

Lambda Epsilon Chapter of Phi Mu Fraternity

Chapter Bylaws

Article I. Name

The name of this Chapter of Phi Mu Fraternity shall be Lambda Epsilon.

Article II. Purpose

The purpose of the Lambda Epsilon Chapter shall be to encourage and promote the purpose and ideals of Phi Mu Fraternity on this campus and to function by the rules in the Fraternity's National Constitution and Bylaws, Standing Rules and Procedures, and Federal and State Laws.

Article III. Officers, Duties, and Elections

Section 1. This chapter adheres to the National Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules and Procedures regarding the number, duties, election, and appointment of officers. The elective officers shall be:

1. President
2. Vice President of Chapter Development
3. Vice President of Committees
4. Secretary
5. Panhellenic Delegate
6. Provisional Member Director
7. Membership Director
8. Treasurer
9. Academic Excellence Chair
10. Panhellenic Delegate.

(Additional elected officers may be added upon necessity with the approval of Chapter Advisor and Area Officer.)

Section 2. There shall be the following appointed officers:

1. Chaplain
2. Panhellenic Delegate Alternate
3. Provisional Member Assistant(s) (in Spring semesters)
4. Director of Harm Reduction & Prevention (year-long position)
5. Assistant Membership Director(s) (year long position)
6. Doorkeepers (3)
7. Parliamentarian
8. House Manager (year-long position)
9. Historian
10. Apparel Chairman
11. Parent's Association Brunch Chairman
12. 14. Senior Experience Chairman
13. 15. The Faithful Fidel Chair
14. 16. Reference Assistant (year-long position)

15. 17. Alumnae Relations Chairman
16. 18. Internal Public Relations
17. 19. Chapter Development Assistant

Section 3. There shall be the following appointed Committee Chairs:

1. Public Relations/Web Developer
2. Social Internal
3. Social External
4. Ritual
5. Sisterhood Development
6. Philanthropy
7. Dance Marathon (year long position)
8. Greek Auction (year long position)
9. Reference Chair (year long position)

Section 4. The duties of the appointed committee chairs shall be as outlined in the National Constitution and Bylaws and the Standing Rules and Procedures.

Section 5. Election of Officers

Subsection A. The election of Chapter Officers shall be in accordance with the National Constitution and Bylaws and the Standing Rules and Procedures, and in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

Subsection B. No officer may serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office. Officers shall be elected for terms of one (1) calendar year or until their successors are elected. Elections will be held in November of the fall semester and installation of those newly elected officers will occur in at the last Formal Business Meeting of the fall semester.

Subsection C. The Executive Committee shall appoint a Nominating Committee at least one month prior to the election date. The Nominating Committee Chair can be any of the following seven individuals. The Nominating Committee shall consist of the following:

1. Two (2) Seniors
2. Two (2) Juniors
3. Two (2) Sophomores
4. One (1) member of the Executive Board

All members of the Nominating Committee must be collegiate members in good standing.

Subsection D. The Nominating Committee shall present the Chapter its slate at least 1 week prior to the election date. Nominations may be made from the floor, with the consent of the nominees, at the time of the election.

Section 6. Chapter Advisors and Appointed Advisors shall be selected by the chapter from local Phi Mu Alumnae and must be a member of an Alumnae Chapter.

Article IV. Committees

Section 1. The Executive Committee of this chapter shall be composed of the elective officers, as specified in *Standing Rules and Procedures* and listed in Article VIII, Section 3 of the *National Constitution and Bylaws*.

Section 2. The standing committees of this chapter shall be at least the following in accordance with those specified in the *National Constitution and Bylaws*.

1. Public Relations – to include Historian, Internal Public Relations
2. Social – to include Risk Management.
3. Ritual
4. Sisterhood Development – to include Chapter Development Assistant
5. Philanthropy
6. Executive
7. Discipline
8. Finance
9. Academic Excellence – to include Alumnae Relations

Section 3. The duties of the committees shall be in accordance with the *Standing Rules and Procedures* of the Fraternity.

Article V. Meetings

Section 1. One (1) meeting each month of the Lambda Epsilon Chapter shall be a Formal Business Meeting. Attendance by all active members is required.

Section 2. There shall be three (3) Chapter Development meetings monthly, where all members of the Lambda Epsilon Chapter are expected to attend. One (1) non-mandatory Chapter Development can be missed per month, without fine, in accordance with the Code of Standards of Lambda Epsilon.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called at any time by the President, after notice has been given to all members and the Chapter Advisor.

Section 4. Two thirds (2/3) of all initiated members in good standing shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business at all regular or special meetings.

