

National Pan-Hellenic Council

Constitution

PREAMBLE

We, the historically African-American collegiate fraternities and sororities at the University of Connecticut, Storrs campus (UConn-Storrs), recognizing that our aims can best be realized through coordination in activities and cooperation in a formal organization, hereby adopt this Constitution and bind ourselves to the National Pan-Hellenic Council. The UConn chapter was established on 29th of May in 1992.

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this organization shall be the "NATIONAL PAN-HELLENIC COUNCIL" and it shall be a chartered chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. at the University of Connecticut (UConn-Storrs) and hereinafter referred to as "UConn NPHC" or "the Council." References to the parent organization in this document shall be referred to as "NPHCHQ."

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

Section 1. Mission Statement

The purpose of the Council is as stated, "Unanimity of thought and action as far as possible in the conduct of Greek-lettered collegiate fraternities and sororities, and to consider the problems of mutual interest to its member organizations."

UConn NPHC shall be a coalition of the historically Black fraternities and sororities registered as student organizations at UConn-Storrs. The purpose of the UConn NPHC shall be to create and maintain high standards in the life of fraternities and sororities by addressing, coordinating, and developing actions strategic on matters of mutual concern to the affiliate organizations such as service, scholarship, student leadership; and to serve as a conduit for such action plans as may be developed to perpetuate constructive fraternity and sorority relations.

Section 2. Goals

The UConn NPHC has established the following goals:

- A. Promote superior standards of scholarship, service, and leadership
- B. Create harmonious working relationships amongst member organizations
- C. Preserve the cultural heritage of the historically Black Greek-letter organization community
- D. Provide programs designed to enhance the life of the campus community
- E. Act upon matters of mutual concern to the member organizations
- F. Foster an understanding of the structure and method of operation among the member organizations
- G. Support efforts to coordinate and plan all-Greek programs and to foster ongoing communication between all governing councils in the UConn fraternity and sorority community.

Section 3. University Jurisdiction

The UConn NPHC shall be a registered student organization that works in concert with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life (OFSL) and the University of Connecticut (UConn-Storrs). Its endeavors shall be supported by the University as long as its activities are not a detriment to the organizations or students it represents.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Composition

The membership of the UConn NPHC shall be chapters of those organizations affiliated with the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. (NPHCHQ) and recognized by the OFSL at UConn-Storrs.

- A. In order to remain active as a collegiate council, UConn NPHC must have no fewer than two participating member organizations active with this council, unless permission to continue functioning is granted by the National Executive Director.
- B. NPHC organizations seeking to charter or reactivate a chapter at UConn-Storrs must first contact the OFSL and follow the steps outlined in the *Fraternity & Sorority Recognition Policy* and complete the steps outlined in the *UConn NPHC Membership Policy* as outlined in the Bylaws.

Section 2. Criteria for Participation

- A. To be considered eligible for participation in the UConn NPHC activities, the chapter/individual must be active and in good standing with an organization that holds current membership in the NPHCHQ. These organizations include:
 1. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
 2. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
 3. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
 4. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
 5. Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.
 6. Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
 7. Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
 8. Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
 9. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
- B. Only chapters/individuals whose organizations are recognized by and in good standing with NPHCHQ may participate with UConn NPHC.
- C. Only chapters/individuals who are in good standing with their national organization may participate with the UConn NPHC.
- D. Any member organization that is in good standing with NPHCHQ cannot be prohibited from participating in the UConn NPHC.

Criteria for Membership

To be considered eligible for membership in the UConn NPHC, all criteria for participation must be met and the chapters must also meet the following requirements.

- A. Chapters must be in good standing with their national organization and the members of the chapter must be matriculated.
- B. Chapters must be registered student organizations at the UConn-Storrs campus and be recognized by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
- C. Dues and assessments to the UConn NPHC must be paid.

Section 3. Classifications

There shall be two classifications of membership in the UConn NPHC:

- A. Member
A member of the UConn NPHC shall be defined as an organization that has met all requirements for membership in the Council and has been granted all privileges.

B. Provisional Member

A provisional member of the UConn NPHC shall be defined by any organization that has been invited to charter or reactivate within the past semester and/or any organization that has not yet completed the criteria as outlined in the *NPHC Membership Policy* and has been granted full membership privileges.

