



Welcome to Virtual Convention 2021!

I am so excited that you will be part of Omega Phi Alpha's first Convention featuring online content and virtual connections with sisters from across the country. Although not physically in the same room together, our days will still be filled with learning and idea sharing, a little bit of business for voting delegates (it wouldn't be Convention without it), and opportunities to build online friendships and create memories.

As we have all navigated the realities of the past year, what has stood out to me has been the resilience of our sisterhood. National team members, chapter officers, and individual sisters have tried new approaches for meetings and service opportunities. We've come to recognize that while this year has been anything but traditional, it was still possible to hold true to our cardinal principles. Together we discovered that we can express friendship in different but meaningful ways, find the leader within ourselves, and continue to serve others while respecting social distancing.

Now we have the opportunity to carry that resilience and pioneering spirit forward. This year more than ever, Convention will be what WE make of it. So, show up ready to engage! Turn on your camera and converse with your sisters. Don't be afraid to ask questions and share ideas. Your active participation could be the spark that others need to set new, exciting plans in motion. For those who are voting delegates, recognize that conducting business over Zoom is likely to be a little complicated, and be prepared to show grace and understanding to others as we debate and vote on the issues of the day.

Of course, the Convention Rose Shop has always been THE place to purchase some OPA swag! With the debut of the online Rose Shop this year, you can now order what you need to represent OPA all year long. If you haven't ordered your Virtual Convention 2021 t-shirt yet, visit www.oparoseshop.com so that you can sport your OPA swag alongside other members as we join together for this year's virtual service project!

I am looking forward to our virtual time together!

In Sisterhood and Service,

Jan Titsworth
National President



Welcome to Virtual Convention 2021!

While we were unable to meet this year in person, the organization is excited to host Omega Phi Alpha's first virtual convention. Whether you are a delegate or a general attendee, I am so glad you are joining us this year. Although COVID has affected each of us in different ways, it has also opened the door for new opportunities for us as an organization to collaborate, learn, engage, and join in fellowship with one another no matter where we live and sometimes even do it on a more consistent basis.

For those of you who are delegates, congratulations on being selected to represent your chapter or region during this year's Omega Phi Alpha National Convention. We are so excited to kick off this year's convention with our keynote speaker, Bonny Shade. In addition, there will be opportunities to connect through a virtual service project, trivia hosted by the Alumnae Membership team, business meetings (It wouldn't be an OPA convention without some business, right?) and many other opportunities to connect with actives, alumnae, members of Operational Leadership Team and our current and incoming Board of Directors.

Enclosed you will find all the tools you need to navigate this year's virtual event. I encourage each of you, whether you are a delegate or a general attendee, to review this packet in its entirety. Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me directly via email- events@omegaphialpha.org.

In Sisterhood and Service,

Penny Guiles
National Events Director

ΩΦΑ

Convention 2021

SCHEDULE



Voting Delegates




Alumni Members




Active Members

Saturday, July 10


ET	CT	MT	PT	
12 pm	11 am	10 am	9 am	
<h3>Board of Directors Elections</h3> <p>This is a special session to open the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors, meet the candidates, and elect the new board. This session is required for voting delegates and a link to the meeting will be emailed to delegates.</p> <p>Best viewed on a device. Closed captioning will be enabled as Zoom allows.</p>				

Thursday, July 22

ET	CT	MT	PT	
7:30 pm	6:30 pm	5:30 pm	4:30 pm	
<h3>Opening Keynote Address</h3> <p>Convention 2021 kicks off Thursday, July 22 featuring keynote speaker Bonny Shade whose one major goal is CHANGE. THE. WORLD. Bonny works with all ages to solve life's problems, and she will share tangible strategies and skills to have vulnerable, meaningful conversations that will create long-lasting relationships and connections.</p> <p>Audio only participation available. Closed captioning will be enabled as Zoom allows.</p>				

Friday, July 23

ET	CT	MT	PT	
3:30 pm	2:30 pm	1:30 pm	12:30 pm	
<h3>Alumni Fellowship Hour</h3> <p>Join the Alumni Membership team for an hour of fellowship to meet new alumni and reconnect with those you already know. Convention is a special time to create memories with fellow alumni face-to-face, so in the absence of in-person connection opportunities we hope you will join us virtually!</p> <p>Audio only participation is available. Closed captioning will be enabled as Zoom allows.</p>				

ET	CT	MT	PT	
6 pm	5 pm	4 pm	3 pm	
<h3>Service Project - More Love Letters</h3> <p>The national events and cardinal principles team are excited to host all members for an interactive virtual service project. Mental health is very important, especially so in times of extended social distancing. That is why we've chosen a project that fits into our permanent project. During this 90-minute project, we will write letters for More Love Letters. All you will need is paper, an envelope and a stamp to complete this project.</p> <p>Best viewed on a device. Closed captioning will be enabled as Zoom allows. NOTE: This project is required for convention delegates.</p>				

Saturday, July 24

ET	CT	MT	PT
10 am	9 am	8 am	7 am

Alumni Coffee Connection

All alumni registered for convention are invited to join the alumni membership team for fellowship before the start of a busy day for voting delegates! This is a great opportunity to meet new alumni and reconnect with those you already know and may only see in person at convention or other national events. In the absence of in-person connection opportunities, we hope you will join us!

Audio only participation is available. Closed captioning will be enabled as Zoom allows.

ET	CT	MT	PT
10 am	9 am	8 am	7 am

Active Coffee Connection

All actives registered for convention are invited to join the collegiate membership team for fellowship before the start of a busy day for voting delegates! This is a great opportunity to meet other actives and reconnect with those you already know and may only see in person at convention or district summit. In the absence of in-person connection opportunities, we hope you will join us virtually!

Audio only participation will be available. Closed captioning will be enabled as Zoom allows.

ET	CT	MT	PT
11 am	10 am	9 am	8 am

State of the Sorority and Budget Proposal

Wondering what's going on with Omega Phi Alpha? Join the Operational Leadership Team as they present updates about the current state of the sorority. This is a great opportunity to learn more about current membership trends, expansions efforts, cardinal principles, events, and communications. The budget review will also be presented at this time.

This event is open for all members of the sorority and is best viewed on a device. This session is required for voting delegates.

ET	CT	MT	PT
12 pm	11 am	10 am	9 am

Business Session #1

All business sessions are only open to voting delegates in order to manage time and maintain order in a virtual format. Please attend the alumni legislation town hall or reach out to your active chapter delegates to discuss legislation. Links will be sent to delegates via email.

This session is best viewed on a device. Closed captioning will be available as Zoom allows.

ET	CT	MT	PT
1 pm	12 pm	11 am	10 am

Trivia

All members registered for convention are invited to join the Alumni Membership Team for a fun social event.

Best viewed on a device. Link TBD.

ET	CT	MT	PT
4 pm	3 pm	2 pm	1 pm

Business Session #2

All business sessions are only open to voting delegates in order to manage time and maintain order in a virtual format. Please attend the alumni legislation town hall or reach out to your active chapter delegates to discuss legislation. Link to join this session will be sent to all delegates via email.

This session is best viewed on a device. Closed captioning will be available as Zoom allows.

ET	CT	MT	PT
6 pm	5 pm	4 pm	3 pm

Presentation of National Awards

Saturday, July 24 (continued)

ET	CT	MT	PT
7 pm	6 pm	5 pm	4 pm

Fun with the Foundation

The Foundation Board of Directors invites all alumni to attend this mixer! Visit with your fellow alumni and learn more about the Omega Phi Alpha Foundation.

Audio only participation will be available.

Sunday, July 25

ET	CT	MT	PT
12 pm	11 am	10 am	9 am

Closing Session

Join us as we conclude Convention 2021 with a Leadership Program review, an important message from the Foundation, a special presentation by the Convention Team and the induction of our new executive board. We will also have messages from our outgoing National President Jan Titsworth and our new national president including the announcement of our next President's Project. Convention 2021 will close with our National Song/Chant.

NOTE: This session is required for voting delegates.

This session is best viewed on a device. Closed captioning will be enabled as Zoom allows.



Chapter List

Chapter	University	Location	Email
ACTIVE CHAPTERS			
Alpha	Bowling Green State University	Bowling Green, OH	alpha@omegaphialpha.org
Gamma	Eastern Michigan University	Ypsilanti, MI	gamma@omegaphialpha.org
Delta	Texas A&M University	College Station, TX	delta@omegaphialpha.org
Epsilon	TN Technological University	Cookeville, TN	epsilon@omegaphialpha.org
Mu	Middle TN State University	Murfreesboro, TN	mu@omegaphialpha.org
Nu	Georgia Tech	Atlanta, GA	nu@omegaphialpha.org
Rho	Western Kentucky University	Bowling Green, KY	rho@omegaphialpha.org
Tau	University of Texas - Austin	Austin, TX	tau@omegaphialpha.org
Phi	Arizona State University	Tempe, AZ	phi@omegaphialpha.org
Chi	University of South Carolina	Columbia, SC	chi@omegaphialpha.org
Omega	Rutgers University	New Brunswick, NJ	omega@omegaphialpha.org
Alpha Alpha	Northern Arizona University	Flagstaff, AZ	alpha.alpha@omegaphialpha.org
Alpha Gamma	Oklahoma State University	Stillwater, OK	alpha.gamma@omegaphialpha.org
Alpha Delta	Georgia Southern University	Statesboro, GA	alpha.delta@omegaphialpha.org
Alpha Theta	Pennsylvania State University	University Park, PA	alpha.theta@omegaphialpha.org
Alpha Zeta	Kennesaw State University	Kennesaw, GA	alpha.zeta@omegaphialpha.org
Alpha Iota	Notre Dame of Maryland University	Baltimore, MD	alpha.iota@omegaphialpha.org
Alpha Kappa	University of Kansas	Lawrence, KS	alpha.kappa@omegaphialpha.org
Alpha Lambda	North Carolina State University	Raleigh, NC	alpha.lambda@omegaphialpha.org
Alpha Mu	Boston University	Boston, MA	alpha.mu@omegaphialpha.org
Alpha Nu	Texas State University	San Marcos, TX	alpha.nu@omegaphialpha.org
Alpha Xi	University of Central Florida	Orlando, FL	alpha.xi@omegaphialpha.org
Alpha Omicron	University of Florida	Gainesville, FL	alpha.omicron@omegaphialpha.org

