. The Trust Assets shall, upon the dissolution, forfeiture, withdrawal, or suspension of the undergraduate chapter charter, be conveyed by the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation to, and held by, the Fraternity or its affiliates (by deed or by transfer of ownership and control of the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation), or in the alternative, be retained and held by the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation. In either event, the Trust Assets shall be held in trust for the subject Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter, as hereafter provided.

TRUST ASSETS HELD BY THE FRATERNITY

Section 41. Trust Assets held by the Fraternity or its affiliates shall be held in accordance with the Chapter Continuation Fund of the Fraternity for a period of twenty-one (21) years for the purpose of reactivating and housing the subject undergraduate chapter. Accounting of the income and expenses of the Trust Assets shall be provided to the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation annually. If the subject chapter is not reactivated within 21 years, Trust Assets shall be used according to vote of the Grand Chapter in Conclave assembled.

TRUST ASSETS HELD BY THE ALUMNI AND VOLUNTEER CORPORATION

Section 42. Trust Assets held by the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation shall be held for the reactivation and housing of the subject undergraduate chapter. If the subject chapter is not reactivated within 21 years, the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation shall do one of the following:

(a) Convey part or all of its Trust Assets to an AVC of another Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter of its choosing; or

(b) Convey part or all of its Trust Assets to the Fraternity, for use according to vote of the Grand Chapter in Conclave assembled.

Section 43. Accounting of the income and expenses of the Trust Assets shall be provided to the Fraternity annually. In the event that the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation is suspended, dissolved, or deactivated under the laws of its state of domicile, all Trust
Assets are hereby assigned and conveyed to the Fraternity and shall be treated in the same manner as Trust Assets conveyed by any other Alumni and Volunteer Corporation.

TRUST TERMS AND NOTICE OF TRUST

Section 44. Each Alumni and Volunteer Corporation shall execute a Trust Agreement and record, in the appropriate land records of the subject state, a Notice of Trust, which shall be subordinated to reasonable mortgages. The Trust Agreement, the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation charter or articles of incorporation, and the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation bylaws shall be drafted to conform to the requirements of Sections 37 through 44 of this Article. Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, a Virginia corporation, and its affiliates, are hereby granted the authority to enforce the Trust, charter or articles, and bylaws.

Section 45. The Alumni and Volunteer Board shall have the power to budget and control the receipts and disbursements of the undergraduate chapter and to install proper systems of financing and accounting.

Section 46. The Alumni and Volunteer Board shall have the power to recommend the qualifications and define the responsibilities and consideration to be granted by the undergraduate chapter, if any, of the Vice President of Finance.

Section 47. The Alumni and Volunteer Board shall submit an annual financial statement of the corporation to the undergraduate chapter and to the National Board of Directors, and shall explain said statement upon request.
BYLAWS
ARTICLE VI – FEES AND FUNDS

MEMBER REGISTRATION FEES

Section 1. Continuing in August 2013, each undergraduate chapter shall submit to the Headquarters of the Fraternity a Lifetime Membership Fee of two hundred seventy-five dollars ($275) for each person inducted to said chapter. Beginning July 1, 2014, each undergraduate chapter shall submit to the Headquarters of the Fraternity a Lifetime Membership Fee of three hundred dollars ($300) for each person inducted to said chapter. From the Lifetime Membership Fee, ten dollars ($10) shall be paid to Sig Ep National Housing, LLC (SENH), and thirty-five dollars ($35) shall be deposited in the *Sigma Phi Epsilon Journal* Fund, for which such member shall receive a life subscription to the *Journal*. These fees and member registration forms shall be transmitted electronically to the Headquarters of the Fraternity not later than twenty-four (24) hours after accepting a bid for membership.

Section 2. If within 30 days of joining Sigma Phi Epsilon, a member chooses to leave the Fraternity, the Lifetime Membership Fee will be refunded. The form requesting a refund must be completed and received at Headquarters within 30 days of the member’s joining date that was entered on his original member registration form. No other date will be accepted.

Section 3. For each individual initiated as a Renaissance member of any chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon, a chapter shall pay to the Fraternity an initiation fee of twenty-five dollars ($25).

Section 4. For each alumnus of a local fraternity initiated by or on behalf of a Sigma Epsilon chapter which was formerly a local fraternity, the Sigma Epsilon chapter shall pay to the Fraternity an initiation fee of twenty-five dollars ($25) and, upon initiation into Sigma Phi Epsilon, he shall be recognized as an alumnus brother. However, the initiation fee may be waived for all those who, before a local fraternity is colonized, had been members in good standing at the local fraternity and had, by colonization date, been graduated from college.

Section 5. The National Board of Directors is authorized to waive or suspend payment of all or a portion of the fees due at the time of induction and initiation when necessary to facilitate the re-chartering of a dormant chapter or to facilitate the merger by Sigma Phi Epsilon of undergraduate chapters of another national fraternity.