Section 4. Privileges

- A. Members in good standing shall have the following privileges:
 - 1. The right to initiate amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws.
 - 2. The right to seat delegates and have voice and vote on matters.
 - 3. The right to hold office on the Council Executive Board.
 - 4. The right to participate in all meetings and activities as specified.
 - 5. The right to request mandatory involvement in events with approval of the Council.
 - 6. The right to request support (financial, personnel, etc.) from the Council.
- B. Provisional Members in good standing shall have the following privileges:
 - 1. The right to seat delegates and have voice but not vote on all matters.
 - 2. The right to participate in all meetings and activities as specified.
 - 3. The right to request support (financial, personnel, etc.) from the Council.

Section 5. Tenure

Membership in the Council shall be perpetual as long as the member organization continues to remain a registered student organization at UConn-Storrs. If for some reason recognition is revoked, the organization shall no longer be considered a member and will no longer have any privileges associated with membership.

ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION AND OFFICERS

The UConn NPHC shall be composed of two entities, the Executive Board and the General Council.

Section 1. Executive Board

The executive body of the UConn NPHC shall be vested in the Executive Board and be composed of elected officers and the NPHC Advisor.

A. Composition:

The elected officers shall be:

- 1. Chair
 - a. President
 - b. Secretary
- 2. Co-Chair
 - a. Vice President
 - b. Treasurer

B. Responsibilities:

The Executive Board shall:

- 1. Be responsible for the governance of member organizations.
- 2. Gather and disseminate information pertinent to the community.

3. Coordinate activities, programs, and events for the council.
4. Establish the meeting schedule (date, time, and place) and the agenda.
5. Set the direction and promote improvements in policy and practices.
6. Address all concerns, issues, and proposals brought forth by the NPHC community or individual organization.
7. Uphold the UConn NPHC Constitution, Bylaws, and other University of Connecticut policies and procedures pertinent to fraternities and sororities.

Section 2. General Council

The legislative body of the UConn NPHC shall be vested in the General Council and be composed of chapter presidents of member organizations in good standing.

The responsibilities of General Council shall be made to:

- A. Serve as a forum for the discussion of issues and ideas that are of mutual concern to the member organizations and the underrepresented UConn-Storrs community.
- B. Legislate and vote on all matters brought forth; proposals to implement ideas that affect the entire community and changes to UConn NPHC policies.
- C. Disseminate information between the Council and their respective member chapter and inter/national organization.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

Section 1. Types

- A. Executive Board
 1. Meetings of the Executive Board shall be scheduled biweekly during the academic year.
 2. The date, time and location of all meetings shall be agreed upon by the Executive Board.

- B. General Council
 1. Regular meetings of the General Council shall be scheduled at least once per month during the academic year.
 2. The date, time and location of all meetings shall be designated by the Executive Board and notification shall be given two weeks prior to the start of each semester.
 3. Special meetings may be called at any time by the Chair whenever necessary or when called upon at the request of a majority of the member organizations.
 - a. Notification of special meetings shall be given to the General Council in writing at least 48 hours in advance.
 - b. Special meetings may not be called at a time that may interfere with a previous scheduled program of a member organization.
 4. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance to the parliamentary procedure prescribed in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, subject to the limitations of this Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2. Attendance

- A. Executive Board

Each Executive Board member is expected to attend all meetings, events, and

activities of the NPHC.

B. General Council

Each member organization must send the chapter president to all council meetings. Only the president or their delegate will be permitted to vote.

1. Each member organization is allowed one (1) unexcused absence per semester to remain in "good standing." An unexcused absence shall be defined as any absence without proper notification. Arriving to the meeting after attendance has been conducted shall be considered ½ an absence.
2. Member organizations will be excused from meetings at the discretion of the Executive Board with proper notice. Each member organization is allowed one (1) excused absence per semester. Delegates wishing to be excused from a meeting must notify the Secretary in writing no less than 48 hours prior to the meeting. All absences will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Section 3. Quorum

Two-thirds (2/3) of member organizations present at General Council meetings present will constitute quorum.