Alpha Pi	West Virginia University	Morgantown, VA	alpha.pi@omegaphialpha.org
Alpha Rho	Virginia Tech	Blacksburg, VA	alpha.rho@omegaphialpha.org
Alpha Sigma	Old Dominion University	Norfolk, VA	alpha.sigma@omegaphialpha.org
ALUMNAE CHAPTERS			
Omega Delta	Nashville, TN		omega.delta@omegaphialpha.org
Omega Iota	Phoenix, AZ		omega.iota@omegaphialpha.org
Omega Tau	Houston, TX		omega.tau@omegaphialpha.org
Kansas City Provisional	Kansas City, KS		kc_alumnae@omegaphialpha.org
Savannah Area Provisional	Savannah, GA		opasavannahalumchapter@gmail.com



Convention 2021 Attendees

Status	Name	Chapter	Email
ACTIVE DELEGATES			
Active Voting Delegate	Krystal Pricheet	Alpha	kpritch@bgsu.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Lauren Yazumbek	Alpha	lyazumb@bgsu.edu
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Active Voting Delegate	Josie Cenci	Gamma	jcenci1@emich.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Zoe Madrid	Delta	zoe.madrid95@tamu.edu
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Active Voting Delegate	Holly Wagner	Epsilon	hollybellwagner@gmail.com
Active Voting Delegate	Morgan Tate	Epsilon	morgan.tate2000@yahoo.com
Active Voting Delegate	Julia Beasley	Mu	Jeb9d@mtmail.mtsu.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Diana Villanueva	Mu	dv2q@mtmail.mtsu.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Emma Soetebier	Nu	esoetebier1@gatech.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Jessica Meredith	Nu	jessicameredith@gatech.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Adrianna Burchett	Rho	rho.secretary@omegaphialpha.org
Active Voting Delegate	Kendall Clemons	Rho	rho.president@omegaphialpha.org
Active Voting Delegate	Mythili Busulu	Tau	mythilibusulu@gmail.com
Active Voting Delegate	Mahita Yerramsetti	Tau	mahitay1@gmail.com
Active Voting Delegate	Hannah Bowman	Phi	hannahlee932@gmail.com
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Active Voting Delegate	Faith Osinloye	Chi	osinloye@email.sc.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Brianna Pendergraft	Chi	penderb@email.sc.edu
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Active Voting Delegate	Emily Kasten	Omega	e.kasten77@gmail.com
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Active Voting Delegate		Alpha Alpha	
Active Voting Delegate	Kylee Gish	Alpha Gamma	kylee.gish@okstate.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Jacqueline MacGregor	Alpha Gamma	jacquelinemacgregor18@gmail.com
Active Voting Delegate	Sarah Mcdonald	Alpha Delta	sarah.mcdonald018@gmail.com
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Active Voting Delegate	Candice Irby	Alpha Iota	candirby@gmail.com
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Active Voting Delegate	Carly Cook	Alpha Kappa	carlycook921@gmail.com
Active Voting Delegate	Emma Whitaker	Alpha Kappa	ehm.whit@gmail.com
Active Voting Delegate	Kaitlyn Shapiro	Alpha Lambda	president@ncsuopa.org
Active Voting Delegate	Katie Norton	Alpha Lambda	vicepresident@ncsuopa.org
Active Voting Delegate	Caroline Bohling	Alpha Mu	Bohlicm@bu.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Jodee Frias	Alpha Mu	jsfrias@bu.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Jaidyn White	Alpha Nu	Jaw347@txstate.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Shelby Hardin	Alpha Nu	srh214@txstate.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Rochelle Mindrum	Alpha Xi	rochellemindrum@gmail.com
Active Voting Delegate	Sam Garcia	Alpha Xi	samanthagarciaperez01@gmail.com
Active Voting Delegate	Caitlin Field	Alpha Omicron	caitrfield@gmail.com
Active Voting Delegate	Brooke Peck	Alpha Omicron	bp45201@gmail.com
Active Voting Delegate	Alexa Forbes	Alpha Pi	ahf0006@mix.wvu.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Laura Rabel	Alpha Pi	lr0046@mix.wvu.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Riley Meyers	Alpha Rho	rameyers00@vt.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Katherine Quiring	Alpha Rho	katherinequiring@vt.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Kelsey Simmons	Alpha Sigma	ksimmoo8@odu.edu
Active Voting Delegate	Tessy Loew	Alpha Sigma	tloew001@odu.edu

ALUMNAE DELEGATES

Alum Voting Delegate	Leann Williams	East	opaleann@gmail.com
Alum Voting Delegate	Meaghan Martin	East	meaghanmartin@gmail.com
Alum Voting Delegate	Megan Small	East	ms42256@georgiasouthern.edu
Alum Voting Delegate	Candace Gorczyca	East	Candace.gorczyca@gmail.com
Alum Voting Delegate	Juanita Haggard Wade	South	ophiagirl@yahoo.com
Alum Voting Delegate	Elizabeth Anderson	South	idgie33@hotmail.com
Alum Voting Delegate	Susie Larson	South	slarson1@bellsouth.net
Alum Voting Delegate	Nicki Kozub	South	Ophia726@gmail.com
Alum Voting Delegate	Corey Goodburn	Midwest	coreygoodburn@yahoo.com
Alum Voting Delegate	Marlene Dietrich Purdy	Midwest	maplap63@comcast.net
Alum Voting Delegate	Alyssa Miller	Midwest	amill155@emich.edu
Alum Voting Delegate	JJ Chen	Midwest	jaiwenc@gmail.com
Alum Voting Delegate	Pamela Mudd Conlan	West	PMC@pvconlan.com
Alum Voting Delegate	Katie Curry	West	Katieco820@gmail.com
Alum Voting Delegate	Allison Gerard Nguyen	West	allison.nguyen11@gmail.com
Alum Voting Delegate	Katie Gomez Garcia	West	katarina.m.garcia@gmail.com
Alum Voting Delegate	Kayla Fantz-Sands	At Large	kmf369@nau.edu
Alum Voting Delegate	Patti Ramey Light	At Large	Spikesra2002@yahoo.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

National President	Jan Titsworth	Delta	pres@omegaphialpha.org
VP Communications	Thea Moritz	Beta	vpcomm@omegaphialpha.org
VP Finance	Danica Hoose	Alpha Kappa	vpfinance@omegaphialpha.org
VP Programs	Andie Hixson	Epsilon	vpprograms@omegaphialpha.org

FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Kristen Brenner Sanders	Epsilon	kristen@rideatstar.org
Secretary and Treasurer	Cheryl Roberts	Beta	moosewatcher13@yahoo.com
Member	Suzy McTaggart	Gamma	ophiasuzy@gmail.com
Member	Christy Vermillion	Epsilon	ccmillion@comcast.net

OPERATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Managing Director	Alyssa Bernhardt	Alpha Zeta	managingdirector@omegaphialpha.org
National Events Director	Penny Guiles	Chi	events@omegaphialpha.org
Event Logistics Coordinator	Megan Sheppard	Alpha Iota	eventlogistics@omegaphialpha.org
Event Activities Coordinator	Crystal Genter	Alpha	eventactivities@omegaphialpha.org
Event Registration Coordinator	Melanie Avila	Alpha Xi	eventsreg@omegaphialpha.org
Alum Events Coordinator	EmmaLee Herlocher	Gamma	alumevents@omegaphialpha.org
Convention Parliamentarian	April Carroll	Mu	parliamentarian@omegaphialpha.org
Alumnae Membership Director	Jessica Toms	Phi	alumnae@omegaphialpha.org
Communications Director	Kasey Stevens	Phi	commdirector@omegaphialpha.org
Diversity and Inclusion Director	Esther Blue de Avalos	Phi	diversity@omegaphialpha.org
NSB Director	Rachael Pearson	Alpha Alpha	nsb@omegaphialpha.org
Chapter Success Coordinator	Melissa Stevko	Alpha Nu	melissastevkooo@gmail.com
Chapter Health Specialist	Stormy Scott	Alpha Alpha	chapterhealth@omegaphialpha.org
Chapter Health Specialist	Taylor Outler	Chi	chapterhealth@omegaphialpha.org

OTHER ATTENDEES

Alumna	Brittany Thornton	Alpha Kappa	bnthornton@me.com
Alumna	Veronica Wynn	Alpha Epsilon	veronica.wynn1@gmail.com
Alumna	Erica Patmon	Alpha Xi	ericapatmon@gmail.com
Active	Andrea Amavisca	Phi	aamavisc@asu.edu
Active	Cassandra Thompson	Alpha Iota	ct180877@gmail.com



Purpose and Goals

The purpose and goals of this sorority shall be to assemble its members in the fellowship of Omega Phi Alpha, to develop friendship, leadership, and cooperation by promoting service to the university community, to the community-at-large, to the members of the sorority, and to the nations of the world.



Service Project

Overview

[More Love Letters](#) is an international organization that has sent notes of positivity and encouragement to people in all 50 states and 50 countries. Those deserving of letters are nominated with friends or family explaining why they are deserving of an outpouring of support.

Project Details

The convention team has selected two people from More Love Letters to send letters to during the service project on Friday, July 23rd at 6pm ET/5pm CT/4pm MT/3pm PT.

Read the details below about each person and write a letter of encouragement to one or both of them. Your letters will be sent electronically to members of the convention team who will mail them in for you.

Logan

Logan is a kind and generous person who is celebrating her 20th birthday on August 1st! Her foster mom shared this with us:

“Logan is so much more than "just a foster kid," which many, many people just write her off as being just another number or statistic. She works two jobs, is about to move into her first apartment by herself, is a cat mom to two gorgeous little fur babies. Even though she has all these things going for her, she's run into bad luck. She has all these great things going for her and is still held back by those dark thoughts of depression, anxiety, and lack of motivation to continue. I fall into the category of "mom" where she thinks I'm supposed to say all the good things. She will need some encouragement from more than just me. She's doing a great job and she should know that there are more cheerleaders to help cheer her on. Please help me in celebrating Logan, her second decade on this Earth, and all of her achievements!”