ANNUAL FEES

Section 6. Continuing in August 2013, each undergraduate chapter shall pay to the Fraternity a fee of seventy-five dollars ($75) for each member in the chapter as of March 1. Beginning July 1, 2014, each undergraduate chapter shall pay to the Fraternity a fee of eighty-five dollars ($85) for each member in the chapter as of March 1. In each subsequent year, this amount shall be increased by 4% or the previous yearly change
in the Higher Education Price Index, whichever is less. There shall be no negative change in the per member fee.

Section 7. Annually, each undergraduate chapter shall pay to the Sig Ep National Housing, LLC (SENH), a fee of twenty-five dollars ($25) for each undergraduate member in the chapter as of March 1 of each year.

Section 8. Each undergraduate chapter shall deposit to an account in its name in the Sigma Phi Epsilon Chapter Investment Fund not less than twenty dollars ($20) for each undergraduate member in the chapter as of March 1 of each year.

OTHER ASSESSMENTS AND FEES

Section 9. Assessments for participation in the Fraternity’s insurance program as set by the National Board of Directors shall be paid to the Fraternity.

Section 10. Fines for violation of any part of the Ritual, Bylaws, or Administrative Policies and Procedures by chapters or members shall be paid to the Fraternity.

Section 11. All reference to monies that may be payable to the Fraternity shall be expressed in United States currency. Remittances in other currencies shall be made in amounts equal to their values in United States currency at the time of remittance.

OTHER REVENUES

Section 12. All revenues resulting from royalties and from the sale of publications or other items shall be paid to the Fraternity.

FUNDS

Section 13 The National Board of Directors shall provide for the establishment of three trust funds to be known as the Sigma Phi Epsilon Chapter Investment Fund, the Sigma Phi Epsilon Journal Fund, and the Sigma Phi Epsilon Chapter Continuation Fund (hereinafter known as the “Funds”) and for the management of these funds by an Investment Committee appointed by the National Board of Directors.

Section 14. The National Board of Directors shall provide for the establishment of an Operating Fund for the regular, on-going needs of the Fraternity. This fund is to be managed by the National Board of Directors.

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Section 15. The Investment Committee shall have the power to invest and reinvest the monies of the trust funds in a manner to promote the purposes for which each has been established.
Section 16. The Investment Committee shall consist of no fewer than three members appointed by the National Board of Directors. At least two of the members of the Investment Committee shall be members of Sigma Phi Epsilon. The chairman of the Investment Committee shall be designated by the National Board of Directors from among the Sigma Phi Epsilon members of the Investment Committee. Each member of the Investment Committee shall serve for a term of three (3) years and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

Section 17. Members of the Investment Committee serve at the pleasure of the National Board of Directors and may be removed with or without cause. Upon demand by a two-thirds vote of the Grand Chapter, the National Board of Directors shall remove any one or all of the members of the Investment Committee, and replace said removed members with new appointees.

Section 18. All members of the Investment Committee shall serve until their successors have been appointed, qualified, and installed.

Section 19. Each member of the Investment Committee shall serve without compensation.

Section 20. The Investment Committee shall have the authority to contract for, and to provide for the compensation of part-time or full-time services of personnel, consultants, or advisors needed, if any, for the proper operation of the Funds with compensation therefore to be paid from the income of the Funds.

Section 21. The Investment Committee shall have the authority to appoint such committees or agents as it may deem necessary who shall have full power to act on behalf of the Investment Committee on matters and within limits so delegated or established by it.

Section 22. Each member of the Investment Committee shall be covered under the Grand Chapter’s Directors and Officers Insurance coverage, for faithful performance of his duties and a proper accounting of all monies received and disbursed from the fund and for the proper and safekeeping of all securities and assets of the Funds entrusted to him.

CHAPTER INVESTMENT FUND

Section 23. The Chapter Investment Fund shall exist for the purpose of providing a means for Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity and its related entities and interests to more judiciously and more profitably invest their savings.

Section 24. Annual deposits by the undergraduate chapters, as required in Section 8 of these Bylaws, voluntary additional deposits by the Alumni and Volunteer Corporations of the undergraduate chapters, and deposits by others (hereinafter referred to as “depositors”) shall be deposited in the Chapter Investment Fund to the credit of such undergraduate chapter or other depositor. The Investment Committee shall maintain
or cause to be maintained records and accounts which will continually reflect the balance owned by each undergraduate chapter and other depositor. Further, they will cause to be furnished, a quarterly statement to each undergraduate chapter and to each other depositor. A list of the amounts owned by each undergraduate chapter and other depositor will be listed in the annual financial statement of the Fraternity.

Section 25. Quarterly, the Investment Committee shall cause the computation of the market value of the Investment Fund to determine the value of the balances to the credit of each depositor and at the time of such computation, and only at such time, shall accept deposits to or permit withdrawals from the Investment Fund.

