



Constitution of UConn NPHC

Article I – Name

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the 'UConn National Pan-Hellenic Council,' and it shall be a chartered chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. at the University of Connecticut (UConn), hereinafter referred to as 'UConn NPHC' or 'the Council.' References to the parent organization in this document shall be referred to as 'UCNPHC.'

Article II – Purpose

Section 1.

The purpose of the Council is stated as follows: '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 UConn NPHC shall be to create and maintain high standards in the life of fraternities and sororities by taking action on matters of mutual concern, which include service, scholarship, and student leadership.

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 among 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 on 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 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 Center for Fraternity and Sorority Development (CFSD) and the University of Connecticut (UConn). Its endeavors shall be supported by the University, as long as its activities do not detract from the organizations or students it represents.

Article III – Non-Discrimination

Section 1.

The UCNPHC shall follow all local, state, federal, and university laws and regulations. The UCNPHC is responsible for adhering to regulations against racial and other types of discrimination, sexual harassment (including domestic violence, stalking, and criminal sexual misconduct), hazing (in any form), and the university's alcohol and drug policies.

- a. UCNPHC agrees that the organization and all of its members will not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, political opinions, or veteran status.
- b. UCNPHC agrees that it will not engage in any activity construed as sexual harassment, nor will it condone sexual misconduct in any form.
- c. UCNPHC agrees that it will not support or encourage any activities that place an individual at risk, whether physically or emotionally, that may or may not be part of an initiation to join or be recognized as a member of an affiliate organization.
- d. UCNPHC agrees that if any member of UCNPHC is aware of, or becomes aware of, any violations of the provisions contained in this article, they will immediately report the violation or suspicion of such violations to CFSD and/or the NPHC advisor.

Article IV – Membership

Section 1. **Composition**

The membership of the UConn NPHC shall be composed of organizations affiliated with the national body of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. and recognized by the CFSD at UConn.

Section 2. **Membership Classification**

There shall be two (2) classifications of membership within the UCNPHC:

A. Full/Regular Membership. The regular membership of the UConn NPHC shall be composed of all chapters of NPHC organizations at the University of Connecticut that have met all requirements for membership and have been granted all privileges. Regular members of the UConn NPHC shall pay dues as determined by the UConn NPHC. Each regular member shall have a voice and one vote on all matters.

B. Provisional Membership. The provisional membership of the UConn Panhellenic Council shall be composed of 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 outlined in the NPHC Membership Policy but has been granted full membership privileges. Provisional members shall pay no dues and shall have a voice, but no vote on all matters. A provisional member shall automatically become a regular member upon being installed as a chapter of an NPHC fraternity.

Article V – Executive Board

Section 1.

The Executive Board generally supervises the affairs of the UCNPHC between regular meetings. The Executive Board cannot amend the Constitution, Bylaws, Standing Rules, or change any action adopted by the General Body.

Section 2.

The Executive Board of the UCNPHC will be comprised of the following elected officers:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary ● Treasurer
- Parliamentarian
- Public Relations

Section 2.

The term of office is one year, or until a successor is elected. The term of office runs from May 1 through April 30. The President and Vice President cannot serve more than two consecutive terms. The Secretary and Treasurer may serve an indefinite number of terms.

Section 3.

The election of officers will take place at the first meeting in April. Officers will be installed and take office on May 1.

Section 4:

The officers of the UConn NPHC shall be members of NPHC organizations and recognized provisional organizations registered at UConn. Only a member of a chapter holding regular membership may fill the positions of President and Treasurer.

Section 5: The term of the Executive Board officers shall be one year, beginning May 1 and ending April 30 of the following year. Any vacancies on the Executive Board shall be filled by special election for the remainder of the appointed term.

Section 6: The UConn NPHC Executive Board shall meet at least twice a month on a day decided by the Executive Board.

Article VI – General Council

Section 1: It shall be the duty of the UCNPHC to administer all business related to the overall welfare of the member organizations and to compile rules that do not violate the sovereignty, rights, or privileges of the member organizations.

The powers of the NPHC shall be vested in the NPHC General Body. The NPHC General Body shall be the governing legislative body responsible for the general policies of the NPHC, for electing its Executive Board, and for instructing its Executive Board on the activities and operations of the NPHC. All such activities shall respect the individual sovereignty and associational rights of each member chapter and shall not relinquish any governance authority to any other governing body.

Section 2: Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the UCNPHC shall be selected by their respective organizations to serve for a term of one year, based on their chapter elections.