Let's celebrate Logan!

Type up your letter to Logan, save as a pdf or word doc and email it to:
eventactivities@omegaphialpha.org

Gaby

Gaby is caught in the craziness of life. Her childhood best friend shares part of that story with us:

“In terms of her personality, Gaby is one of the most joyous people I happen to know. She always comes across as relaxed and carefree. She enjoys talking to other people and getting to know their lives. Her interests include experimenting with make-up on her YouTube channel and listening to and watching spooky stories. She also draws on Instagram and has recently started making food-themed earrings out of clay on Etsy. Gaby is someone who I consider my most trusted friend. She's the only close female friend I had growing up, and I credit her for helping me grow into a mature adult.

Despite her sunny personality, over the years of our friendship, I've learned that she struggles with loneliness. The pandemic has hit her hard emotionally, in that she's had less of an opportunity to see friends (including myself) in person, and her social circle physically moved farther and farther away to where she's located.

She recently quit her job because of feeling disrespected by her boss, and she's felt adrift in terms of her future for a while now. Since high school she has wanted to work in law enforcement but college has been a stressful experience for her, lately the biggest struggle has been her grades in a required mathematics course. She's still unsure as to what she really wants her major to be, feeling like she should have graduated already and is just playing catch-up with all of her friends.

Gaby is an intelligent and thoughtful person, though her lack of self-esteem has exacerbated in the past few years, making it harder for her to feel confident in her own abilities. Every time I see her, I get the sense that she's feeling more and more depressed, though she's not always open about it. What I think Gaby would like to hear most of all is from people who are willing to share about their lonely college experiences, who were unsure about life in their 20s, and most of all things they did in order to help them mend their anxiety and depression.”

Letters are welcome in English and Spanish.

Type up your letter to Gaby, save as a pdf or word doc and email it to:
eventlogistics@omegaphialpha.org



Virtual Technology Guide

This document provides information for the technology that will be used during virtual convention.

Zoom

Virtual convention events will be hosted on Zoom, a video conferencing platform, and all event links will be available on OPAPortal during registration. Zoom has been provided for use by the Omega Phi Alpha Foundation.

Each event during convention will have its own unique join link which you will use to access the event at the scheduled time. Some events will be held as Zoom meetings and others as Zoom webinars. Zoom meetings allow all participants to control their audio and video and be seen by all attendees. Zoom webinars limit the use of video to panelists and require permission from the host to unmute yourself. All of the business sessions will be held as webinars and will allow participants to raise their hands, ask questions, chat, and unmute when requested and acknowledged.

Once you select your sessions, you'll be able to keep track of what you are attending.

Joining the Events

You can join all events from a computer, tablet, or smartphone; and there are several events that you can join through audio-only by dialing in from a phone if you cannot access other devices. Take note that some workshops are best viewed from a device with a screen for the full experience. Please check the session details to see which workshops are open to audio-only participation. Closed captioning will be enabled on as many events as possible within Zoom.

After you log into the zoom, please set your display name on zoom to YOUR NAME/CHAPTER or REGION you're representing. To update your display name:

- Click participants at the bottom of the zoom window
- Hover your mouse over your name
- Click rename
- Update your name in the format above

If you need assistance doing this, please request help from the zoom host in the chat.

Additional Resources

We recognize that some members are very familiar with virtual meeting platforms while others may be totally unfamiliar. Learn about the software we will be using below.

[Written Zoom instructions](#)

[How to join a meeting](#)

[How to configure your audio and video settings](#)

[Zoom instructions for dialing in](#)

Zoom Instructions for Participants

Before a videoconference

1. You will need a computer, tablet, or smartphone with speakers or headphones. You will have the opportunity to check your audio immediately upon joining a meeting.
2. You will receive notice for a videoconference or conference call from your committee analyst. The notification will include a link to “Join via computer” as well as phone numbers for a conference call option. It will also include the 9-digit (usually) Meeting ID.

To join the videoconference

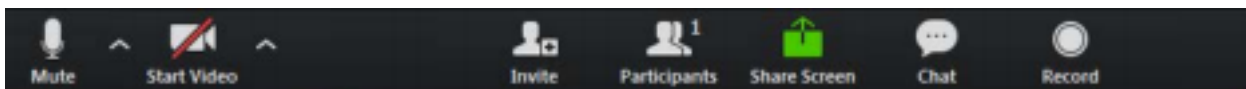
1. At the start time of your meeting, click on the link in your invitation to join via computer. You may be instructed to download the Zoom application.
2. You have an opportunity to test your audio at this point by clicking on “Test Computer Audio.” Once you are satisfied that your audio works, click on “Join audio by computer.”

You may also join a meeting without clicking on the invitation link by going to join.zoom.us on any browser and entering the Meeting ID provided by your committee analyst.

If you are having trouble hearing the meeting, you can join via telephone while remaining on the video conference:

1. On your phone, dial the teleconferencing number provided in your invitation. 2. Enter the Meeting ID number (also provided in your invitation) when prompted using your touch-tone (DTMF) keypad.
2. If you have already joined the meeting via computer, you will have the option to enter your 2- digit participant ID to be associated with your computer.

Participant controls in the lower left corner of the Zoom screen:



Using the icons in the lower left corner of the Zoom screen, you can:

- Mute/Unmute your microphone (far left)
- Turn on/off camera (“Start/Stop Video”)
- Invite other participants
- View Participant list – opens a pop-out screen that includes a “Raise Hand” icon that you may use to raise a virtual hand
- Change your screen name that is seen in the participant list and video window
- Share your screen

Somewhere on your Zoom screen you will also see a choice to toggle between “speaker” and “gallery” view.

- “Speaker view” shows the active speaker.
- “Gallery view” tiles all of the meeting participants.



Business Agenda

Call to Order

Roll Call

Purpose and Goals

Bless Our Sisters Forever

Rules of the Day

Approval of 2019 Convention Minutes

Old Business

- Chapter Statuses
- Financial Review

New Business

- Consent Agenda
 - Constitutional Revisions
 - Bylaws Revisions
- Discussion Agenda
 - Constitutional Revisions
 - Bylaws Revisions
- Substantive Proposals
- District Assignments 2021-2022
- Budget Approval
 - FY 2021-2022



Rules of the Day

1. Turn cell phones on do not disturb and refrain from using them while in business meetings.
2. After you log into the meeting, set your display name on zoom to YOUR NAME/CHAPTER or REGION you're representing.
3. Voting delegates, please message the parliamentarian when stepping away during a business session. (This affects voting.)
4. Debate on each motion is limited to 10 minutes, after which time we will proceed to a vote, unless there is a motion to extend the time limit for debate.
5. If the motion is debatable, the motion maker may speak first. Each other person may speak twice per motion.
6. Elections for the Board of Directors will be conducted by secret polling, unless otherwise moved. If there is only one candidate for a position, that person can be accepted by "acclamation." This requires that the person is acceptable and there are no negative votes.
7. A nominee's name will be added to the slate of candidates after they have accepted a nomination and provided a completed petition to the chair of the Nominating Committee, including answering all of the frequently asked questions and providing the required references.
8. Use the raise hand feature to be recognized. Once you are recognized, the host of the meeting will unmute you and you will be able to speak.
9. When speaking, state your name and the chapter or region you are representing then begin your discussion.
10. You can type "rose twirl" in the chat to indicate agreement, instead of taking time to just say you agree.



PREAMBLE

We the members of Omega Phi Alpha National Service Sorority, in order to secure for ourselves, the people of the nation and of the world, the rewards that come from the affiliation of members and to deliver a program of service to others, do hereby adopt and establish the following constitution and bylaws.

CONSTITUTION

Article I Name and Organization

- Section 1. The name of this organization is Omega Phi Alpha National Service Sorority.
- Section 2. The colors are dark blue, light blue, and golden yellow.
- Section 3. The sorority flower is the yellow rose.
- Section 4. The national publication is called the Chevron.

Article II Purpose and Goals

The purpose and goals of this sorority are to assemble its members in the fellowship of Omega Phi Alpha, to develop friendship, leadership, and cooperation by promoting service to the university community, to the community at large, to the members of the sorority, and to the nations of the world.

Article III National Policies

- Section 1. Alcohol and Illegal Drug Policy
 - Clause 1. Omega Phi Alpha complies with all federal, state, local, and university laws and regulations regarding the use, possession, and distribution of alcohol and illegal drugs.
 - Clause 2. It is a violation of this policy to use, possess, or distribute alcohol or illegal drugs of any kind at an OPA new member, or active event. OPA members and invited guests may not attend an OPA new member or active event if they are under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.

- A. An OPA new member or active event is defined as an event, project, meeting, or gathering that has been officially coordinated, sponsored, or promoted by a chapter, an active, new member, or colonist as a part of sorority activities.
- B. An OPA new member or active event is also defined as any outing, meeting, or gathering that is discussed or planned 1) at another OPA new member or active project, meeting, or gathering, or 2) through official means of active chapter communication, including but not limited to sorority email, email lists, or social media groups.
- C. When an OPA new member or active event ends, or an individual active, alumna, new member, or colonist leaves the event with the intent of not returning, attendees are subject to federal, state, local, and university laws and regulations.

Section 2. Alcohol may be consumed at OPA alumnae events in accordance with the guidelines published by the national organization.

Clause 1. An OPA alumnae event is defined as an event, project, meeting, or gathering that has been coordinated, sponsored, or promoted by the national organization, alumnae chapter, or an alumna as a part of sorority activities.

Clause 2. An OPA alumnae event is eligible for attendees to consume alcohol only if no OPA active member is in attendance, regardless of the active member's age.

Clause 3. OPA funds may not be used for the purchase of alcohol under any circumstances.