Section 26. On the same designated intervals called for in Section 25, computation will be made of the earnings of the Investment Fund for the period since the last computation. From such earnings shall be deducted the expenses incurred by the Investment Fund for the same period. The earnings remaining shall be distributed pro rata to the account of each depositor on the basis of the balances of each depositor on the records of the Investment Fund. Earnings/losses/expenses are distributed pro rata based on the depositor’s balance in the Chapter Investment Fund.

Section 27. An Alumni and Volunteer Corporation may request approval for the disbursement of funds shown to the undergraduate chapter’s credit on the records of the Investment Fund on at least ninety (90) days notice in writing to the National Board of Directors, or its designee. Such approval shall be granted only if the funds requested are to be used to provide housing facilities, land, furniture, and fixtures for the undergraduate chapter or other uses previously approved by the National Board of Directors. Voluntary deposits may be withdrawn with such notification, but do not require the other aforementioned restrictions.

Section 28. Balances in the Chapter Investment Fund are non-negotiable and may only be sold to the Chapter Investment Fund.

Section 29. If an undergraduate chapter becomes inactive or dormant for any reason, the balance to its credit on the records of the Chapter Investment Fund shall remain to its credit and be available to it when it is reactivated on the same basis as if the undergraduate chapter had not been dormant or inactive.

Section 30. If an undergraduate chapter, for reasons beyond its control, is forced to permanently close, the balance shown to its credit on the records of the Investment Fund shall be transferred in equal share into the Investment Funds of each of the remaining chapters of Sigma Phi Epsilon. For the purpose of this section, “reasons beyond its control” shall include:

(a) Permanent closure of the college or university;
(b) Elimination of all social fraternities and sororities by action of the college or university, or pursuant to law;

(c) Transformation of the college or university into a community college, junior college, or similar institution offering only two-year degree programs.

For the purpose of this section, “reasons beyond its control” shall not include a chapter whose charter is withdrawn as a result of disciplinary action on the part of its college or university, the Grand Chapter, or the National Board of Directors, and the balance to its credit shall remain in the Investment Fund pending reactivation of the chapter.

Section 31. Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 29 and 30 of this Article, the National Board of Directors shall have, at its absolute discretion, authority to settle and render a decision on those cases which may be of an unusual nature and which are not covered by the aforementioned sections.

Section 32. If an undergraduate chapter becomes inactive or dormant for any reason, the balance to the record of the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation for said chapter shall be held pursuant to Article V Section 42 of the Bylaws.

The deposit required by Section 8 of this Article shall be considered a minimum amount, and the undergraduate chapters shall be encouraged to make additional deposits in excess of this minimum. The Investment Committee shall receive such additional deposits in accordance with the other provisions of this section.

JOURNAL FUND

Section 33. The principal and the income from the investment and reinvestment of the “Journal” Fund shall be applied to the maintenance of educational activities of the Fraternity.

CHAPTER CONTINUATION FUND

Section 34. The Chapter Continuation Fund shall be composed of property and assets devolving upon the Fraternity pursuant to Article V, Sections 39-43, of the Bylaws, which property shall be held by the Fraternity and administered by the National Board of Directors acting in a trust capacity. All property shall be held in accordance with Article V, Sections 39-43 of the Bylaws. The fund may be composed of real or personal property, and the Investment Committee shall have full power to invest and reinvest the same in such form and to the extent it deems advisable.
OPERATING FUND

Section 35. The National Board of Directors may authorize expenditures from the Operating Fund for the general operation of the Fraternity, including the operation of the Headquarters, and for such other purposes as are specifically provided for in the Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures.
BYLAWS

ARTICLE VII – PUBLICATIONS AND INSIGNIA

RITUAL

Section 1. A book to be known as the *Ritual and Guide of Sigma Phi Epsilon* shall be published by the Fraternity, with appropriate regulations for its distribution and possession to be prescribed by the National Board of Directors.

Section 2. The Ritual shall be subordinate to the Charter, the Bylaws, and the Administrative Policies and Procedures.

Section 3. The Ritual shall contain the esoteric material of the Fraternity, including the prescribed forms for undergraduate chapter meetings, initiation of candidates, installation of officers, and the induction ceremony. Certain secret words and procedures shall not be printed or written, but shall be transmitted orally to the officers of the undergraduate chapter by a representative of the Fraternity.

Section 4. The Fraternity password, grip, and other secret identifications shall be as provided in the Ritual.

JOURNAL

Section 5. A publication to be known as the *Sigma Phi Epsilon Journal* shall be published by the Fraternity.

Section 6. The *Sigma Phi Epsilon Journal* shall be paid for from the revenue of the Fraternity. The Executive Director shall serve as Editor of the *Journal* and is authorized to select any additional editors or staff to assist with publishing as deemed appropriate.

