

The Constitution of the Phi Sigma Tau Alpha Chapter

Article I – Name

The name of this organization will be known as the Phi Sigma Tau (PST) Alpha Chapter of Christopher Newport University.

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of our organization will be to (a) serve as a means of awarding distinction to students having high scholarship and personal interest in philosophy, (b) to promote student interest in research and advanced study in the field, (c) to provide opportunities for the publication of student research papers of merit, (d) to encourage a professional spirit and friendship among those who have displayed marked ability in the field of philosophy, and (e) to popularize interest in philosophy among the general collegiate public.

Article III – Membership

Section I. Any student that is enrolled in Christopher Newport University who meets the requirements for recognition on the national level of the honor society may become an official member of Phi Sigma Tau. If the student does not meet all requirements but still displays motivating interest in the organization and the study of philosophy, they may be welcomed as Associate Members.

Section 2. The requirements for membership are as follows: (a) completion of one academic year at full-time status, (b) Completion of a minimum of three philosophy courses from the Department of Philosophy curriculum, (c) overall grade point average of 3.2, (d) grade point average of 3.0 must be accomplished in philosophy courses.

Section 3. Dues will be collected from the member only once upon national acceptance into the honor society. The price of dues is set at \$25.

Section 4. Phi Sigma Tau will not partake in any activities that resemble actions of hazing prospective or current members. Any member of Phi Sigma Tau that wishes to leave the organization is free to do so without fears of retribution or persecution. Phi Sigma Tau will not discriminate based on a prospective member's ethnicity, religious affiliations, sex, age, birthplace, disability, sexual orientation, or philosophical convictions.

Article IV – Executive Officers

The executive officers that will form the Executive Committee of Phi Sigma Tau will consist of a President, Vice President, and Secretary.

Article V – Duties of the Executive Committee

Section 1. The President will be in charge of executive meetings, members' meetings, and making the final decisions on any special activity. The President will also be responsible for the fiscal state of the organization.

Section 2. The Vice President will assist the President in any way needed to promote the organization and the leadership found within Phi Sigma Tau. The Vice President also has the ability to plan special activities.

Section 3. The Secretary will be responsible for maintaining a active membership list, recording the minutes and discussion of all held meetings, and report to the national level of the honor society to inform them of the Alpha Chapter's status.

Article VI – Meetings

Section 1. Regular meetings of Phi Sigma Tau will be determined by the collective opinion of the Executive board with heavy influence of the membership body.

Section 2. Meetings of specific nature can be called by any member of Phi Sigma Tau and be held as the schedule of each member permits.

Section 3. Forty percent of membership constitutes a quorum.

Article VII – Elections

Section 1. Elections will occur during the initiation ceremony held in the spring. As new members are accepted into the society, elections will be held to establish the leadership for the on coming academic year.

Section 2. Any member that meets the requirements of the honor society on the national level may be nominated and elected to an executive position. The member will be accepted as the acting executive officer pending on a majority vote.

Section 3. Any vacancy of a position can be filled by a qualified member via election and majority support.

Article VIII – Recall of Officers

An officer may be dismissed if they have failed in fulfilling their duties to the organization or has violated the CNU Honor Code. Recall of an officer must have a 3/4 vote.

Article IX – Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution can be proposed at any meeting time by any member of Phi Sigma Tau and admitted to the Constitution given a majority vote in support of the amendment. Amendments will be proposed at a meeting then voted on during the following meeting. If the amendment is crucial or overwhelmingly accepted, it will be voted on during the meeting of its proposal.

Article X – By-laws

By-laws consistent with the goals of Phi Sigma Tau and its Constitution can be adopted or altered by majority vote at any regular or special interest meeting. By-laws must be submitted two weeks prior to voting.

Article XI – Role of the Advisor

A CNU faculty member from the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies shall serve as the advisor. A faculty member from another department may serve as advisor if the position can not be filled by a member from the Philosophy and Religious Studies department. The advisor will provide support, counseling, guidance in all situation and help in relations with the national level of Phi Sigma Tau. The advisor does not have to attend all meetings, but is encouraged. The advisor will work closely with PST in coordinating activities to ensure that they are conducted in compliance with CNU, National Phi Sigma Tau, federal, state, and local laws and policies.

Article XII – Responsibilities

Phi Sigma Tau is responsible for adhering to the code of ethics established by University policies, especially the Honor Code, National Phi Sigma Tau, and all levels of American law. Each member is responsible for maintaining a positive role within the organization and work to fulfill their personal philosophical goals as well as the goals of our organization.

Article XIII – Ratification

This constitution shall be effective given the acceptance of the majority of the members of the Office of Student Activities.

Signed,

Date:_____