Clause 4. Alcohol at an OPA alumnae event must be served by a licensed, third-party vendor.

Clause 5. When an OPA alumnae event ends, or an individual active, alumna, new member, or colonist leaves the event with the intent of not returning, attendees are subject to federal, state, local, and university laws and regulations.

Clause 6. Alumnae members are prohibited to attend any OPA new member or active event following the consumption of alcohol, per Clause 2.

Section 3. Discrimination and Harassment Policy

Clause 1. Omega Phi Alpha complies with all federal, state, local, and university laws and regulations governing various forms of discrimination and harassment.

Clause 2. Omega Phi Alpha has a responsibility to maintain an environment for active and alumnae sisters, new members, and all interested parties that is free of discrimination and harassment. Harassment of any person in the form of verbal or physical conduct for any reason including, but not limited to race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, color, religion, national origin, or disability will not be condoned when such conduct:

- A. has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment;

- B. has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's performance; or

- C. otherwise adversely affects an individual's opportunities associated with the sorority.

Section 4. Hazing Policy

- Clause 1. Omega Phi Alpha complies with all federal, state, local, and university laws and regulations pertaining to hazing.
- Clause 2. “Hazing” means doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. No person may recklessly participate in the hazing of another.
- Clause 3. The negligence or consent of the plaintiff or any assumption of the risk by the plaintiff is not a defense to an action brought pursuant to this section.

Section 4. Policy Violations

- Clause 1. In the event there is a violation of sections 1–3, the active, alumna, new member, or colonist found in violation, or the chapter—if the event, meeting, or gathering is coordinated, sponsored, and promoted by the chapter—will be responsible for any and all damages and/or repercussions caused by such violation.
- Clause 2. In the event there is a violation of sections 1–3, neither the national organization of OPA nor the Board of Directors, individually or jointly, will be responsible for any damages caused by a violation of this policy by a chapter, active, alumna, new member, or colonist.
- Clause 3. In the event there is a violation of sections 1–3, collegiate chapters found in violation will be placed on suspension.
- Clause 4. In the event there is a violation of sections 1–3, actives, alumnae, new members, or colonists found in violation will be subject to the following steps:
 - A. Their names will be given to the National Standards Board.
 - B. For the first offense, actives, alumnae, new members, or colonists found in violation will be subject to a consequence set by the National Standards Board. Consequences may range from a fine to automatic disassociation, depending on the severity of the violation.
 - C. In the event there is a subsequent violation, actives or alumnae found in violation will be disassociated; new members or colonists found in violation will be dropped from the new member class or colonization process, respectively.

Article IV

Sister Membership Status

- Section 1. To be eligible for active membership, a student must be duly enrolled in the college or university in which the chapter is located.
 - Clause 1. Actives who have dual enrollment at multiple campus locations that include the charter location, as members can choose to be active only during the semester they are fully enrolled at the charter campus. For semesters during which members are required to be at satellite campuses, the member may make the decision whether to take an automatic LOA or remain active, if they can fulfill all the chapter requirements for active members.
- Section 2. Active members must be in compliance with all local university policies, rules, and regulations allowing members to participate and become members of campus organizations.

- Section 3. Active membership will be granted to those students who have completed the national new member requirements as prescribed by the national bylaws.
- Section 4. A new member is a student in the process of fulfilling requirements to become an active member. Until all requirements, both local and national, are fulfilled, the student would be considered a new member.
- Section 5. A colonist is a member of a group in the process of establishing a new active chapter.
- Section 6. An active member may be granted a one-semester leave of absence upon approval of the Chapter Standards Board. This status is meant to reflect a temporary condition that prohibits the active from fully participating in the sorority.
- Clause 1. An active member whose course of study removes them from the main campus will automatically be granted leave of absence status.
- Clause 2. The Chapter Standards Board may grant a member an emergency leave of absence for the remainder of the term at any point during the semester. This status does not relieve the member from financial obligations owed the chapter prior to the emergency leave of absence being granted.
- Clause 3. The local chapter will not place any requirements on any member who is on a leave of absence.
- Section 7. A disassociated member is one whose lifetime membership has been revoked at the local and national level.
- Clause 1. Members may be disassociated only for the following reasons:
- A. At the written request of the member via the voluntary disassociation form.
 - B. Failure to complete local and/or national service requirements.
 - C. Placement on disciplinary probation by the university.
 - D. Failure to attend the locally required number of chapter meetings and/or functions listed in the chapter's local constitution.
 - E. Violating national policies as stated in Article III of the national constitution.
- Clause 2. Members must be disassociated for the following reasons:
- A. Failure to meet national and/or local financial obligations for an entire school semester.
 - B. Being found guilty of an illegal act impacting the sorority.
- Clause 3. All disassociations for reasons in clauses 1 and 2 must follow the disassociation procedures.
- Clause 4. To disassociate an alumna member, a written request including the rationale for disassociation must be submitted to the National Standards Board chair. The National Standards Board must approve the disassociation by a three-fourths vote.

Clause 5. The National Standards Board chair will provide a written document with the National Standards Board's decision to all parties involved in the disassociation of an alumna, as well as the procedures for appealing the decision, within 30 days of the disassociation decision.

Clause 6. Disassociation as decided by the local chapter may be appealed one time in writing to the National Standards Board, within 90 days from the postmark date of the disassociation letter. A three-fourths affirmative vote of the National Standards Board is required to overturn any disassociation decision.

Section 8. Lifetime membership is granted upon completion of national and local new member/colonist requirements and payment of an activation fee as prescribed by three-fourths of the voting delegates at the national convention.

Clause 1. This activation fee is waived for the charter members of a chapter in recognition of the extra dedication required to start a new chapter.

Clause 2. Charter members are granted lifetime membership, with all its rights and privileges.

Clause 3. Any member who loses lifetime privileges as decided by the National Standards Board may be able to regain such privileges by submitting an appeal to the national President, per Article IV, Section 7, Clause 6.

Section 9. An active sister may declare alumna status automatically for the following reasons:

A. When no longer enrolled at the university where the member was active.

B. When a student in the final term prior to graduation.

C. As a student who has been an active member for at least four academic years.

D. Upon meeting a special condition listed in the alumnae membership procedures.

Clause 1. Sisters must notify their Chapter Standards Board in writing of their status declaration to remain in good standing.

Clause 2. Sisters not meeting the previously listed conditions may petition the National Standards Board chair for alumnae status, which requires approval of three-fourths of the National Standards Board. All petitions must be filed by September 15 for the fall semester and February 15 for the spring semester.

Clause 3. Any alumna who owes the sorority money or does not return sorority property will not be considered in good standing until those issues are resolved.

Section 10. Active chapters conduct recruitment events to attract new members at the collegiate level.

Clause 1. If a chapter deems it necessary to conduct selective recruitment, they must receive prior written approval from the Collegiate Membership Director and comply with the selective recruitment guidelines that will be provided in procedures. Selective recruitment is defined as a recruitment period in which some interested students attending recruitment are not invited to become new members.

Clause 2. Once an invitation to a new member is extended and accepted, Omega Phi Alpha does not deny membership on any basis other than the non-fulfillment of established requirements for membership and/or policy or rule violations.

Clause 3. Membership may include members and non-members of social fraternities, sororities, other Greek-letter organizations, and students enrolled in all departments of the college or university.

Section 11. Honorary members may be elected at the discretion of the sorority, national and/or local, but will not have voting power.

Section 12. Any Omega Phi Alpha lifetime member who transfers to, or enrolls in, a school where an Omega Phi Alpha chapter exists may gain membership into this chapter. To join this chapter, the member must have a favorable recommendation letter from the most prior chapter sent to the chapter at the new school.

Clause 1. This letter should include, but not be limited to, information regarding the following topics:

A. The sister's membership status when the prior school was left or graduated.

B. Any outstanding obligations or issues the sister has to the prior chapter.

Clause 2. This letter must be obtained in the following way:

A. The sister is responsible for requesting the letter and ensuring that the letter is received by the chapter.

B. The sister should request the letter early enough in the term so that the new chapter receives the letter no later than the fifth regular meeting of the term.

C. If the new chapter does not receive the letter from the prior chapter within 30 days of the written request, the sister should contact the Vice President of Membership.

D. After this letter is received by and presented to the chapter, the sister will be considered an active in that chapter.

Section 13. All members of Omega Phi Alpha, regardless of gender, are referred to as "sisters" and will respect the preferred pronouns of each member.

Article V

National Leadership Team

Section 1. Board of Directors. The Board of Directors consists of the following members: National President, Vice President of Programs, Vice President of Communications, Vice President of Lifetime Membership, and Vice President of Finance.

Section 2. Operational Leadership Team. The Operational Leadership Team consists of the following members: Chapter Operations Director, Cardinal Principles Director, Alumnae Membership Director, Expansions Director, Collegiate Membership Director, and other directors as appointed.

Section 3. All national and appointed officers must be members in good standing of Omega Phi Alpha.

Section 4. Officers. Officers' duties are prescribed in the national procedures.

Article VI Elections — National

- Section 1. Any active or alumna member of Omega Phi Alpha may run for a national office.
- Clause 1. Candidates for president must have served for one year as a member of the Board of Directors.
- Clause 2. All candidates for the Board of Director offices and Alumnae Membership Director must be alumnae.
- Clause 3. All candidates for national office must have been a member of the sorority for a period of one year after their activation or induction date.
- Section 2. Election of Board of Directors and Operational Leadership Team.
- Clause 1. Members of the Board of Directors are elected at the biennial national conventions held in the odd-numbered years.
- Clause 2. The elected members of the Operational Leadership Team include: the Chapter Support Director, the Cardinal Principles Director, the Alumnae Membership Director, the Collegiate Membership Director, and the Expansions Director. The slate for these officers will be presented at even-year District Summits. The officers will be elected according to the Summit Election Procedure for two-year terms.
- Clause 3. All remaining Operational Leadership Team members will be appointed in even years for two-year terms.
- Section 3. A member of the Board of Directors or the Operational Leadership Team may not be elected or appointed to the same office for more than two consecutive full terms.
- Section 4. Vacancies.
- Clause 1. The national President with the recommendations of the Board of Directors will fill vacancies on the Board of Directors and/or Operational Leadership Team. Any person appointed to elected offices will serve until the next scheduled election.
- Clause 2. In the case of a vacancy of the national President, the next officer in succession as per the order stated in Article V, Section 1 of the constitution should assume the position of interim president until the Board of Directors can elect a new president to serve until the next national convention.

