

Resolution #GCC21-13 Cultural Competence

WHEREAS

Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity was founded on the commission to better the world in the different expressions of human society; and

WHEREAS

According to our founding story (commonly known as the Jenkins lesson) as foretold by Founder Carter Ashton Jenkins; "I woke, and bowed my head and when I slept the Angel returned and he showed me a world in which the cloud had broken. I saw children, neatly clad, wending their way to school. I saw workmen singing for joy at their work. I saw the churches filled, institutions of learning crowded, and the nations of the earth were at peace, every nation with its brother nation."; and

WHEREAS

In the hope to continue this legacy of brotherly love amongst our membership, and preservation of our inception motto: "this fraternity will be different". Being an example to our world of a society who can live harmoniously together; and

WHEREAS

The membership of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity continues to increase in its diversity. Becoming an organization consisting of individuals from a variety of social and economic backgrounds; and

WHEREAS

As a result of this shift in our membership, there is a substantial gain of lived experiences and cultural identities; and

WHEREAS

Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity has begun to strategically plan ways "to effectively Build Balanced Leaders for the World's Community, SigEp needs to improve inclusion, equity and diversity among our membership, experiences and environment." (**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee's Strategic Purpose**); and

WHEREAS

In order to accomplish this objective, we must increase the cultural competence within our organization, and

WHEREAS

Cultural competence is defined as "the capacity to function effectively in cultural settings other than one's own. This usually involves a recognition of the diversity of both between and within cultures, a capacity for cultural self-assessment, and a willingness to adapt personal behaviors and practices." (**American Psychological Association**); therefore be it

RESOLVED

Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity shall strive to produce culturally competent strategic communication in future fraternity publications. Included within this objective, but not limited to changes to language in **Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures**. Sigma Phi Epsilon authorizes the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion standing committee to make recommendations for Bylaw amendments at the next Grand Chapter Conclave. Additionally, incorporating stories of diverse groups of brothers in future publications of **The Lifetime Responsibilities of Brotherhood** and **SigEp Journals**; and be it

RESOLVED

Sigma Phi Epsilon shall strive to make changes within Sigma Phi Epsilon’s Member Development program, and authorize the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion standing committee to make recommendations to increase focus on member’s introspective and interpersonal relationship skills. Reinvesting in its servant leadership approach to organizational and personal development. Integrating culturally competent curriculum and pleasurable experiences for each of its members and fraternity units (National Board of Directors, Headquarters, District Governors, Committees, Alumni and Volunteer Corporations, Foundations, Chapters, etc), and be it

RESOLVED

On an annual basis (annually), Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity will undergo a cultural assessment. The findings of this report will be shared with the differing units of the fraternity; and be it further

RESOLVED

Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity will foster a community that guards the dignity of each of its members. Encouraging intentional consistent dialogue and investing in ways to connect members from different backgrounds. Additionally, creating opportunities for less involved members to be able to participate in fraternity operations.

Committee: Resolutions Purple Committee

Committee Recommends: Pass as Amended

Grand Chapter Action: Pass as Amended

Ian Pitt, Chairman, Resolutions Purple Committee
57th Grand Chapter Conclave – Denver, Colorado – July 28 – 31, 2021