

Chi Kappa Chapter
Phi Alpha Honor Society
Christopher Newport University

1 University Place, Newport News, VA 23606

Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society of Christopher Newport University

Preamble

Eager to promote a closer bond among students of social work and to enter into a more intimate fellowship with those dedicated to the promotion of humanitarian goals and ideals by a professional group for which quality educational preparation is deemed imperative, students and faculty involved in social work education resolve to sponsor the founding of a national society, thereby to foster high standards of education and to invite into membership those who have attained excellence of scholarship and distinction of achievement as students of social work.

CHAPTER 1

Officers of the Executive Committee

Section 1. The officers of the organization shall consist of a President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer to be elected by a majority vote of the membership.

Section 2. The President shall preside at meetings of the chapter; appoint such committees as many are provided for by the Chapter Constitution or By-Laws or by vote of the chapter; call special meetings of the chapter; be responsible for all Chapter reports; perform the duties of ritual chair at imitation ceremonies, and promote the welfare of the society and Chapter.

Section 3. The Vice-President shall perform all duties of the President in the latter's absence or disability and any other duties assigned by the President.

Section 4. The duties of secretary-Treasurer shall be as follows:

- a. To forward to the treasurer of the executive Council the following the national initiation fee for each student and faculty initiate prior to his or her acceptance into membership.
- b. Fulfill such additional duties as may be required by the Executive Committee or by the Chapter Constitution, the By-Laws, resolutions, the By-Laws, resolutions, or vote of the Chapter membership.

Section 5. A faculty member in the undergraduate or graduate social work program shall serve as the faculty advisor.

CHAPTER II

Organization and Procedures

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 2. The Chapter shall meet in the official sessions at least three times a semester.

Section 3. The President with the approval of the Executive Committee may appoint standing Committees.

Section 4. The President may appoint special Committees.

Section 5. The Chapter year shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30.

Section 6. The Chapter shall maintain adequate and accurate records of its membership activities and finances. Such records shall be kept in such a way as to serve as a permanent and historical record. All records must be saved and updated to a disk drive.

Section 7. Qualified persons may be inducted into membership twice a year. Once in the month of September and once in the month of February.

Section 8. Election of officers shall be held once a year and at other times when a vacancy occurs.

CHAPTER III

Membership

Phi Alpha shall not haze any prospective or current member for the purpose of admission into or affiliation with the organization. Members of Phi Alpha are free to leave or dissociate without fear of retribution or harassment. Phi Alpha shall not discriminate based on race, creed, color, sex, age, national origin, disability and sexual orientation.

Section 1. An undergraduate student is eligible for active membership after achieving the following national minimum requirements and meeting local Chapter requirements:

- a. Declared social work as a major.
- b. Achieved sophomore status
- c. Completed 9 semester hours of required social work courses.
- d. Achieved an overall grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- e. Achieved a 3.25 grade point average in required social work courses
- f. Local Chapters may establish higher eligibility requirements

Section 2. A graduate student is eligible for active membership after achieving:

- a. A minimum of one term of course work.

- b. A grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- c. Local Chapters may establish higher eligibility requirements.

Section 3. A faculty member may be granted membership by invitation of the Executive Committee and approval of the Chapter membership.

Section 4. The Executive Committee with the approval of the membership may grant honorary membership to maximum of two individuals per year who have made outstanding contributions to the field of social work. Honorary members shall not be assessed membership dues.

Section 5. The method of granting membership shall be in accordance with procedures established by the local chapter.

Section 6. Any member may be expelled from membership for reasons for academic, personal conduct unbecoming a student of social work, if a member does not complete the minimum requirement of three meetings a semester or at least one service project a semester. After the Executive Committee has made a thorough investigation, and the member so charged has been granted an impartial hearing before Executive Committee. Dismissal from the Social Work program or College/University is cause for automatic recommendation for expulsion.

CHAPTER IV

Dues

Section 1. The initiation fee shall be of sufficient amount to include the following:

- a. the initiation fee required by the National Society
- b. the initiation fee required by the local chapter

Section 2. Annual chapter dues shall be established in accordance with chapter needs by action of the Executive Committee and three-fourths vote of the chapter membership present.

Section 3. Special fees may be levied by the executive Committee with a three-fourths vote of the chapter membership present.

Chapter V

Advisor

Section 1. Dr. Abbie Kirkendall will be the advisor for the Phi Alpha Social Work Honors Society of Christopher Newport University.

Section 2. The advisor is to assist the members of Phi Alpha with creating ideas for projects and fundraisers, to aid in contacting members in the community, provide resources, and to be there to answer any questions that the members might have. The advisor is to attend two meetings per semester.

"The advisor shall work closely with the organization in coordinating activities to insure that they are conducted in compliance with Christopher Newport University policies and the laws of the United States of America, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the City of Newport News."

Section 3. The advisor is a volunteer position within the social work department, and must have a majority vote of the members of Phi Alpha.

Section 4. An advisor may be removed from the advisory position if the advisor displays professional behaviors that are unbecoming of a role model in the social work profession. The

President will speak privately and personally with the current advisor and discuss the issues. The executive board will then vote to decide if the advisor should be terminated from the position. It must be a three-fourths vote. If the behavior goes against Christopher Newport University policies, then the appropriate actions will be taken.

Chapter VI

Insignia

Section 1. The official logo of the Society shall be the Phi Alpha key which was approved by the National Honor Society committee.

Section 2. The key may be worn or displayed only by members of the Society.

Section 3. The colors of the society shall be blue and gold. Royal Blue and light gold prevail.

Section 4. Certificates of membership shall be issued to all members upon payment of required fees and shall be authenticated by the National Advisor and Secretary of the Executive Council and the President and Secretary of the local chapter.

CHAPTER VII

Responsibilities

"The organization will adhere to University policies and all local, state and federal laws."

CHAPTER VIII

Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the Executive Committee and upon ratification by a three-fourths vote of the membership.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT

Membership shall be available to all eligible persons without regard to age, gender, color, race, creed, ethnic or national origin, political or sexual orientation, or disability.

Revised 2009