

Name of Organization:

Section I: Psi Sigma chapter of Beta Beta Beta, Biological Honor Society of Christopher Newport University

Purpose:

Section I: The Purpose of Beta Beta Beta shall be to function as an honor and professional society for students of the biological sciences. Its activities shall be designed to stimulate interest, scholarly attainment, and investigation in the biological sciences, and to promote the dissemination of information and new interpretations among students of the life sciences.

Membership:

Section 1: Membership (regular) in this organization will be open to any student who can fulfill the following requirements:

- a) Undergraduate majors in biology, environmental science, or horticulture.
- b) Shall have completed at least 16 BIOL credits with a maximum of 8 credits at 100 level.

c) Shall be in good academic standing with a 3.1 Cumulative and 3.25 BIOL GPA. Only regular members may hold the constitutionally specified chapter offices, vote on chapter membership nominations, and represent the chapter or vote at national conventions.

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

Section 2: Categories of membership

The membership shall be divided into six classes: regular, associate, graduate, honorary, and alumna. Members shall be nominated to the various categories by a committee that includes both regular members and faculty. Election shall be by at least a majority vote of the regular members present at a regular meeting. A regular member of a chapter may be removed from chapter membership only for cause by a vote of 3/4 of the entire voting membership. Any such removal must be approved by the chapter advisor and is subject to appeal to the National Executive Committee.

1) Graduate members shall be graduate students currently enrolled in the MAT program. They may participate in the local activities of any chapter except for the holding of constitutionally specified chapter offices and voting on chapter membership. They may attend district or national conventions, and, upon special designation, represent their original chapter at a national convention. They shall not be eligible for undergraduate awards.

2) Associate members shall be those undergraduates whose interests include the life sciences in some significant way but who are ineligible for regular membership. Associate members shall be eligible to participate in all local, district, and national activities except those specifically reserved to regular members by this constitution.

3) Chapter honorary members may be elected by any chapter in recognition of significant accomplishment as biologists, or of outstanding service to the chapter.

4) Alumni member: Biology majors who have graduated from CNU may become alumni members of the new chapter. Alumni members will receive an individual subscription to BIOS. Regular members who have become inactive may become Alumni members with payment of the appropriate fee.

Meetings:

Section 1: The chapter shall have at least two chapter meetings per semester. The executive board reserves the right to call additional meetings as they see fit throughout the semester. Two thirds of the regular members of the chapter must be present in order to hold a formal meeting.

Section 2: The specific parliamentary procedure will follow Robert's Rules of order.

Section 3: Majority shall be defined as 50% of quorum (2/3 members) plus 1 vote.

Dues:

Section 1: There are currently no dues that are paid to the chapter each semester; however, we reserve the right to start charging dues in the future. The current chapter as a whole will decide and vote on whether to have and how much to charge if there is a need.

Initiation fees are paid to and are determined by the National Office for all members; regular, graduate, associate, associate member becoming a regular member, chapter/club honorary member, alumna/us member.

Section 2: If dues are to be collected then the treasurer will collect dues and create a budget which will be voted on by the current regular chapter members. The chapter advisor shall be in charge of the treasurer and oversee all financial procedures completed by the treasurer.

Elections of Officers:

Section 1: Officers shall be elected in April of the spring semester and will become active at the beginning of the fall semester; they shall have a 1-year term.

Section 2: Potential candidates (must be regular members in good standing) shall be slated to the floor for a position or can voluntarily run. A majority vote shall determine the winner.

Selection of Officers:

Section 1: The chapter shall elect a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and historian from among its regular members.

Section 2: Only regular members who are full-time students (12 semester hours) may serve as officers.

Section 3: The president will preside over all club meetings and activities. The vice president will be responsible for all chosen committees including public relations and event planning. The VP is also responsible for presiding over meetings in the absence of the president. The secretary will be responsible for role call, executive board minutes, and chapter meeting minutes. The treasurer will be responsible for all financial dealings including collection and regulation of potential dues and budget. The historian will be in charge of the chapter scrap book.

Section 4: An officer will be removed by a vote of 3/4 of the entire voting membership. Any such removal must be approved by the chapter advisor.

Advisor:

Section 1: The advisor for the Pi Sigma chapter shall be Dr. Harold Grau

Section 2: The chapter advisor shall assist and advise the chapter and especially its officers in carrying out the chapter programs and aid in developing new policies and programs that contribute to its local effectiveness. He shall serve as permanent custodian of chapter records and funds making sure that they are maintained in good order and that each successive group of chapter officers are informed as to their responsibilities. He may delegate custodial duties during the academic year but shall check and reclaim all records and funds at the close of each academic year.

Section 3: The advisor shall work closely with the organization in coordinating activities to insure that they are conducted in compliance with CNU policies and the laws of the United States of America, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the City of Newport News.

Section 4: The advisor shall be appointed by the current regular chapter members.

Section 5: An advisor shall be removed pending a majority vote by current members in

good standing. An advisor shall be removed if they fail to attend to their duties as listed in Section 2.

Committees:

Section 1: Executive Committee will consist of the President, Vice President, secretary, treasurer, and historian

Section 2: Public Relations will serve as a group of regular members that are responsible for flyers, posters, and emails about events Tri-Beta is holding as well as PR for recruitment

Section 3: Event Planning committee will plan and schedule all events, take care of guest speakers, food, decorations, etc. They are also responsible for planning field trips to visit other schools/ conventions.

The Vice President is responsible for overseeing both the public relations and event planning committees.

Responsibilities:

Section 1: The organization will adhere to University policies and all local, state, and federal laws.

Amendments:

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of regular members at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which an amendment is to be acted upon, the exact wording must be circulated to all members and the advisor.

Section 2. Proposed amendments may be submitted for consideration by any chapter member in good standing. Any revisions to the constitution and/or by-laws must be reviewed by the Office of Student Activities.

Ratification:

This constitution shall become effective upon ratification by a majority vote of the organization's membership and Office of Student Activities.