Article VII Committees and Councils

- Section 1. National standing committees consist of: Nominating, Budget, Constitutional Revisions, Leadership Development (LEAD) Team, Chapter Assistance, Standards, and Financial Review.
- Section 2. National standing councils consist of: Alumnae Liaison, Membership, Presidents, and Service.
- Section 3. Special committees are appointed by the national President when it is deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.
- Section 4. Alumnae committee chairpersons and task forces may be appointed by the Alumnae Membership Director at their discretion.

- Section 5. Duties of these committees and councils are assigned by the Board of Directors or as outlined in the national bylaws.
- Section 6. The terms of these committees and councils will coincide and be limited to the terms of the appointing Board of Directors member.

Article VIII National Records

The national records are located at Alpha Chapter, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio. A time capsule was placed in the national office in 1992, which was opened at Convention 2017.

Article IX Finance

- Section 1. National dues, paid semiannually, are set by three-fourths of the voting delegates to national convention. The national dues are required of all active members and are nonrefundable.
- Section 2. National new member fees are one-half of the yearly dues for active members. The national new member fees are required of all new members and are nonrefundable.
- Section 3. An activation fee is set by three-fourths of the voting delegates at the national convention. The activation fee is a one-time fee required of all new members when they activate and may be refunded only if all local and national requirements are not met during recruitment.
- Section 4. The financial records are reviewed after the books are closed each year by the Financial Review Committee appointed by the national President. The books and records are subject to audit and/or review by a licensed public accountant who is not affiliated with OPA at any time deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.

Article X Meetings — National

- Section 1. Beginning in 2017, a biennial national convention will be held. The national convention is used to conduct national business. Voting members of the convention are active chapter delegates and alumnae delegates.
- Section 2. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors are held just prior to and just following each convention. The incoming and outgoing Board of Directors members meet at the end of the convention to organize ideas for the coming year. The national President determines the time and place of such meetings.
- Section 3. The national President will call a mid-year meeting each year to be held prior to the submission deadline for the constitutional revisions.
- Section 4. Special meetings may be called by the national President or by petition of three or more members of the Board of Directors.
- Section 5. All meetings of the Board of Directors or the Operational Leadership Team are considered open to any lifetime member of the national organization unless otherwise specified by the Board of Directors.

Section 6. The Board of Directors meets a minimum of three times a year.

Section 7. The National Board meets at the call of the national President.

Article XI National Voting

Section 1. All substantive proposals brought before the national convention are to be decided by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the ballots cast at the convention.

Section 2. Each active chapter in good standing present at the convention will have two votes. If a chapter has only one delegate present, that delegate has the power to cast the two votes. Any active chapter on conditional status will have only one vote.

Section 3. For every three possible votes at the convention, alumnae will have one vote. Alumnae votes are distributed among the alumnae delegates as described in the procedures. The number of alumnae votes is determined on January 1 each year.

Section 4. A majority vote is required to elect a national officer. Voting will be carried out in the established procedures adopted by the convention.

Section 5. To be considered an official voting delegate at national convention, delegates must:

A. Attend at least 75 percent of business meetings and

B. Attend at least 75 percent of workshops and council meetings and

C. Have paid in full all monies due to the convention coordinator no later than the start of the convention. Any exceptions to this policy may be reviewed and approved or denied by the Board of Directors, based on individual circumstances.

Article XII Chapter Constitutions and Bylaws

Section 1. Chapter constitutions and bylaws may not conflict with the national constitution and bylaws.

Section 2. Chapter constitutions and bylaws must be submitted to and approved by the legal counselor of the sorority before becoming effective.

Section 3. Chapter constitutions and bylaws must be filed with the administrator at the national office each year before the end of the spring school term.

Article XIII Chapters

Section 1. The national organization has the power to place its chapters on conditional status for one year at any time. The recommendation of the Board of Directors must be obtained to bring the conditional status issue to a vote and a three-fourths affirmative vote of the convention delegation is required to place the chapter on conditional status. A chapter may be placed on conditional status for any of the following reasons:

A. Failure to send a delegate to two consecutive national conventions.

- B. Failure to perform at least six service projects per year.
- C. Failure to submit a written report for a period of one year.
- D. Failure to pay national dues within 30 days of due date.
- E. Failure to attend at least one event planned as a District Summit per school year for two consecutive years.
- F. Any other reason(s) the Board of Directors deems necessary

Clause 1. The Chapter Support Director, in cooperation with the Chapter Success Coordinator and a representative from the chapter, will establish written guidelines for the chapter to follow for one year.

Clause 2. The status of the conditional chapter is reviewed by the Board of Directors at the end of one year.

Clause 3. Failure to correct deficient condition(s) or to comply with the purpose of Omega Phi Alpha will result in further action deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The national organization has the right to suspend any of its chapters upon three-fourths affirmative vote of the Board of Directors for any one or more of the following reasons:

- A. Violation of the national constitution, national bylaws, policies, or procedures.
- B. Violation of university rules, regulations, or policies.
- C. Violation of local, state, or federal laws.
- D. Having any kind of disciplinary action taken against the chapter by the university or any law enforcement body.
- E. Loss of university recognition.

Clause 1. The suspended chapter may appeal its suspension in written form to the national organization through the national President.

Sub-clause 1. The appeal will be reviewed by the Board of Directors at mid-year or national convention. A special meeting of a majority of the Board of Directors may be called by the national President to review the appeal.

Sub-clause 2. This meeting will be restricted to the Board of Directors, the national legal advisor or legal counsel, and a representative(s) of the suspended chapter.

Sub-clause 3. After review of the appeal, the entire Board of Directors will vote again on the suspension. A three-fourths affirmative vote is needed to overturn the suspension.

Sub-clause 4. A chapter may appeal only once per each suspension.

Clause 2. Chapter suspension will include the following:

Sub-clause 1. The Board of Directors will present to the chapter a plan for the chapter to follow for one year to best correct the problems at the chapter.

Sub-clause 2. The chapter is responsible for carrying out the plan provided and for contacting the national President, Chapter Success Coordinator, or other appointed national officer on a monthly basis to update the status of the chapter.

Sub-clause 3. If a problem involving legalities has occurred, the national legal advisor or counsel for the national organization will be asked to aid the chapter in whatever way possible.

Clause 3. Any suspended chapter that does not comply with the ruling set forth for it by the Board of Directors will have its charter revoked and the chapter will be dissolved. The dissolved chapter cannot recolonize on the previously affiliated campus for a minimum of five years.

Clause 4. A chapter placed on suspension will be deprived of all national voting rights and/or chapter privileges, as specified in the chapter plan until said action is lifted.

Clause 5. A suspended chapter will have a minimum of six months and a maximum of two years to comply with the rulings set forth by the Board of Directors. A three-fourths affirmative vote of the Board of Directors is needed to remove the suspension.

Section 3. An inactive chapter is one that has had no activity for two consecutive years. The charter of an inactive chapter will be declared null and void by the national President.

Section 4. A chapter that wishes to dissolve itself must contact the national President. The Board of Directors must approve by a majority vote that the dissolution is the best or only course of action. Files will be transferred to the national records office.

Section 5. A chapter that wishes to re-charter must meet all requirements for a new chapter.

Section 6. Active chapters must hold regular meetings at least twice a month as designated in their local constitutions.

Section 7. All chapters will elect the following local officers to serve on their Chapter Executive Board: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, membership director, and service director. Each active chapter will have an alumnae liaison whose executive board privileges are at the discretion of the chapter. Their suggested duties are prescribed in the national bylaws. Additional offices, chairs, and committees may be appointed and/or elected at the discretion of the local active chapter.

Section 8. If a vacancy occurs on the Chapter Executive Board, the chapter president may appoint an interim officer to fulfill the duties on a short-term basis. The chapter should hold an election to fill the remainder of the term no sooner than one week after the vacancy is announced.

Section 9. All chapters must have a Chapter Standards Board. The duties are outlined in the national bylaws.

Section 10. To attain alumnae chapter status, the alumnae group must petition the Alumnae Membership Director and complete a provisional period of at least two years. The petition must include the following information:

Sub-clause 1. Location of the group.

Sub-clause 2. Names and respective chapters of all members.

Sub-clause 3. Chapter goals and reasons for desiring chapter status.

Sub-clause 4. Names and addresses of all elected officers.

Sub-clause 5. A \$25 nonrefundable petition fee.

Article XIV Districts

The sorority is divided into districts using the national procedure.

- A. Each district holds a yearly District Summit.
- B. A district consists of no less than two chapters.
- C. Each district has Active District Officers (ADO) from each chapter in that district.
- D. Active chapter distribution will be reevaluated at least once every 10 years using the national procedure.

Article XV Regions

The sorority is divided into regions using the national procedure.

- A. Each region has at least one Regional Alumnae Activities Coordinator to be appointed by the national procedure.
- B. Alumnae membership will be reevaluated at least once every 10 years using the national procedure to ensure proper representation.

Article XVI Service

The chapters have a service program for all of their members. The service program is planned and carried out so that a reasonable balance is achieved among Omega Phi Alpha's four areas of service, which are:

- A. Service to the university community.
- B. Service to the community at large.
- C. Service to the members of the sorority.
- D. Service to the nations of the world.

Article XVII Impeachment

- Section 1. National officers may be impeached for misconduct or malfeasance in office. Charges must be submitted in writing to the members of the Board of Directors.
- Section 2. Charges are investigated by the Board of Directors. If two-thirds of the board deems these charges to be sufficient reason for impeachment, the officer will be removed.
- Section 3. An appeal of the action of the Board of Directors may be made at the next biennial national convention.