Section 7. The editorial policy and all matters in connection with the publication of the *Journal* shall be subject to the approval of the National Board of Directors.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Section 8. Other publications may be issued periodically under the direction of the National Board of Directors, including a directory of members, a song book, and manuals on Fraternity organization and procedure.

INSIGNIA

Section 9. The Fraternity shall permit only representatives of a licensed vendor to make sales or take orders for articles bearing the Fraternity name or insignia, and chapters and members shall purchase such items only from licensed vendors.
BADGES

Section 10. The two official badges of the Fraternity shall be:

(a) A heart of yellow or white gold, upon the center of which shall be a raised black enameled shield bearing in gold the Greek letters Σ, Φ and Ε above a skull and crossbones of gold, and all within a plain border of gold, or a border of pearls or diamonds, or both, set in gold; and

(b) A gold-clad, heart-shaped badge, upon the center of which shall be a raised heart-shaped black enameled shield bearing the Greek letters Σ, Φ and Ε above a skull and crossbones of gold, and all within an eighth-inch gold-etched border, commonly known as the Founders Badge.

Section 11. The sweetheart badge of the Fraternity shall be a miniature replica of the official badge.

Section 12. Upon the death of a member of the Fraternity an undergraduate chapter may elect to have each of its members wear a black ribbon under his badge for a period of one week.

Section 13. The badges shall be worn as follows:

(a) On a collared shirt; one-half inch on the diagonal from the innermost and uppermost corner of the shirt pocket or when there is no pocket, in the approximate location had there been a pocket on the shirt. The badge is to be placed approximately over the heart of the brother displaying it; and

(b) When wearing a vested suit, the badge will be displayed on the vest in a location approximating the position of the heart; and

(c) The chapter designation pin guard will be displayed below and to the left of the badge.

Section 14. The skull and crossbones shall be used only on the Fraternity badge and replicas thereof.

Section 15. The Balanced Man pin shall be a round pin embossed with the Balanced Man Symbol in gold upon a black background. The Balanced Man pin may be worn by any member of Sigma Phi Epsilon as an indication of membership in the Fraternity. The Balanced Man pin shall be worn in the same manner as the official badge or alternatively on the lapel of a jacket.
Section 16. New members of pledging model chapters shall wear a sanguine square; one point up charged with the Greek word “eggua” between a ducal crown and a mullet all gold and display the pin in the same manner as the badge of the Fraternity.

Section 17. The Fraternity coat of arms shall consist of a shield, a crest, and a scroll upon which shall be mounted the motto of the Fraternity. The heraldic description of the coat of arms shall be as follows:

SHIELD: Per Pale Purpure and Sanguine, In Chief a Mullet and a Roman Sword Erect Or, To Base a Cross Couped of the Like Charged with a Lamp of Knowledge Sable Flamed Gules.

CREST: A Ducal Crown Beneath a Demi Glory Or.

MOTTO: Sigma Phi Epsilon.

FLAG

Section 18. The Fraternity flag shall be a field purpure, on a bend sanguine fimbriated or a mullet of the like.

Section 19. For display purposes, the Greek letters Σ, Φ, and Ε shall appear in gold in the upper right-hand corner of the flag, and in the lower left-hand corner the Greek letter designation of the undergraduate chapter.

COLORS AND FLOWERS

Section 20. The colors of the Fraternity shall be purple and red.

Section 21. The Fraternity flowers shall be red roses and purple violets.
BYLAWS

ARTICLE VIII – INDEMNIFICATION

Section 1. In every instance permitted by the Virginia Non-stock Corporation Act, as it exists on the date hereof or may hereafter be amended, the liability of a director or officer of the Fraternity to the Fraternity or to its members arising out of a single transaction, occurrence or course of conduct shall be limited to One Dollar ($1.00); provided such director or officer has not engaged in willful misconduct or a knowing violation of the criminal laws or been grossly negligent.

Section 2. The Fraternity shall indemnify against liability and reasonable expenses incurred by any individual who is, was, or is threatened to be made, a party to a proceeding (other than a proceeding by or in the right of the Fraternity or a proceeding in which he was adjudged liable on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received by him) because he is or was serving in his official capacity as an officer, director or employee of the Fraternity or of any other legal entity on behalf of the Fraternity or was serving on a committee created by the Fraternity (whether by the Board of Directors of the Fraternity or otherwise) to consider and report to the Fraternity or its Board of Directors in respect of any matter, if he conducted himself in good faith and believed that his conduct was in the best interests of the Fraternity or otherwise met the requirements of §13.1-876 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended. The Fraternity is authorized to contract in advance to indemnify any of the persons named above to the extent it is required to indemnify them pursuant to this section; provided, however, that prior to so contracting in advance, the Fraternity may require a written statement from the officer, director, agent or employee to repay the advance if it is ultimately determined as provided in §13.1-880 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, that he did not meet the aforesaid standard of conduct. Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, the Fraternity shall not indemnify any director, officer, employee or agent of the Fraternity against his willful misconduct, gross negligence, or against any knowing violation of the criminal law.