Section 5. All rituals will be considered mandatory.

Article VI. Membership Selection

Section 1. Election to Membership. All members of this chapter shall be elected in accordance with the National Constitution and Bylaws and the Standing Rules and Procedures.

Section 2. Recruitment. Recruitment shall be conducted in accordance with Panhellenic Rules of Christopher Newport University, rules of the National Panhellenic Conference, and the National Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules and Procedures of Phi Mu Fraternity.

Section 3. Initiation. Chapter initiation shall adhere to the rules governing initiation in the National Constitution and Bylaws, Standing Rules and Procedures, and Ritual Manual of Phi Mu Fraternity.

Article VII. Dues, Fines, and Special Fees

Section 1. Dues. The dues for this chapter, of \$238 for the fall Semester (September – December) and \$238 for the spring semester (January – April), shall be paid by September 10 in the fall, and January 10 in the spring. Payment plans are not supported by Headquarters, therefore, they will not be granted.

Section 2. Annual National Fees. The National annual fees of this chapter shall be \$92 for the National Obligation Fee (paid by October 10), the Founder's Day Pennies (one penny for each year of the fraternity's age – paid by February 10), and \$10 for the technology fee (paid by January 10), National Panhellenic Fee \$1.15 (paid by February 10). Heart & Hand Donation \$1.00 (paid by March 10). Donation of \$18.52 to Phi Mu Foundation during March Madness. Unless otherwise noted, these fees shall be subject to Phi Mu Fraternity adjustments as necessary.

Section 3. One-Time National Fees. The one-time national fees of this chapter shall be \$45 for the Provisional Member Fee, \$140 for the Initiation Fee, and at least \$75 (plus state tax & shipping) for the Badge Fee. All of these fees shall be paid by provisional members prior to their initiation, excluding Housing Fee which will be paid in the fall. Additionally, the provisional members shall be responsible for the National Obligation fee during whichever semester in which they pledge. Unless otherwise noted, these fees shall be subject to Phi Mu Fraternity adjustments as necessary.

Section 4. Other Fees.

1. **Panhellenic Fee.** The Panhellenic Fee for this chapter shall be \$15 per initiated member and \$25 for new members.
2. **Parlor Fee.** The Parlor Fee will be \$80.00 annually per member..
3. **Social Fee.** The social fee will be \$40 semesterly per member.

Section 5. Fines. Fines will be donated to chapter philanthropy. The fines of the chapter for the absence from a meeting shall be:

1. \$30.00 for any ritual service (Ribboning, Phi Pinning, Initiation, Formal Business Meetings, 3D Ceremony, Founder's Day Ceremony, Elections)
2. \$10.00 for each Chapter Development meeting missed after the allotted one per month (this meeting must be non-mandatory).

3. \$20.00 for each recruitment event missed per day “not to exceed \$50 in one day.”
4. \$20.00 for each recruitment workshop
5. \$20.00 for each mandatory event that is not also a ritual or a recruitment event.
6. \$20.00 for each day missed during Sisterhood Retreat in the Fall.
7. \$20.00 for each mandatory event that is missed due to work because they did not plan accordingly unless under certain circumstances.
8. \$150.00 for Recruitment Retreat.
9. Fines are to be paid two (2) weeks after it is administered. If fines are not paid by this deadline, the sister will be taken to Discipline Committee if necessary.
10. If multiple events occur on the same day or during the same meeting (such as Formal Business and the 3D Ceremony) members can be fined for both events.

Section 6.. Appealing of Fines – Fines will be implemented on the Sunday following the event in question. Once the Treasurer notifies a member they have been fined, they must notify the President or Executive Committee (by emailing the account) within one (1) week that they will be appealing their fine. They must either email their appeal to the account or attend the following Executive Committee meeting to discuss their appeal with the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will then decide whether or not the fine is dismissed. Members who have been fined must complete the appeal process within two (2) weeks of being fined.

Section 7. Philanthropic Engagement: Each sister and-provisional member shall raise a suggested minimum amount donated by each sister and each provisional member to Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals and Phi Mu Foundation shall be:

1. Donation/Sponsorship of \$50 for Dance Marathon
2. Donation/Sponsorship of item(s) for Greek Auction

Section 8. Carnation Ball. Fee will be determined based on the circumstances and expenses of the event, and will be paid before the event.

Section 9. Tardies - After a chapter member accumulates three (3) unexcused tardies they will be fined \$20.00, pending the timely start of a meeting, and allowing a five (5) minute grace-period. This will be regulated by the Chapter Secretary and the Treasurer will be notified.