Article XVIII

Method of Amending

- Section 1. Amendments to the national constitution must be submitted in writing to the chair of the Constitutional Revisions Committee on or before February 15 prior to the national convention, so that the chair of the Constitutional Revisions Committee can distribute copies to each chapter on or before March 15 for discussion before the conclusion of the academic year. The chair of the Constitutional Revisions Committee is appointed by the national President.
- Section 2. Amendments to the national constitution require an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the ballots cast. All revisions to the national constitution take effect upon the final adjournment of that convention.
- Section 3. Amendments to the bylaws may be proposed at the national convention and voted on at a national business meeting allowing time for a discussion of said amendments.

Article XX

Dissolution of the Sorority

No member, officer, or employee of this sorority, or any private individual, will receive at any time any of the net earning or pecuniary profit from the operations of the sorority, provided that this does not prevent payment to any person as such reasonable compensation for service rendered to or for the sorority in affecting any of the purposes for which this sorority is formed; and no such person will be entitled to share in the distributions of the sorority's assets upon the dissolution of the sorority. All members of the sorority will be deemed to have expressly consented and agreed that, upon the dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the sorority, the assets of the sorority, after all debts have been satisfied will be distributed, conveyed, delivered, and paid over, in such amounts as the Board of Directors may determine, exclusively to charitable, religious, scientific, literary, or educational organizations that qualify under the provision of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and its regulations as they now exist or as they may hereafter be amended.

BYLAWS OF OMEGA PHI ALPHA

Article I

The bylaws of this sorority supplement the national constitution and may not conflict with it.

Article II Principles, Motto, and Mission

- Section 1. The three cardinal principles are friendship, leadership, and service.
- Section 2. The national motto is “Today’s Friends, Tomorrow’s Leaders, Forever in Service.”
- Section 3. The mission of Omega Phi Alpha is to provide service to the university community, to the community at large, to the members of the sorority, and to the nations of the world; and to promote friendship, leadership, and service.
- Section 4. The vision of Omega Phi Alpha is to be an inclusive and diverse provider of lifelong, service-oriented leadership development through a community of dedicated sisters. The sorority will strive to better the lives of others worldwide by collaborating with organizations and by volunteering through a flexible service program.
- Section 5. The core values that guide Omega Phi Alpha are service, leadership, diversity/inclusiveness, sisterhood, education, and tradition.

Article III Sister Membership Status

- Section 1. Active members have the power to vote, decide chapter questions, to be delegates to the national convention, to wear the letters, to hold local, regional, or national office, to have a little sister, and to participate in chapter functions, both service and social.
- Section 2. Any active member not adhering to the standards of Omega Phi Alpha is to be brought before the chapter’s executive board for review. If the board feels the reasons given warrant investigation, then it will take place at a called meeting of the Chapter Standards Board.
- Section 3. A member on leave of absence has the right to attend social and service functions, participate in meetings, wear the letters, and receive the Chevron. Said member cannot vote on sorority issues, hold local, regional, or national office, serve as a convention delegate, or have a little sister. Said member does not pay national dues and is not included in chapter-level awards programs.
 - Clause 1. A member must petition the Chapter Standards Board for leave of absence status.
 - Clause 2. A member with special circumstances, who cannot complete the first active term immediately after activation, may petition the National Standards Board for a leave of absence.
 - Clause 3. A member may have up to two chapter granted leave of absence terms. After two leave of absence terms, a sister must petition the National Standards Board by contacting the National Standards Board chair for any additional leave of absence terms. All petitions must be filed by September 15 for the fall semester and February 15 for the spring semester.

Clause 4. After serving at least one active term, if a member wishes to have leave of absence status, said member must petition the chapter standards board.

Clause 5. A leave of absence may not be granted for longer than two academic terms at a time. In the case of a yearlong school-related absence, a member may petition the National Standards Board for alumna status by contacting the National Standards Board chair.

Clause 6. The Chapter Standards Board has the right to revoke a member's leave of absence status if the reason a sister requested the leave of absence is found to be false or if the original reason has changed.

Sub-clause 1. This must be done before the Membership Status Report Form is due. If the leave of absence was granted at the end of the previous term, a decision must be made by the second meeting of the current school term.

Sub-clause 2. This decision must have a unanimous vote from the Chapter Standards Board.

Sub-clause 3. A Chapter Standards Board cannot revoke a member's emergency leave of absence.

Section 4. A disassociated member has no rights as a member in the sorority. Their lifetime membership has been permanently revoked.

Section 5. An alumna member has the right to attend the national convention, serve as an alumna delegate, wear the letters, hold district or national office, and receive the Chevron.

Section 6. Honorary members have the following rights:

1. They are allowed to any open meetings when invited by the national President or chapter president.
2. They may attend convention functions but are not permitted in business meetings unless invited by the national President.
3. They may receive a copy of the Chevron.

Section 9. A chapter may not recognize any membership status other than those outlined in the national constitution and bylaws.

Section 10. Any member who attained alumna status because of leaving the university of active membership may petition the Chapter Standards Board for return to active membership status upon re-enrollment at that university. If said member enrolls at another university where there is an active chapter, membership may be attained by following the guidelines in Article IV, Section 12 of the national constitution.

Article IV

Duties — National Officers

Section 1. Duties of all officers: All elected and appointed officers of Omega Phi Alpha have a responsibility to perform all duties, as described in their position descriptions in the Member Resource Center, to the best of their abilities, and to obey and uphold the constitution and principles of Omega Phi Alpha.

Section 2. Officer transition:

Clause 1. Officers elected at the national convention take office at the conclusion of the convention at which they are elected.

Clause 2. Officers appointed take office upon appointment.

Clause 3. Officers elected in District Summits take office by July 1 following the District Summit cycle in which they were elected.

Section 3. Board of Directors may not serve in more than one Board of Director role concurrently, but other officers of the national team may serve in more than one role concurrently.

Article V

National Committees and Councils

Section 1. The President's Council consists of the Chapter Operations Director, Chapter Success Coordinators, and all chapter presidents. Council members will seek to provide open channels of communication and understanding. It is the duty of all council members to respond promptly to communications received, to remain objective, to provide constructive criticism, to attend or send a representative to the national convention or any special meetings, to keep national objectives and goals in mind, and to represent their members as a whole while serving as members of this council.

Section 2. The Service Council is chaired by the Cardinal Principles Director and Service Program Coordinator, and includes at least one service director from each chapter. Its members' duties include assisting all local service officers in the coordinating of projects and providing ideas for service projects. It is the duty of all council members to respond promptly to communications received, to remain objective, to provide constructive criticism, to attend or send a representative to convention or any other special meetings, to keep national objectives and goals in mind, and to represent their chapter while serving as members of the council.

Section 3. The Constitutional Revisions Committee is chaired by a sister appointed by the national President. This officer is named before December 1 to serve from that time until the end of the next national convention. The committee consists of the chair and members of the national team. This committee reviews all amendments and forwards them to the national convention. It has the power to screen duplicate amendments before presentation and informs the convention of said screening.

Section 4. The Nominating Committee is chaired by a former national officer and is comprised of former Board of Directors officers. This committee meets before elections of officers at each convention and reviews all petitions. They recommend a slate of candidates consisting of no more than two or three for each office.

Section 5. The Budget Committee consists of the Board of Directors and is chaired by the Vice President of Finance. It is the duty of the committee to propose an annual operating budget for the approval of the convention delegation.

Section 6. The Alumnae Liaison Council is chaired by the Alumnae Membership Director and consists of the alumnae liaison of each chapter and the president of each alumnae chapter. Members serve as a liaison between the alumnae and the local chapters. They assist with chapter growth, maintain alumnae rosters according to the national procedure, and work together to establish relationships between alumnae and active sisters.

Section 7. The Membership Council is chaired by the Collegiate Membership Director and is composed of a new member educator from each chapter. Its purpose is to assist the Chapter Operations Director

in keeping active membership to 10 or higher and to assist in maintaining membership and pledging guidelines.

- Section 8. The Chapter Assistance Committee is chaired by the Chapter Support Director and consists of all Chapter Success Coordinators, all Chapter Alumnae Advisors, and any other persons appointed by the Chapter Support Director. The committee chairperson may call upon any active to serve on the committee as deemed necessary. The committee's purpose is to assist chapters exhibiting distress signals before they reach the point of conditional status and to assist chapters that are on conditional status.
- Section 9. The Leadership Development (LEAD) team is chaired by the Cardinal Principles Director and consists of alumnae and actives appointed by the chair and Vice President of Programs. These members will serve as coordinators and facilitators of the national Leadership Program. The team will organize, develop, coordinate, and distribute all materials relating to the national Leadership Program.
- Section 10. The Financial Review Committee is chaired by a former national officer and consists of two other Board of Directors members. Other members may be appointed at the discretion of the national President. Each year, after the books are closed, this committee will review the sorority's financial records. This review will include (but not be limited to): confirmation of all assets held by the sorority, review of financial statements, review of sample of transactions, and review of tax return.
- Section 11. The National Standards Board is appointed by the Vice President of Lifetime Membership and consists of a National Standards Board chair, and National Standards Board members that will be defined in procedures. It is the duty of this committee to ensure that the standards of Omega Phi Alpha are being upheld by all members, in the fashion that Chapter Standards Boards do. National Standards Board members are responsible for making decisions on the national level regarding disassociations and statuses of members and providing training materials to Chapters Standards Boards.

Article VI Initiatives

- Section 1. The week beginning with the first Sunday of November is Omega Phi Alpha National Service Week.
- Section 2. The national Permanent Project is mental health. Each chapter should complete two projects per year to further the cause of mental health.
- Section 3. Every national President will declare a national President's Project each year. Each chapter should hold two projects per year for the cause named as the President's Project. The project will be named yearly.
- Section 4. The first full week of October will be designated National Insignia Week to recognize and publicize the organization. All members are encouraged to participate by wearing sorority insignia during the week.
- Section 5. To promote sisterhood, unity, and awareness of Omega Phi Alpha on campuses, the first Monday of every month will be declared National Pin Day. Members from every chapter are encouraged to wear business casual clothing along with their active pin or new member pin when they are on campus.
- Section 6. The fourth Monday of January every year will be designated Susan Terzian Day. Active and alumnae members are encouraged to wear business casual clothing along with their active pin that day in honor of Susan Terzian.