Section 3. Status as a member, brother, or alumnus of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity does not grant an individual status as an agent of the Fraternity unless the individual is serving in a duly elected or appointed position as decreed in the Fraternity’s Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures.
BYLAWS
ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

Section 1. When the Grand Chapter is in session, a proposed amendment to the Grand Chapter Bylaws of the Fraternity shall be presented in writing at a regular session of the Grand Chapter and shall set forth the Article and Section it is proposed to amend. Each proposed amendment shall be referred to a committee for its consideration and recommendation, and each proposed amendment approved by a majority vote of the Grand Chapter shall be declared in full force and effect.

Section 2. When the Grand Chapter is not in session, the National Board of Directors may submit amendments to the Bylaws directly to the chapters, District Governors, and National Directors, with each of the foregoing entitled to one vote. A time limit of 15 days shall be allowed for written comments to be submitted, which will be mailed out unabridged upon request of the submitter along with a written ballot for such vote, and a time limit of 20 days thereafter shall be fixed within which votes shall be cast. Written comments shall be in a typed form not to exceed one page and shall be acceptable only from each member entitled to vote. All such submissions or mailings shall be by first-class mail. Any amendments approved by a majority of those voting shall be declared in full force and effect, provided that two-thirds of those eligible to vote shall have cast ballots.

Section 3. When the Grand Chapter is not in session, the National Board of Directors, in the event of an emergency, shall be empowered to amend the Bylaws by a three-fourths vote of all Directors eligible to vote. Such an amendment must be ratified by a Grand Chapter mail vote, the vote to be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Article IX, Section 2, of the Bylaws initiated within 10 days of such amendment, or by vote at the next Grand Chapter Conclave, whichever can be accomplished first or the emergency amendment becomes null and void.
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
GRAND CHAPTER RULES OF ORDER

A. The rules contained in the then current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern the Grand Chapter in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws or the special rules of order of the Grand Chapter.

B. The rules of order of the Grand Chapter shall not be suspended at any time except by a two-thirds vote.

C. The Grand Chapter may, at any time, by a two-thirds vote, go into executive session, during which all persons other than Grand Chapter officers, National Directors, District Governors, and delegates may be excluded.

D. Each delegate or alternate delegate is required to attend all regular business meetings of the Grand Chapter unless excused by the presiding officer.

E. Each accredited undergraduate chapter shall be reimbursed from the funds of the Grand Chapter for the average mileage cost of operating an automobile round trip between his undergraduate chapter and the Grand Chapter; total mileage and per-mile costs shall be determined by the National Board of Directors. In order to receive reimbursement, the delegate or alternate must attend all legislative sessions unless excused by the presiding officer.

F. The Standing Legislative Committees of the Grand Chapter shall include:

   Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures
   Credentials Audit
   Ritual Resolutions
   Alumni Nominations Ways and Means
   Student Nominations Standards

G. All members of committees of the Grand Chapter shall be appointed by the Grand President from the membership of the Grand Chapter, and each committee shall present its report in writing to the Grand Chapter at the session for which it was appointed.

H. The Grand President, National Board of Directors, or Grand Chapter may establish such other committees, standing or special, as are deemed necessary to carry on the business of the Grand Chapter.

I. The Legislative Committee on Credentials shall examine, certify, and report upon the credentials for all chapters whose accounts with the Grand Chapter are in arrears and which have not made previous arrangements with the Grand Treasurer to have such arrearages eliminated.
J. At the regular session of the Grand Chapter the following rules of order shall be observed:

I. Call to order.

II. Roll call of delegates.

III. Report of Committee on Credentials.

IV. Adoption without reading of the minutes of the previous session as printed, unless objection is made to specific errors.

V. Appointment of Conclave Committees.

VI. Presentation in writing of resolutions, memorials, petitions, communications, amendments, etc., which, after being read, shall be placed, without discussion, with the Grand President for reference to the proper committees.

VII. Reports of Grand Chapter officers.

VIII. Report of National Board of Directors.

IX. Reports of committees.

X. Special order of business.

XI. Election of Grand Chapter officers and National Directors, with but one seconding speech allowed to each nomination.

XII. Installation of Grand Chapter officers and National Directors.

XIII. Closing of the Grand Chapter session.

K. The Legislative Committee on Credentials shall examine and report upon the correctness of all certificates of all delegates to the Grand Chapter, certifying credentials only for those chapters whose accounts with the Grand Chapter are not in arrears and those chapters which have made arrangements with the Grand Treasurer to have such arrearages eliminated.

L. Between sessions of the Grand Chapter, the National Board of Directors may appoint members to such committees or task forces as are deemed necessary to carry out the work of the Fraternity, and each such committee or task force shall present its reports in writing to the National Board of Directors.