Section 10. Good Standing – In order to attend any Phi Mu events members must meet all financial obligations five (5) days prior to the event.

Article VIII. Chapter Obligations

Section 1. Scholarship Standard. In order to be initiated and to remain in good standing, each member must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75. The cumulative grade point average, when calculated in the fall semester, will include any grades earned in the previous summer sessions and the previous semester grade point average. Each member will be required to complete four (4) study hours each week.

Section 2. Executive Committee Eligibility - In order to be elected and serve on executive board Committee, each executive board member must maintain a minimum cumulative and previous semester grade point average of 2.85. Any exception requires approval from the

Chapter Advisor. To be eligible for office, a collegiate member must have and maintain a minimum cumulative semester grade point average of 2.85.

Section 3. Academic Probation - A member who earns a grade point average of below a 2.75 for any semester will be automatically referred to the Discipline Committee. Discipline Committee actions are at their discretion as outlined in the C&B, SRP, and Discipline Manual. Simply saying a member will be referred is more than sufficient.

Section 4. Standards. The Standards of conduct of this chapter shall be in accordance with the rules outlined in the National Standing Rules and Procedures and this chapter's Code of Standards.

Article IX. Delegates, Policies, and Traditions

Section 1. Phi Mu UIFI and National Convention – The Chapter President, Chapter Advisor and one (1) additional member of the chapter (to be chosen by the chapter if finances allow) will attend the Phi Mu UIFI and National Convention. Additional funding will be granted to one (1) other member of the Advisory Council as voted on by the Chapter.

Section 2. Awards. Awards shall be given each semester. The Public Relations Chair will determine the awards that will be presented. These awards will be voted on by the Chapter.

Section 3 Traditions. This chapter has established as its traditions: Bid Day Party, nominations and sponsoring of a Homecoming candidate, Bi-Annual Fundraiser for CMNH, a Phi Retreat, a Sisterhood Retreat, a Recruitment Retreat, Semi-formal, and Carnation Ball.

Section 4. Carnation Ball. In order to be invited to the Lambda Epsilon chapter's yearly Carnation Ball, initiated members must attend all initiation ceremonies that are scheduled during that school year. Exceptions to this rule: A written statement by a member will be given to the Executive Committee (no later than 48 hours before the initiation ceremony) to be reviewed. The Executive Committee has the right to grant, or not grant the exception. All members attending must be in good standing (have no outstanding balance, and meet the GPA requirements).

Section 6. Dress Code for Badge Attire. To be worn at Formal Business Meetings, Speakers, and other events mandated by the Executive Committee. The dress code for Formal Business Meetings consists of business appropriate pants or slacks, skirt or dress, and top. The entire shoulder must be covered. This means that the top needs to go to the edge of the shoulder. Dresses must be in good taste, sundresses are not appropriate. Dresses and skirts should be at least fingertip length. The skirt or pants should not consist of jean or khaki material. Pants must be tailored and professional. The skirt or dress shall extend past the fingertips once arms are placed on side. Sandals may be worn but no flip-flops, sneakers or tennis shoes, or boots. Leggings of any color are not appropriate badge attire.

Section 7. Dress Code for Initiation and Pinning. Appropriate dress is a white dress, white slip, and white shoes or sandals (not flip flops). Shoulders must be covered (this means covered to the tip of the shoulder.)

Section 8. Community Service Hours. Each member of the chapter shall complete four (4) community service hours each semester. These service hours shall not include anything that is a tradition or a mandatory event for Lambda Epsilon.

Section 9. Announcements. The Secretary will send out email updates every Sunday and Wednesday to the chapter. If a member wishes to send an announcement in the email it must be sent by the time established by the Secretary in order to be in the next email. All announcements must be sent through the account, not through your personal email. Announcements may be edited at the discretion of the Secretary. The chapter email account is to be used for chapter business only.

Article XI. Rules of Order

Section 1. These Chapter Bylaws may be amended by two-thirds vote of the voting members of this chapter in all parliamentary procedures in which they are applicable and in which they are in accordance with the National Constitution and Bylaws and these Bylaws.

Section 2. These Bylaws may be amended at any Formal Business Meeting of the chapter with at least one weeks notice given to the chapter.

Section 3. Any proceedings of the Formal Business Meetings are strictly confidential.

Article XII. Housing Lottery

Section 1. It is the responsibility of the chapter members to fill the chapter house.

Subsection A. If the house does not reach capacity by the date determined by Executive Board with the approval of the Chapter Advisor, then the chapter will resort to a housing lottery.

*Lottery comprised of upperclassman living on campus with the exception of Resident Assistants and those that require special housing for medical reasons.