- Section 7. To celebrate the expansion of Omega Phi Alpha, sisters are encouraged to dress in ceremony attire (all black and active pin) on the day that a new colony is inducted as a chapter.
- Section 8. The sorority encourages sisters to support the sorority's mission and vision through contributions to the Giving Program.
- Section 9. The sorority encourages families and friends of sisters to honor the sorority's mission and vision through contributions and support.

Article VII Service

- Section 1. Each chapter promotes service by doing at least six chapter service projects during each term.
- Clause 1. One project should represent service to the university community.
- Clause 2. One project should represent service to the community at large.
- Clause 3. One project should represent service to the members of the sorority.
- Clause 4. One project should represent service to the nations of the world.
- Clause 5. One project should represent service to the national Permanent Project, mental health.
- Clause 6. One project should represent service to the President's Project. The project will be named yearly by the national President.
- Clause 7. Chapter projects are defined as those that have at least 60 percent participation of the active chapter.
- Section 2. All active sisters should complete a minimum of 10 service hours during each term.
- Clause 1. All 10 of these hours must be completed through participation in chapter-planned projects. Hours completed through individual participation in service projects outside of the chapter will not be counted toward meeting the minimum requirement.
- Section 3. All active chapters must complete a service project report form to be submitted to the national office twice each year. This form should contain the total number of chapter project hours as well as the project hours for each sister.

Article VIII Chapter Management

- Section 1. Every chapter must adhere to the following national rules regarding new membership:
- Clause 1. Each new member must be in good standing with the university.
- Clause 2. There will be a pinning ceremony for new member induction and activation. The local chapter will determine when new members should wear their pins.
- Clause 3. New member pins or ribbons are to be worn above the heart on all suitable attire as determined by the local chapter. New members should not wear their pins in any situations that conflict with the national drug and alcohol policy. Disciplinary actions are not to be taken by local chapters in consequence to new member pins and their wear.

- Clause 4. Every new member is required to have a new member book that includes national new member material. The local chapters will decide when they should carry it and how it is made.
- Clause 5. Each chapter must make a mid-year recruitment check and report the progress of each new member. New members should have one-half of their local requirements completed at this time and reminders of deficiencies should be made. After review of each new member has occurred, each new member will be voted on individually and must have an affirmative two-thirds vote of the active chapter members present in order to continue.
- Clause 6. New members must attend at least one active meeting per new member period as designated by the chapter in order to provide better relationships between actives and new members.
- Clause 7. Upon activation, the new member class will present a gift to their chapter.
- Clause 8. Each new member class will select an outstanding new member who will be recognized as established by the local chapter.
- Clause 9. Any new member not adhering to the standards of Omega Phi Alpha is to be brought before all available members of the chapter's executive board for review. If the board feels the reasons given warrant investigation, then it should take place at the next active meeting.
- A. All meetings, reviews, and/or investigations should be well documented.
 - B. This documented information should include written confirmation that any new member in question was made aware of her infractions and their consequences.
 - C. Signatures of the chapter president, membership officer, and new member should be included in the documentation.
 - D. If new members have been duly notified and choose not to attend or provide an alternate time for said meeting, notation of this should be included in the documentation and signed by the chapter president and membership officer.
- Clause 10. A new member will be dropped from the recruitment process if attendance is not in accordance with local regulations. An excuse in writing should be given to the new member educator or other stipulated person for any meeting missed.
- Clause 11. The new member class should be voted in individually by three-fourths affirmative vote of all active members before activation. If there are any negative votes, there will be a discussion of the individual in question and a revote taken. Lack of service project completion, an infraction of the local or national new member rules, failure to pass national new member test, failure to complete local requirements, nonpayment of dues or monetary obligations will result in a negative vote.
- Clause 12. New member activation outfits are to be all white with no jewelry worn except the new member pins.
- Clause 13. At least one big sister/little sister function is to take place before the end of the recruitment period. To qualify as a function for credit, the function must be attended by at least 75 percent of the big sisters and 75 percent of the little sisters.
- Clause 14. At least one new member/active function is to take place before the end of the new membership period. To qualify as a function for credit, the function must be attended by at least 75 percent of the new member class and half of the active chapter.

- Clause 15. Each new member class is required to participate in a new member-planned project in each of the following areas of service: university community, community at large, members of the sorority, and nations of the world. In order for each project to count, 75 percent of the new member class is required.
- Clause 16. Each new member must individually participate in 75 percent of the new member class required projects.
- Clause 17. Each new member class is encouraged to participate in one active planned President's Project and one active-planned Permanent Project.
- Clause 18. Each new member class is required to plan and carry out a fundraising project to raise money for their activities. At least 75 percent of the entire new member class must participate.
- Clause 19. All new members must complete their local and national requirements.
- Clause 20. All new members are required to take and pass the national new member test with a score of 85 percent.
- Clause 21. A new member may retake one section of the national new member test in order to improve their score. If retaking the one section does not improve the score to an 85 percent or higher, they will be dropped from the new membership.
- Clause 22. All new members must pay a new member fee and an activation fee as determined by the local and national organization.

Section 2. Duties of local officers: It is the duty of the local elected officers to each Omega Phi Alpha chapter to perform all duties to the best of their abilities, to obey and uphold the local and national constitution, bylaws, and the principles of Omega Phi Alpha.

- Clause 1. The local chapter president will preside at chapter meetings, represent the chapter in sorority-related functions, and be aware of all committee and officer business.
- Clause 2. The local vice president presides at chapter meetings in the absence of the local president, be at the head of the Chapter Standards Board, maintain the local constitution, and keep accurate records of member statuses.
- Clause 3. The local treasurer is responsible for the accurate recording and reporting of all chapter financial activity. The treasurer ensures that the chapter prepares an annual budget and coordinate fundraising activities, collects all monies for the national organization (national dues, convention fees, loan payments, etc.), and submits them along with all required forms to the national office.
- Clause 4. The local secretary is responsible for the taking and preparing the local chapter minutes, will keep an accurate record of attendances or meetings and functions and maintain an accurate record of addresses for actives.
- Clause 5. The local membership director is responsible for recruiting, training, and activating new members. The membership director forwards the permanent home addresses to the appropriate national officer and submits a copy of the local new member rules to the national office at the end of each academic year for review. The membership director must submit copies of the original national test answer sheets, the new member summary form, and the new member roster to the national office two weeks prior to the activation ceremony. The membership director must report the activities of the new member class to the active chapter at each meeting. The membership director cannot

activate the eligible new members until written confirmation is received from the national Collegiate Membership Director.

- Clause 6. The local service director is responsible for maintaining an accurate record of all actives' participation in service projects. The service director oversees the service function for the chapter.
- Clause 7. The local alumnae liaison establishes and maintains relationships with alumnae, contacts alumnae with information pertaining to upcoming events, activities, and projects, addresses alumnae issues that may arise, and keeps chapter records up-to-date and current in regard to alumnae addresses and other pertinent information.
- Clause 8. Active Chapter Standards Boards oversee the following duties.
- A. They make status recommendations to the active chapter after meeting with a member.

Article IX District Summits

- Section 1. All active chapters in a district attend and participate in at least one District Summit per school year with 25 percent of each chapter's active members attending at least 75 percent of the summit, planned by the District Summit Coordinator, in cooperation with Active District Officers of each chapter.
- Section 2. To qualify as a District Summit:
- A. The summit date and location must be approved by the District Summit Coordinator, and all active and alumnae chapters in the district must be notified no less than eight weeks before the summit date.
 - B. A module from the national Leadership Program will be delivered by a member of the Leadership Development Team.
 - C. A sisterhood activity must take place.
 - D. A service project must take place.
- Section 3. Other workshops may be given by either a sorority representative or an outside consultant with knowledge in a specific area.
- Section 4. Chapters may hold other district-level events in addition to a District Summit.

Article X Finances

- Section 1. The national organization's fiscal year is July 1 through June 30. The annual operating budget must be a balanced budget in compliance with guidelines set forth in the national procedures. The annual operating budget is approved by a majority vote of the delegates at the national convention. Amendments to the annual operating budget to change the total expenditure/uses must be approved by a two-thirds vote of all active chapters and the alumnae delegates present and voting at the previous convention. Amendments to the annual budget to move money between line items without changing the total budget must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.
- Section 2. The national organization requires competitive bids for all purchases paid from the national treasury greater than \$5,000 in compliance with purchasing procedures set forth in the national procedures.

- Section 3. Reimbursement for authorized sorority travel will be made in compliance with the travel procedures in the national procedures.
- Section 4. In cases of extreme financial hardship, national active dues, new member fees, activation fees, and colonization fees may be waived by the national organization in compliance with guidelines set forth in the national procedures.

Article XI Records

- Section 1. A permanent set of records is stored at the national records office.
- Clause 1. These records include the most current copies of the national policies and procedures, national constitution, and national bylaws.
- Clause 2. These records include one copy of each national officer's annual report and one copy of the national convention minutes.
- Clause 3. These records also include files of all chapters that have gone inactive or have been suspended by the national organization. These records will be returned to the chapter for reactivation or lifting of suspension.
- Clause 4. These records include a copy of each chapter's annual report.
- Section 2. Each national officer will keep a copy of the electronic files pertaining to the office held and a duplicate copy will be given to the national office for safekeeping. Each national officer will be responsible for maintaining files and forwarding the files of their office to a successor upon the end of the term.
- Section 3. Board of Directors members will file their annual reports with their successor, as well as the national President; the reports are entered in the national files.