M. The Grand President shall be an ex-officio, non-voting, member of each committee or task force.
N. Each committee or task force shall have power to demand any books, papers, or other articles that may be in the possession of any member of the Fraternity, as it may deem necessary to a correct understanding of the subject under consideration, or to the business with which it shall have been entrusted; such a committee or task force also shall have power to summon before it any member of the Fraternity to give testimony or to otherwise aid in the discharge of its duties. Any member so notified to appear in person, or to present books, papers, or other articles, shall comply with the terms of such notice, and if his attendance is required by the terms of such notice he shall appear and continue his attendance, until dismissed, or otherwise subject himself to a charge of contempt and punishment upon conviction by the National Board of Directors.

O. Each member of each committee or task force, upon completion of the work for which his committee was appointed, shall return all books, papers, or other articles to the persons from whom they were obtained, or as directed by the National Board of Directors.
OFFICERS — POWERS AND DUTIES

A. The Executive Committee of the undergraduate chapter shall include, at a minimum, each of the following undergraduate officers, as well as the Chaplain. The duties of each shall be as follows:

(i) The President shall preside at all meetings and extra sessions of the chapter. He shall appoint committees, decide in case of tie votes, impose fines, and sign all papers requiring authentication. He shall have authority to suspend from a chapter meeting any member for conduct unworthy of a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon. The President shall be chairman of the Executive Committee and shall be responsible for ensuring representation on the Interfraternity Council, if applicable.

(ii) The Vice President of Programming shall be responsible for the chapter’s events and programs and shall coordinate the chapter calendar. He is chairman of the programs committee which shall implement events, philanthropic and service learning activities, intramurals, and, in coordination with the Vice President of Member Development, Sound Mind and Sound Body programming relevant to all chapter members. He shall serve as the ritualistic Vice President.

(iii) The Vice President of Finance shall be responsible for the chapter’s financial affairs. He is chairman of the finance committee. The finance committee shall collect all dues and other charges due from the members to the undergraduate chapter, and the Vice President of Finance shall make necessary and appropriate disbursements as required. The finance committee shall prepare, with the assistance of the Executive Committee and the Alumni and Volunteer Board, an annual budget of the undergraduate chapter, and after it is approved by the Executive Committee and the Alumni and Volunteer Board, he shall transmit a copy to the undergraduate chapter and the Alumni and Volunteer Board and make available a copy for the District Governor and Headquarters. The Vice President of Finance shall be responsible for filing an annual tax return with the Internal Revenue Service and submitting said return to Headquarters. He shall also be responsible for the prompt collection and transmittal to Headquarters of all monies due the Fraternity pursuant to Article VI of the Bylaws. Within one month after the conclusion of their terms of office, the Vice President of Finance and his committee shall, upon request, make available to the Alumni and Volunteer Board, all records pertaining to the financial operations of the undergraduate chapter for review by such person as is designated by the Alumni and Volunteer Board.

(iv) The Vice President of Member Development shall be responsible for the comprehensive experience provided to undergraduate members of the chapter. He is chairman of the development committee which includes the Residential Learning
Community Chairman, the Challenge Coordinators, or their equivalents, and other members as necessary to implement academic and development programming. The Vice President of Member Development is responsible for planning chapter retreats and Sound Mind and Sound Body programming. He shall act to uphold, develop, and strengthen the character of the members and to preserve the ideals and principles upon which the Fraternity was founded.

(v) The Vice President of Recruitment shall be responsible for recruiting new members into the chapter. He is chairman of the recruitment committee which includes the Balanced Man Scholarship Chairman and other members as necessary to implement formal and year round recruitment. The committee shall conduct the chapter’s new member recruitment by establishing and maintaining programs to recruit undergraduate members. It shall also coordinate the process to extend bids for membership to potential new members.

(vi) The Vice President of Communications shall be chairman of the communications committee which shall be responsible for public relations, social media, chapter history, and technology. The committee shall coordinate with the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation to strengthen relationships with alumni and communicate the positive actions of the chapter to the campus community and Headquarters while preserving the history of the chapter. The Vice President of Communications shall maintain the membership records of the chapter in a form prescribed by the National Board of Directors, and he shall keep a record of the history of the chapter. He shall call the roll and keep the minutes of each meeting. He shall have charge of the seal, books, papers, and records of the chapter, except those in the charge of other officers. He shall conduct all correspondence and bring all legislation before the chapter. He is also responsible for the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting.

(vii) In the event the Chapter President is unable to perform the duties of his office at any meeting or other occasion, the Vice President of Programming shall act as President pro-tem until such time as the Chapter President can resume the duties of his office,

(viii) A vacancy occurring in the office of Chapter President by resignation, expulsion, suspension, or otherwise shall be temporarily filled by the Vice President of Programming until such time that the undergraduate chapter elects a new Chapter President.

