# Alternate Greek Council Constitution Updated May 2013

# **Article I: Name**

The name of this organization is the Alternate Greek Council at Christopher Newport University, located in Newport News, Virginia.

# **Article II: Purpose**

The Alternate Greek Council shall be a support organization to foster mutual collaboration, fellowship, and awareness of non-traditional Greek life.

# **Article III: Membership**

# **Section I: Obtaining Membership:**

- A. Membership in the Alternate Greek Council shall be open to student organizations that meet the following criteria:
  - 1. Recognized by the Office of Student Activities.
  - 2. Unaffiliated with other established Greek councils.
- B. In order to obtain membership with the Alternate Greek Council, an organization must successfully complete the following process:
  - 1. Submit Petition Packet which shall include: application form, the organization's Constitution, and contact information of the organization's Executive Board.
  - 2. The Alternate Greek Council shall vote on whether to extend probationary membership to the petitioning organization, which shall be won by a simple majority.
  - 3. Probationary membership in the Alternate Greek Council shall last for one semester. Probationary organizations shall have all of the rights and privileges of a full member except for voting privileges.
  - 4. The Alternate Greek Council shall vote on whether to extend full membership upon the completion of the probationary period, which shall be won by a simple majority.
    - a. If the Council votes against the extension of full membership, the organization will be welcome to reapply after one academic semester.

## **Section II: Active Membership:**

Active members of the Alternate Greek Council shall:

- A. Follow all University policies and Alternate Greek Council bylaws.
- B. Send representatives as defined in Article IV, Section III.

## **Article IV: Officers and Delegates**

## **Section I: Officers**

- A. Officers shall not have a vote.
- B. Officers shall not be officers of personal organization.

#### Section II: Offices

Offices of Alternate Greek Council shall be President, Vice President, and Secretary.

- A. President
  - 1. The President shall preside over meetings.

- 2. The President should delegate tasks to other members.
- B. Vice President:
  - 1. The Vice President, in the absence of the President, shall preside over meetings.
  - 2. The Vice President shall be responsible for overseeing and recording all monetary transactions.
- C. Secretary
  - 1. The Secretary shall record the minutes of meetings.
  - 2. The Secretary shall distribute the minutes to member organizations following a meeting within a week.

# **Section III: Delegates**

- A. There shall be two representatives from each organization. Each organization shall have two votes.
- B. Any delegate that falls out of good standing with the policies of the University and/or their organization must be immediately replaced.
- C. If a non-delegate causes an issue reflecting or pertaining to the Alternate Greek Council, the delegate of the respective organization shall present the issue to their organization to be dealt with internally.

# **Article V: Elections**

#### **Section I: Nominations**

- A. The selection of candidates for Executive Board shall include the following process:
  - 1. Candidates shall be nominated.
  - 2. Nominations shall be seconded by a delegate from an organization unaffiliated with the candidate or nominator.
  - Candidates can accept or decline nominations.
- B. Nominations shall be conducted by one Council advisor.

#### **Section II: Elections**

- A. Elections shall occur one week after nominations.
- B. Elections shall be conducted by one Council advisor.
- C. The selection of Officers shall include the following process:
  - 1. The candidates shall each give a speech that shall not exceed two minutes.
  - 2. Speeches will be followed by a question and answer period that shall not exceed ten minutes.
  - 3. Questions shall be followed by a period of discussion by voting Council members. Candidates shall not be present for discussion.
- D. Candidates must receive a majority of votes to be elected.
  - 1. If there are more than two candidates running and no candidate receives a majority of votes, the candidate with the least amount of votes will be removed from the ballot after each round of voting. This shall continue until there are two candidates remaining.
  - 2. If no candidate receives a majority of votes, voting will continue until a winning candidate is selected.
    - a. If no candidate receives a majority of votes after a second round of voting, there shall be an additional period of discussion.

b. If a tie cannot be broken after a third round of voting, the advisor conducting the election shall cast the tie-breaking vote.

# **Article VI: Meetings**

# **Section I: Meeting Structure**

- A. The Alternate Greek Council shall use a modified version of Robert's Rules that will include the following:
  - 1. Organization Updates/Reports
    - a. Organization updates and reports shall be given alphabetically by organization name.
  - 2. Old Business
  - 3. New Business
  - 4. Open Forum
- B. The Alternate Greek Council should meet at least once a month. Additional meetings shall be at the discretion of the members.
- C. Meetings shall be open to non-delegate members of active organizations.
  - 1. These members can participate in discussions but shall not have voting privileges.
  - 2. These members can be asked to leave at the discretion of the Council President.

# **Article VII: Policies**

- A. The organization will adhere to University policies and all local, state and federal laws.
- B. There shall be no hazing, as defined by University standards, within the Alternate Greek Council or within member organizations.
- C. There shall be no alcohol at any event sponsored by the Alternate Greek Council.

## **Article VIII: Violations**

- A. All violations shall be delivered in writing to the Council President.
- B. Executive board will hold a private meeting with the organization in question. If found to be a valid offense, it shall be brought up at the next meeting. Each organization in question shall be notified so they may go to the meeting and state their case.
- C. If an organization is in any threat of being removed, the organization shall be brought to the whole council for deliberation.
- D. Vote is held to remove organization with a 3/4ths majority required to pass.
- E. Any organization that is removed may re-apply after a full academic year provided there is a change in behavior at council's discretion.
- F. All absent or low severity organizations shall be put on standard probation to be used at discretion.

#### **Article IX: Amendments**

- A. Amendments shall be proposed to the Alternate Greek Council during regularly scheduled meetings.
- B. Proposed amendments shall be tabled until the following regularly scheduled meeting.

- C. During the tabled period, proposed amendments shall be presented by delegates to their respective organizations for consideration and approval.
- D. Open discussion shall follow each proposed amendment prior to voting.
- E. Two-thirds approval of the Alternate Greek Council is required to amend this Constitution.