Section 3: When a Delegate vacancy occurs, it shall be the responsibility of the respective chapter to select a replacement within two weeks and notify the Secretary of the individual's name and telephone number. When a meeting of the UCNPHC General Body occurs while there is a Delegate vacancy, the Alternate Delegate of the respective organization shall fulfill the duties of the Delegate in all cases.

Section 4: The regular meetings of the UCNPHC General Body shall be held bi-weekly at a time to be determined at the beginning of each college semester. Special meetings of the UConn NPHC may be called by the President when necessary or upon the written request of any Delegate to the UConn NPHC.

Article VII – Voting

Section 1: The voting members of the UCNPHC shall be the Representatives of each organization holding membership. If a Representative is absent, the vote of their organization shall be cast by its Alternate. If both the Representative and Alternate are absent, the vote may be cast by a member of the organization, provided their credentials have been submitted in writing to the Council President prior to the meeting by the Chapter President.

- Section 2: Three-quarters (3/4) of the voting members of the UCNPHC shall be required to adopt a budget and in matters of extension. A majority vote shall be required to carry all other matters.
- Section 3: The Alternate Representatives, Alumni Advisors, and Executive Board shall have a voice but no vote.

Article VIII – Elections

- Section 1: Elections will take place at a General Council meeting in November, with dates to be determined by the Secretary. The Secretary and President will oversee the election process.
- Section 2: When a resignation or removal occurs in a UCNPHC Executive Board officer position, a special election shall be held for that office. The special election shall follow the same procedure as the regular election.
- Section 4: Procedure for UCNPHC Executive Board Elections
- A. Elections will be held in November.
 - B. Nominations will be held at least a week prior to elections.
 - C. All candidates shall be required to give a speech, lasting up to three (3) minutes, detailing their reasons for seeking office and their qualifications.
 - D. The mode of elections shall be by secret ballot. The nominee receiving a simple majority vote shall be elected. In the case of a tie, a runoff election shall be held between the candidates. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared the winner.
 - E. In the case of three (3) consecutive ties reached by the membership, the Executive Board, excluding the President, will determine the winner by a simple majority.
 - F. New officers will officially hold their positions after the officer transition program and once the outgoing executive board has given their closing statements in a general meeting, to be completed no later than the last day of classes during the fall semester.
 - G. In the case of the newly elected president being a neophyte, the outgoing president should oversee the new president.

Article IX –Advisor

Section 1. The UConn NPHC Advisor shall be a member of the Center for Fraternity and Sorority Development. The UCNPHC Executive Board reserves the right to review and consider an additional advisor as needed.

Article X – Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. The rules contained in Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the UCNPHC in all cases to which they are applicable, provided they are not inconsistent with this constitution and the special rules of order of the NPHC.

Article XI – Amendment

Section 1. This constitution can be amended by a 3/4 vote at a regularly scheduled meeting of the UCNPHC or a special meeting called to amend the constitution, provided that the proposed amendments have been presented at a council meeting at least 30 days prior to the meeting in which they will be voted on.

Section 2. If amendments to this constitution are to be voted on at a special meeting called specifically for this purpose, the proposed amendments must be submitted electronically to all members by the secretary at least 30 days in advance of the special meeting.

Section 3. The Executive Board, in conjunction with the NPHC Advisor, shall review all proposals to ensure they are consistent with the objectives of the NPHC and do not conflict with any University of Connecticut policies or regulations.

Ratification

- Section 4.
- a. A three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the member organizations is required to adopt an amendment. In the event of a tie, the majority vote of the Executive Board shall serve as the tiebreaker.
 - b. Voting shall take place no earlier than the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Council unless a special meeting is called and approved by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the member organizations at the meeting where the amendment was originally proposed.
 - c. Amendments shall take effect at the start of the next regularly scheduled Council meeting, following the approval of the minutes from the previous meeting where the voting was conducted.

Article XI – DISSOLUTION

Section 1. **Proposal**

The National Pan-Hellenic Council shall be perpetual, and dissolution of the NPHC may be considered only after the Executive Committee has taken all possible steps to sustain the organization and seventy-five percent (75%) of the member organizations agree that dissolution is in their best interest.

Section 2. **Beneficiary**

In the event of dissolution, all proceeds must be donated to an organization approved by a majority of the Council member organizations, and all property must be donated to the Center for Fraternity and Sorority Development.

Article XI – ENABLING CLAUSE

Section 1.

This Constitution was reviewed and ratified by the Executive Board on March 31, 2022 at a regular body meeting

Section 2.

The entire membership and Executive Board are in agreement with this document.

Adopted: 4/9/2025