(ix) A vacancy occurring in the office of any Vice President by resignation, expulsion, suspension, or otherwise shall be temporarily filled by an undergraduate member selected by a majority of the Executive Committee until such time that the undergraduate chapter holds an election for said office.

B. At the expiration of his term of office, each officer shall deliver all chapter books, papers, monies or other articles to his successor. Each officer shall render all information to enable his successor to assume full charge of the duties of his office.
STANDARDS BOARD — POWERS AND DUTIES

C. The chapter via election concurrent with other official elections will elect the following officers to serve as members of the Standards Board: the Chaplain, the Senior Marshal, the Junior Marshal, the Guard, and the Guide. Additionally, the chapter shall elect at least one alternate to serve in the event that any member of the Standards Board is unable to fulfill his responsibility due to his involvement or another conflict of interest. The Chaplain will be chairman of the Standards Board. The Standards Board shall be responsible for planning the use of the Ritual, inspect the Ritual equipment, review proper risk management for upcoming events, and practice the Ritual. The Standards Board shall also be responsible for enforcing Grand Chapter and local chapter bylaws and resolve member disputes.

D. In the event that the Chaplain is unable to fulfill his responsibility due to his involvement or another conflict of interest, the Senior Marshal shall serve as acting Chaplain for the purposes of said trial. The elected alternate shall serve in place of the Senior Marshal.

E. In the event that a member of the Standards Board other than the chaplain is unable to fulfill his responsibility due to his involvement or another conflict of interest, the elected alternate shall serve in his place.

F. A vacancy occurring in the office of any member of the Standards Board by resignation, expulsion, suspension, or otherwise shall be filled by the elected alternate.

ELECTION OF UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTER OFFICERS

G. The officers of an undergraduate chapter shall be elected annually by secret ballot provided, however, that they may be elected by an alternate calendar cycle if two-thirds of the undergraduate members of the chapter vote in its favor, and the cycle is approved by the District Governor. These officers shall be installed according to the manner prescribed in the Ritual.

H. In the event that one or more of the elected officers is unable to complete their term of office, the undergraduate chapter shall hold a special election to fill any or all vacancies with members who shall serve until the next annual election.

I. Only a member in good standing shall be eligible to hold an office or position of trust in any undergraduate chapter.

J. A chapter shall have the power, by majority vote, to declare void the election of an officer who, without satisfactory cause, fails to present himself for installation.

UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTER MEETINGS

K. Undergraduate chapter meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert’s Rules of Order.
L. Special meetings may be called by the president or by a two-thirds vote of the members in good standing of the chapter.

M. The president shall give reasonable notice of a special meeting, stating the business to be transacted, and no other business shall be transacted at such special meeting except by a two-thirds vote of members in good standing.

N. No Grand Chapter officer shall preside at a meeting of an undergraduate chapter except during the ceremonies of installation and initiation, or during elections.

O. During each month of the academic year, an undergraduate chapter shall hold at least one formal meeting as described in the Ritual.

P. Questions regarding the interpretation of the undergraduate chapter bylaws, Ritual, Bylaws, or Administrative Policies and Procedures shall be decided by the president of the undergraduate chapter, but there shall be the right of appeal as follows:

(i) A two-thirds vote of the chapter is required to overrule the president’s decision, such vote to be taken by the Vice President of Communications.

(ii) The decision of the chapter may be appealed to the National Board of Directors.

UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTER BOOKS AND RECORDS

Q. Each undergraduate chapter shall obtain and keep the following books and records:

(i) The Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures of the Fraternity.

(ii) The Ritual.

(iii) The bylaws of the undergraduate chapter.

(iv) The minutes of the chapter’s meetings.

(v) Financial records of the chapter.

(vi) Robert’s Rules of Order
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
SECTION 3 – PUBLICATIONS AND INSIGNIA

LICENSED VENDORS

A. In consideration of their appointment as Licensed Vendors of the Fraternity by the National Board of Directors, each of the Licensed Vendors so appointed shall pay to the Fraternity such royalties or commissions, as determined by the National Board of Directors, on all articles of every description sold by each of them to any of the chapters or members of the Fraternity.

B. Trademarked and copyrighted insignia are property of the Grand Chapter.

C. Any commercial use of these insignia shall be through a licensed vendor approved by the National Board of Directors with a list of licensed vendors maintained and published by the Executive Director.

D. Sigma Phi Epsilon shall not permit trademarked and copyrighted insignia to be printed, inscribed, or used on items containing any text, image, or design which reflects a negative image of the Fraternity or is otherwise contrary to the ideals of the Fraternity.
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
SECTION 4 – STATEMENT ON CHAPTER AND INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY

This statement embodies the values and expectations of the Fraternity for all fraternity entities and membership categories, including alumni and volunteers.