Section 4. Voting (Decision Making Model)

- A. Each member organization in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) vote on matters before the General Council. Only the chapter president or official alternate will be allowed to vote on issues before the Council.
- B. If the vote of the General Board is inconclusive, then the Chair shall make the final decision.

ARTICLE VI ADVISOR

The official UConn NPHC Advisor shall be a University of Connecticut staff member appointed by the OFSL. The members of UConn NPHC may vote to appoint an alumni advisor to serve in conjunction with the OFSL advisor. It shall be the duty of the NPHC Advisor(s) to:

1. Serve in an unbiased capacity to the Council and all member organizations.
2. Initiate ideas for discussion and suggest opportunities for improvement.
3. Serve as a liaison to the University, University of Connecticut Greek councils, inter/national organizations, and national umbrella associations/councils.
4. Attend scheduled meetings and activities as able.
5. Be well versed in the University of Connecticut regulations, Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life policies, and the NPHC governing documents. Furthermore, inform the Executive Board of any violations or potential infractions.
6. Positively promote the activities of the Council to the greater University community and advocate on behalf of the Council, as necessary.
7. Mediate interpersonal and inter-council conflicts that may arise.
8. Monitor Council correspondence by reviewing all communication, including meeting minutes, prior to distribution.
9. Assist with the election of officers to ensure that all procedures are followed in a fair and consistent basis.

10. Oversee the expansion and recognition process of new member organizations.
11. Withhold room reservations for any activities that have been inadequately planned, reflect negatively upon the Council or its member organizations, violate University rules, or are unsafe, until changed.
12. Perform any other duties mutually agreed upon.

ARTICLE VII FUNDING

Section 1. Dues

The Council shall be funded primarily by dues collected from each member organization at the start of each semester.

Section 2. Alternate Funding Sources

The Council shall also seek funding from the Undergraduate Student Government, Student Union Board of Governors and through fundraising initiatives to reach its goals.

ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Proposal

- A. Any member organization in good standing may submit an amendment proposal. Proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board in advance of any vote.
- B. The Executive Board shall review all proposals, in conjunction with the NPHC Advisor, to ensure that it is consistent with the objectives of the NPHC and does not conflict with any University of Connecticut policies or regulations.

Section 2. Ratification

- A. A three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) majority vote of member organizations is required to adopt an amendment. In the event of a tie, the majority vote of the Executive Board shall serve as tie-breaker.
- B. Voting shall take place no earlier than the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Council unless a special meeting has been called and agreed upon by three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) majority vote of member organizations at the meeting in which the amendment was originally proposed.
- C. Amendments shall go into effect at the start of the next regularly scheduled Council meeting after the minutes from the previous meeting, where voting was conducted, have been approved.

ARTICLE IX DISSOLUTION

Section 1. Proposal



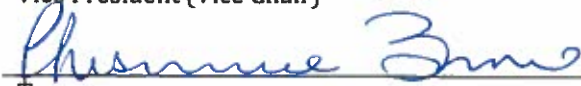


Section 1. Proposal
The UConn NPHC shall be perpetual and dissolution of the Council may be considered only after the Executive Committee has taken all possible steps to maintain the life of the organization and eight-ninths (88%) of member organizations agree that it is in their best interest to dissolve the UConn NPHC.

Section 2. Low Membership
If the Council has fewer than two participating member organization, the Council must receive special permission from the NPHCHQ and Uconn-Storrs to continue functioning in a given fiscal year.

Section 3. Beneficiary
In the event of dissolution, after any outstanding debt has been settled, the balance of the Council's account must be donated to UConn Foundation (Greek Life Affairs Account #20431), 2390 Alumni Drive, Unit 3206, Storrs, Connecticut 06269 and all property shall be donated to the UConn Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

ARTICLE X Enabling Clause

This Constitution was voted on and put into effect on the date signed below:

 _____ President (Chair)	<u>4-25-2016</u> Date
 _____ Vice President (Vice Chair)	<u>04/25/2016</u> Date
 _____ Treasurer	<u>04/25/2016</u> Date
 _____ Secretary	<u>4-25-2016</u> Date
 _____ Adviser	<u>4/25/2016</u> Date