

CONSTITUTION OF THE _____ CHAPTER OF PI SIGMA ALPHA

ARTICLE I

Description and Purpose of the _____ Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha

SECTION 1. Pi Sigma Alpha is the national political science honor society with chapters established in colleges and universities of accredited and recognized standing that offer a prescribed minimum of work in political science.

SECTION 2. The _____ Chapter was established in 2006 and is the officially recognized chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha at Brigham Young University-Idaho. Its objectives are to strengthen the testimony of Jesus Christ within every member, promote a greater understanding by students of issues relevant to political science, to encourage scholarship, to promote unity among those studying political science, and to recognize students who have achieved academic excellence in the discipline. The Chapter functions as an integral part of the Department of Political Science, providing extracurricular activities related to the above objectives.

ARTICLE II

Membership

SECTION 1. There shall be three classes of membership in the _____ Chapter--Chapter, National and Faculty.

SECTION 2. Requirements for chapter membership shall be the following:

- a. Have an overall grade point average of at least 3.0;
- b. Have completed, or currently enrolled in at, least two social science courses;
- c. Pay the annual Chapter dues.

SECTION 3. Requirements for national membership shall be the following:

- a. Be an Chapter member in good standing of the _____ Chapter;
- b. Be a junior or a senior;
- c. Have completed, or be enrolled in, ten hours of political science credit with at least three of the hours at the 300 level or above;
- d. Have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0;
- e. Beginning with the commencement of the Winter 2008 Semester, each member must maintain a 3.3 GPA within political science; until that time, the minimum GPA within political science shall be 3.0;
- f. Pay the national dues as established by the national Pi Sigma Alpha office.

SECTION 4. A faculty member shall be any member--full-time, part-time or retired--of the Brigham Young University-Idaho Political Science Department faculty.

Dues

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SECTION 5. The annual dues for chapter membership in the _____ Chapter shall be established each Fall semester by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE III

_____ **Chapter Executive Committee**

SECTION 1. The _____ Chapter Executive Committee shall be the decision making organ of the Chapter and consist of the Chapter's officers and advisor. The officers shall be the president, treasurer, secretary and the following vice-presidents: publicity and event.

Appointment and Qualifications of officers

SECTION 2. The Officers of the _____ Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha shall be nominated on and voted by the national membership of the _____ Chapter. Election shall require a majority vote of those in attendance. In the event of a tie, the outgoing Executive Committee shall decide the winner by majority vote.

SECTION 3. The qualifications to hold office in the _____ Chapter shall be as follows:

- a. Be an outstanding representative of the Political Science Department and its students;
- b. Qualify for national membership as stated above;
- c. Be a full-time student during the upcoming school year (the off-track semester excluded);
- d. Be able to commit a minimum of five hours per week to Chapter business;
- e. Be able to attend the weekly executive committee meeting;
- f. Be a political science major or minor.

SECTION 4. The president is the official representative of the _____ Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha. His or her responsibilities are as follows:

- a. Schedule and conduct weekly executive committee meetings;
- b. With the treasurer, prepare and submit an annual budget to the _____ Chapter Advisor and the Executive Committee;
- c. With the treasurer, manage the budget and approve all expenditures;
- d. Represent the Chapter to the Political Science Department and other University organizations;
- e. Coordinate and oversee the various Chapter activities;

SECTION 5. The secretary of the _____ Chapter shall have the following responsibilities:

- a. Organize and conduct the annual writing contest;
- b. Edit and publish the Pi Sigma Alpha Review;

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- c. Maintain membership records;
- d. Maintain Chapter records and files;
- e. Maintain a history of the Chapter.

SECTION 6. The vice-president for publicity shall have the following responsibilities:

- a. Insure that all Chapter activities and announcements are well publicized in a timely and efficient manner;
- b. Maintain a calendar of upcoming events;
- c. Create and post flyers and posters;
- d. Write a regular (i.e. monthly) newsletter and memos to faculty;
- e. Submit announcements for publication in newspapers;
- f. Generate and maintain a mailing list of current Chapter members;
- g. Maintain the Pi Sigma Alpha website.

SECTION 7. The vice-president for events shall have the following responsibilities;

- a. Shall be responsible for the scheduling and coordinating of events outside meetings
- b. Shall be responsible for each semester's opening social
- c. Shall be responsible for closing socials when said events are approved by the Executive Committee.

SECTION 8. The treasurer shall have the following responsibilities;

- a. With the president, prepare and submit an annual budget to the _____ Chapter Advisor and the Executive Committee;
- b. With the president, manage the budget and approve all expenditures;
- c. Solicit funding from available sources (i.e. National Pi Sigma Alpha Office, colleges and departments at BYU-Idaho, etc.).

SECTION 9. Interim officers;

- a. Should an officer need to leave Rexburg during the course of their term for an extended period of time, an interim officer shall be appointed by a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee.
- b. In the event that the elected officer return to Rexburg during the course of their term, they shall be restored to their position and the interim officer shall be relieved of their duties with the consent of the Chapter Advisor.

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SECTION 10. Term Limits;

- a. No person shall serve more than one term in the same office.

Other Officers

SECTION 11. Offices other than the above may be created on an ad hoc basis as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee with consent of the Chapter advisor.

Committees

SECTION 12. The Executive Committee Officers may organize a committee to assist them with their specific responsibilities and may add sub-committees with the approval of the president.

Executive Committee Meetings

SECTION 13. Weekly meetings of the _____ Chapter Executive Committee shall be held at a time deemed appropriate by the president and Chapter advisor. All officers are expected to be in attendance.

Voting

SECTION 14. Questions arising requiring a vote of Executive Committee will be treated as follows: each vice-president, the secretary, and the treasurer will have one vote each, the president will have two votes, and the Chapter advisor or department chair will not vote unless they be equally divided, and shall have veto power. No vote shall be taken unless a quorum of at least three officers, including the president, be present.

Resignation, Dismissal, and Replacement of Officers

SECTION 15. Officers who feel they are unable to fulfill their responsibilities may resign by letter to the Chapter Adviser. Also, officers who fail to adequately carry out the requirements of their office may be dismissed by the Chapter Adviser from their responsibilities by written notice.

SECTION 16. Should an officer need to be removed for whatever reason, the Executive Committee shall appoint an interim officer to complete the rest of the term.

ARTICLE IV

Meetings

SECTION 1. The Executive Committee shall establish which meetings shall be open to participation by the general University community and which shall be for members only.

SECTION 2. The Chapter shall meet at least twice a month on a day designated by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V

Amendments

SECTION 1. This constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the Executive Committee and with the approval of the Chapter Advisor. To allow for student comment,

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all proposed amendments must be posted for a period of at least one week on the Pi Sigma Alpha web site and e-mailed to current chapter members.

ARTICLE VI

SECTION 1. This constitution shall be ratified by majority vote of the national members in attendance. A vote shall not be taken unless half plus one of the national membership is in attendance.