RESPECT AND CARE FOR SELF AND OTHERS

The Fraternity will operate in such a manner as to exhibit respect, care, and concern. The Fraternity abhors any form of sexually abusive behavior collectively or by an individual, be it physical, mental, or emotional in nature. Neither a Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter nor any member thereof should encourage, support, or participate in any action which in any manner demeans, belittles, or damages another person.

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

The possession and/or use of alcoholic beverages while participating in any fraternity event, or in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, will be consistent with all campus, city, county, state laws, and all the policies of the Fraternity. Every chapter event must ensure that no alcohol can be consumed by minors.

The direct or indirect purchase of alcoholic beverages by the chapter using chapter funds or by any member on behalf of the chapter or through any type of fund is against Sigma Phi Epsilon’s risk management policies. The purchase and/or use of a bulk quantity of alcoholic beverages (i.e., kegs or case(s) of beer/wine) is prohibited.

There will be no possession, use, and/or sale of illegal drugs or controlled substances at any chapter facility, fraternity event, or any event which would be associated with the Fraternity.

No chapter should associate the Fraternity's name with any event sponsored by an alcohol distributor, charitable organization, or tavern (tavern defined as an establishment generating more than half of annual gross sales from alcohol) where alcohol is given away, sold, or otherwise provided to those present.

No chapter should co-sponsor or co-finance a function where alcohol is purchased by any of the host chapters, groups, or organizations.

There should never be any alcohol available during membership recruitment activities.

Open parties, meaning those with unrestricted access by non-members, are not in the best interest of the chapter or the Fraternity and should not occur.

No brother or new member should condone, tolerate, encourage, or participate in the abuse of alcohol (i.e., drinking games are not allowed).

There should never be any alcohol available during any membership education program/event.
Failure to comply with these guidelines will result in disciplinary action including revocation of the chapter’s charter. Additionally, failure to follow these guidelines could jeopardize a chapter’s (or individual member’s) general liability insurance coverage.

**MEMBER DEVELOPMENT**

The principles of Sigma Phi Epsilon and those of a chapter and its members are based on high ethical and moral behavior, and the expression of respect and care for self and others.

Therefore, hazing has no place in Sigma Phi Epsilon. Hazing is a criminal act in most states. Hazing activities are defined as:

> Any action taken or situation created, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, the following: use of alcohol; paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; late work sessions which interfere with scholastic activities; and any other activities which are not consistent with fraternal law or ritual, the regulations and policies of the educational institution or applicable local, state, or federal law.

**FIRE AND SAFETY**

To better ensure the safety of its members and guests, each chapter should strive to meet the following expectations:

1. Comply with all local fire and health codes.
2. Post emergency numbers for fire, police, and ambulance beside all common phones. Also post evacuation routes from chapter facilities in the common areas and on the back of each sleeping room door.
3. Comply with engineering recommendations as reported by the insurance company.
4. Keep a neat and orderly house. Good housekeeping is essential.
5. The construction and/or use of pools, ponds, towers, slides, rope bridges or similar man-made structures is strictly prohibited whether on or off chapter premises.
6. The possession and/or use of firearms or explosive devices of any kind within the confines and premises of the chapter house is expressly forbidden.

**EDUCATION**

Each student member, as part of his regular fraternity education experience, shall be educated about, and reminded of, his responsibilities as a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon and the Fraternity’s risk management policy.
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
SECTION 5 – STATEMENT ON RELATIONSHIPS

The duties of every Sigma Phi Epsilon are to remember his Oath of Obligation; to follow the teachings of the Ritual; to uphold Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love for the betterment of himself and his brothers that our lives may bring everlasting glory to Sigma Phi Epsilon. The role of the alumnus and volunteer should be that of selfless service and often requires personal sacrifice. This role is not one of exploitation and self-gratification to the detriment of the undergraduate chapter and its membership.

Any inappropriate acts, including, but not limited to, purchase of alcohol by the alumnus or volunteer for undergraduates; intoxication by the alumnus or volunteer in the presence of undergraduates; advances or contact of a sexual nature between the alumnus or volunteer and the undergraduates, regardless of initiation or consent; financial conflicts of interest; and criminal activity by the alumnus or volunteer relating to or in the presence of the undergraduates, are grounds for discipline including, but not limited to, dismissal and penalties as provided in the Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures. Such acts and attitudes are directly contrary to the cardinal principles of Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love.

The very reason for providing mentoring, leadership, and alumni and volunteer involvement is to share talent and experience with the undergraduate members for the overall betterment of Sigma Phi Epsilon.
Section 1. These Administrative Policies and Procedures may be amended by either:

(a) A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the National Board of Directors; or

(b) When the Grand Chapter is in session, by a proposed amendment which shall be presented in writing at a regular session of the Grand Chapter and shall set forth the Article and Section it is proposed to amend. Each proposed amendment shall be referred to a committee for its consideration and recommendation, and each proposed amendment approved by a majority vote of the Grand Chapter shall be declared in full force and effect.