Section 2. Room preference will be determined as follows:

1. Seniors who are elected officers (in order of election) and their roommate choice
2. Juniors who are elected officers (in order of election) and their roommate choice
3. House manager and her roommate choice
4. All other seniors by initiation date, then GPA and their roommate choice
5. All other juniors by initiation date, then GPA and their roommate choice
 - a. *Subsection A.* Senior and junior status are to be determined by graduation date and not age or year education began.

Section 3. There will be a housing lottery established to include every eligible upperclassman. Only members in good standing are permitted to enter the lottery.

Subsection A. Eligibility Requirements and Expectations

1. Member must be junior or senior status
2. Member must be in good standing
3. Members are not allowed to enter into an off campus-housing contract until the Phi Mu house has been filled.

Section 4. In the event that the house is not voluntarily filled, juniors will be pulled first by a random lottery, despite their living situation. Any exceptions to being entered into this lottery must be submitted in writing to the President seven days before the housing form is due and must be deemed excusable by her and the Executive Committee. If a lottery is needed, it will be implemented two days before the form is due. If a name is drawn from the lottery, that sister is expected to live in the house and is obligated to pay the Room & Board fees for that living space, as administered by the University. This lottery system is applicable only during housing sign-up time.

Section 5. Exceptions to being pulled into the house will be made for sisters who are on the Residence life staff, require special housing for medical reasons, and who live off campus.

Section 6. In the event that a vacancy in the house is created, the lottery will go into effect regardless of the time of year.

Article XIII. Housing Rules

Section 1. The House Manager will be in charge of enforcing all Housing Rules.

Section 2. All chapter members living in the house must sign the Room Housing Agreement, committing members to live in the house for the upcoming academic year.

Subsection A. Once a member has signed an agreement with Phi Mu Lambda Epsilon Chapter to live in the house, they must occupy the room; or find a replacement that is an active member of Phi Mu Lambda Epsilon Chapter.

Subsection B. The Phi Mu agreement is legally binding, in that breaking the contract the financial obligation remains solely the chapter member who signed the agreement.

Section 3. Laundry facilities will be used only by members residing in the house. House members must collectively decide upon the division of laundry days.

Section 4. Sisters conducting non-Phi Mu group meetings must notify the House Manager of the scheduled meeting or visit at least 24 hours in advance. If 24 hour notice is not given, the House Manager reserves the right to refuse the use of the Phi Mu house as a meeting space.

Section 5. Sisters must abide by Phi Mu National housing rules, CNU Residence Life Policies and Greek Village Resident Policies.

Section 6. Chapter Room. The chapter room may be used by female non-Phi Mu members, as long as a Phi Mu member is accompanying them during the entirety of their visit. The bedroom in the chapter room apartment may be entered only by Phi Mu members. All National Officers or

Consultants will have first priority in staying in the chapter room. Cleaning of the chapter room is to be completed by committees on a monthly rotating basis.

Section 7. Visitation. There will no overnight male visitors.

Article XIV. Social Network Rules

Section 1. One anonymous member of the Executive board shall be designated by the Executive Board as the Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram monitor named “Mary Martha.”

Section 2. Sisters must be “friends” with Mary Martha and allow Mary Martha to access all information on social networking sites that is available to the public.

Section 3. Any picture or other form of post deemed inappropriate shall be given the comment “M3” and should be removed (or “untagged” if a picture/post is posted by a member outside the chapter) immediately.

Subsection A. Inappropriate posts include any post with vulgar language or comments that do not uphold the ideals of Phi Mu fraternity.

Subsection B. Pictures of any Sister drinking alcohol that are under the age of 21 should be removed.

Subsection C. Sisters who are above the age of 21 should only have pictures of unlabeled alcoholic drinks and shall not be wearing letters.

Subsection D. Any Sister, intoxicated or sober, in pictures at a party setting should always represent Phi Mu fraternity as a lady. Pictures of Sisters in vulgar positions should be removed.

Subsection E. If a Sister would like to report a questionable photo or post to Mary Martha, she may message Mary Martha privately. It is up to the judgment of Mary Martha whether the photo or post be removed.

Section 4. If the post or picture is not removed within 48 hours, the Sister shall be referred to the Discipline Committee by a member of the Executive board.

Section 5. If a Sister receives a “M3” on a picture or post, the Sister may bring any appeals to the President within the 48 hours. The President will then bring the post or picture to the Discipline Committee for review.

Section 6. If the Discipline Committee agrees with Mary Martha, then the photo or post should be removed within 24 hours of their decision. If the Discipline Committee disagrees, then the photo or post may remain.