

Resolution #GCC21-10

Terms and Leadership Opportunities for Outside Directors to the National Board of Directors

WHEREAS

Sigma Phi Epsilon is committed to being a leader of fraternities and a valued partner in higher education; and

WHEREAS

Today's higher education climate has introduced new and complicated issues that have the potential to affect dramatically the Fraternity and the experience provided by its chapters; and

WHEREAS

Regular and meaningful collaboration with higher education professionals, campus administrators, and subject experts is necessary for Sigma Phi Epsilon to craft informed approaches to the issues facing our organization; and

WHEREAS

That perspective is best served by fully engaging these individuals in the governance and leadership of the Fraternity; and

WHEREAS

The delegates to the 54th Grand Chapter Conclave amended the Grand Chapter Bylaws to allow the National Board of Directors to recruit and appoint up to two individuals who bring unique expertise relevant to higher education to serve as Outside Directors; and

WHEREAS

The National Board of Directors has included two Outside Directors since the conclusion of the 54th Grand Chapter Conclave; and

WHEREAS

These Outside Directors have brought their unique experiences, insights and expertise to the deliberations of the Board and have made invaluable contributions to the decisions made by the National Board of Directors, thereby strengthening the organization as a whole; and

WHEREAS

These Outside Directors, as a result of personal and professional commitments, have already changed in composition since the 54th Grand Chapter Conclave; and

WHEREAS

The National Board of Directors can continue to benefit from the guidance, counsel and expertise provided by these Outside Directors; and

WHEREAS

The National Board of Directors, and by extension, the fraternity as a whole, will lose the benefit of the invaluable contributions made by Outside Directors as a result of arbitrary term limitations; and

WHEREAS

Extending the terms of Outside Directors from 6 to 12 years will bring the time they can serve on the National Board in line with the potential length of service for elected Directors; and

WHEREAS

Many brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon are employed in the field of higher education and can serve as a valuable resource to the National Board of Directors as an Outside Director; and

WHEREAS

It would be in the best interests of the fraternity if an Outside Director, who is a member of the fraternity and has served with distinction on the National Board, be eligible to hold office as a national officer of the fraternity; and

WHEREAS

The Grand Chapter By-Laws currently limit those eligible to serve as officers of the national fraternity to Alumni Directors; and

WHEREAS

The original provisions in the Grand Chapter By-Laws governing the eligibility of individuals to serve as officers of the national fraternity were drafted long before the Grand Chapter recognized the importance and benefits of having individuals with extensive higher education experience serve as a National Director, therefore be it

RESOLVED

That the Grand Chapter Bylaws be amended as follows (~~strikethrough~~ indicates removal of text; *italics* indicates new text, paragraphs will be renumbered as necessary);

**ARTICLE IV – EXECUTIVE GOVERNANCE (NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS)
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Section 8. To be eligible for election as Grand President, a member of the Fraternity shall *be an alumnus and* have been a National ~~n-Alumni~~ Director of the National Board of Directors for a minimum of four consecutive years.

Section 9. To be eligible for selection as Grand Secretary, a member must *be an alumnus and* have served no less than two years as a National ~~n-Alumni~~ Director of the National Board of Directors.

Section 20. To be eligible for selection as Outside Director, an individual shall not have served in the capacity of Outside Director for a period equal to or in excess of ~~six~~ *twelve* years.

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED

That the National Board of Directors shall make any further non-substantive changes to the Grand Chapter Bylaws.

Committee: Bylaws Red Committee
Committee Recommends: Pass
Grand Chapter Action: Pass

Alec Wang, Chairman, Bylaws Red Committee
57th Grand Chapter Conclave – Denver, Colorado – July 28 – 31, 2021