Article XII Colonization

- Section 1. A colony is a group of students in the process of earning an Omega Phi Alpha charter.
- Clause 1. A colony can be formed only at campuses that do not currently have an active chapter.
- Clause 2. To be recognized as an Omega Phi Alpha colony, the group must submit a petition for colonization to the Expansions Director.
- Clause 3. To be considered for colony affiliation, the petitioning group must have at least 25 enrolled members. A petitioning group that does not meet this requirement, that has no fewer than 20 enrolled members, may apply for a colonization waiver. Waiver approval is at the discretion of the Expansions Director.
- Clause 4. The Expansions Director must formally accept the petition for colonization before the group is considered an Omega Phi Alpha colony.
- Clause 5. The colony is named after the college or university at which it is located.

Clause 6. The colony has between 3 to 12 months to complete the requirements for charter. This time period begins when the Expansions Director formally accepts the petition for colonization.

Section 2. Requirements for a colony to earn a charter are as follows. Documentation of each completed requirement must be included with the application for charter.

Clause 1. The colony must submit a list of activities conducted during the colonization period. This list should include colony meetings, committee meetings, service projects, fellowship projects, and any other activities organized by the colony.

Clause 2. The colony must conduct at least two fundraising projects. The proceeds of one project will be sent to and held by the national treasury until used by the colony/chapter to offset convention attendance expenses. The proceeds of the second project will be used to supplement the colony's operating budget.

Clause 3. The colony must plan and implement at least six service projects, each of which must have a 75 percent participation rate among colony members. One service project must be conducted in each area of service.

Clause 4. At least 15 colony members must complete the individual requirements written below. These colony members will be listed on the new chapter's charter as its founding members.

Sub-clause 1. Each colony member must participate in at least five colony-sponsored service projects, earning at least one hour of service in each.

Sub-clause 2. Each colony member must successfully complete the national new member test with a score of 85 percent or better.

Clause 5. The colony must submit a local constitution to the Expansions Director.

Clause 6. The colony must submit a written budget that includes all anticipated revenues and expenses. The budget must also include an addendum that specifies the amount of local dues per semester.

Clause 7. The colony must conduct recruitment during the colonization period and must submit a detailed recruitment plan to the Expansions Director no less than one month before the first recruitment event takes place. The plan should include details pertaining to the new chapter's first recruitment events including but not limited to: recruitment dates, recruitment events, locale, publicity plan, event agendas, estimated cost, and specific assignment of responsibilities for each member.

Clause 8. The colony must submit a detailed action plan of all activities to be conducted for the first full year of the new chapter's life. This action plan must include a chapter meeting schedule, tentative service projects, fellowship projects, active committees in use, dates for new member pinning and new member activation rituals, dates classes begin and end each semester, an operating budget, proposed dues, and a membership goal.

Clause 9. Each colony member must attend weekly meetings. A colonist may miss up to three meetings in a semester.

Clause 10. The colony must be represented at the national convention, if the convention takes place during the colonization period.

Clause 11. The colony must participate in the District Summit of the district closest to them geographically, if the summit takes place during the colonization period.

Clause 12. The colony must hold weekly meetings. Minutes of these meetings must be submitted to the Expansions Director within 48 hours of the meeting.

Clause 13. The colony must hold and organize an overnight, off-campus retreat. It will be scheduled with the Expansions Director and held at least halfway through the colonization process.

Section 3. The Expansions Director determines whether the requirements have been met, based on the review of the application for charter and supporting documentation. With the Expansions Director approval, a charter will be issued for the new chapter.

Clause 1. The charter is presented at the chapter's induction ceremony.

Clause 2. The charter is presented by a representative of the national organization, as designated by the national President.

Section 4. If the colony generated alumnae as a local organization prior to its affiliation with Omega Phi Alpha, those alumnae may be granted lifetime membership in Omega Phi Alpha. These members will have the same rights and privileges as members who recruited at or founded an active chapter.

Clause 1. The colony must provide a list of all local alumnae, including contact information (if known) prior to submitting the application for charter.

Clause 2. Each alumna of the local group will be contacted jointly by a colony leader and an Omega Phi Alpha representative, inviting them to affiliate and informing them of the process.

Clause 3. Each alumna who wishes to affiliate must:

A. Provide contact and networking information as defined by the Alumnae Membership Director;

B. Pay a one-time fee equal to the current activation fee;

C. Participate in an activation ceremony, presided over by an Omega Phi Alpha member.

Clause 4. Alumnae who affiliate with Omega Phi Alpha through this process will have a member-since date that corresponds with the date the colony was inducted.

Article XIII Naming Chapters

Section 1. Collegiate chapters are given a Greek-letter name by the Expansions Director at the chapter induction event.

Section 2. Alumnae chapters are named with the Greek-letter Omega and a second Greek letter. The second letter is assigned by the Alumnae Membership Director.

Section 3. A re-charted chapter receives its original Greek-letter name.

Section 4. To maintain alumnae chapter status, the chapter must submit an annual report by June 1 to the Alumnae Membership Director outlining activities of the chapter for the preceding year along with names and addresses of the current members and officers.

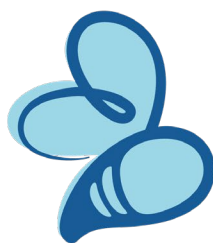
Article XIV
Parliamentary Procedure

Section 1. The national convention follows the current accepted edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 2. The national President will designate a parliamentarian for each convention.

Article XV
Amendments

Amendments to the bylaws may be proposed at the national convention and voted upon at a national business meeting allowing time for discussion and consideration by the Board of Directors. Ratification of bylaw amendments requires an affirmative two-thirds of the ballots cast. All revisions to the national bylaws take effect upon the final adjournment of the national convention.



OMEGA PHI ALPHA

Legislative Consent Agenda

Convention 2021

Approved by Legislation Committee

April Carroll, Chair

Penny Guiles

Marissa Hickel

Megan Small

Kasey Stevens

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Overview

This is a consent agenda, which means the proposals herein will be considered and voted on as a collective group without discussion. The Legislation Committee considers these amendments low-impact, and mostly administrative in nature to reflect current terminology and practice.

However, because the constitution and bylaws require different proportions of affirmative votes cast to be ratified, the consent agenda will be considered in 2 phases. 1 agenda will be considered for constitutional amendments and 1 agenda will be considered for bylaws amendments.

All revisions to the national constitution and bylaws will take effect upon the final adjournment of Convention.

Proposed Constitutional Amendments

General Proposals

These proposals include amendments to:

- General terminology
- Clarify/reflect current operational structure or practice per standard operating procedure

Constitutional Consent Proposal #1

Author:

Kasey Stevens

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article I

This section currently reads as follows:

Article I - Name and Organization

1. The name of this organization is Omega Phi Alpha National Service Sorority.
2. The colors are dark blue, light blue, and golden yellow.
3. The sorority flower is the yellow rose.
4. The national publication is called the Chevron.

The proposed amendment:

Article I - Name and Organization

1. The name of this organization is Omega Phi Alpha National Service Sorority.
2. The colors are dark blue, light blue, and golden yellow.
3. The sorority flower is the yellow rose.
4. The national publication is called the Chevron.
5. The sorority symbols are the bee, the beehive, and the chevron.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

These symbols are not formally documented anywhere in our Constitution or Bylaws, which are foundational documents of our organization. We formally adopted the bee as our national symbol at Convention 2014 due to its historical significance at our founding. The bee symbolizes the cardinal principle of service. The bee represents the selfless work of our members on behalf of the world around them, highlighting the power of teamwork and an incomparable work ethic. The beehive symbolizes cooperation and teamwork. The honeycomb (hexagonal) pattern within beehives is constructed using multiple chevron shapes and is widely regarded as one of the strongest structures in the world. The chevron symbolizes the cardinal principle of leadership and unifies our diverse membership toward a common goal.

Constitutional Consent Proposal #2

*This proposal was moved to the Legislative Agenda for Discussion where it will be considered as Constitutional Proposal #6.

Constitutional Consent Proposal #3

Author:

Rachael Pearson

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Any reference to the word “first/1st semester LOA” in both the Constitution and Bylaws

This section currently reads as follows:

First/1st semester LOA

The proposed amendment:

Replace any reference to “first/1st semester LOA” with “First/1st **active** semester LOA”

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

NSB has received various LOA petitions from members that would like to seek an LOA term however, they are not needed to be processed through NSB as it is not right after their new membership period. These can be CSB approval. By changing the name, the hope is to clarify that only 1st semester LOAs right after the new member period need to be submitted to NSB for approval. This will help alleviate paperwork on the NSB director and clarify things on the chapter level. I would like this title to be changed throughout the entirety of both documents which is why there is one left blank above.

Constitutional Consent Proposal #4

Author:

Kasey Stevens

Which portion of the document would be amended?

- Constitution, Article VII, Section 1
- Constitution, Article XVIII, Section 1
- Bylaws, Article V, Section 3

This section currently reads as follows:

Any reference to the word “Constitutional Revisions Committee” in both the Constitution and Bylaws

The proposed amendment:

Replace any reference to “Constitutional Revisions Committee” with “Legislation Committee”

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

For as long as I can remember serving nationally (10+ years), the organization has referred to this committee as the Legislation Committee. The email address for the chair of this committee is legislation@omegaphialpha.org.

Along with an additional proposal which impacts amendments to the Bylaws, this change makes sense, as legislation considered by this committee would include both amendments to the Constitution AND Bylaws, so it would not make sense for the committee to be referred to as Constitutional Revisions Committee.

Constitutional Consent Proposal #5

Author:

Alyssa Bernhardt

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article V, Section 1, Clause 3

This section currently reads as follows:

All national and appointed officers must be members in good standing of Omega Phi Alpha.

The proposed amendment:

Strike the clause in its entirety, re-number subsequent sections accordingly.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

This proposed change moves items intended for other documentation out of the constitution. Requirements are specific in the position descriptions for each officer role and the majority of lifetime members are in good standing.

Constitutional Consent Proposal #6

Author:

Alyssa Bernhardt

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article V, Section 2

This section currently reads as follows:

Operational Leadership Team. The Operational Leadership Team consists of the following members: Chapter Operations Director, Cardinal Principles Director, Alumnae Membership Director, Expansions Director, Collegiate Membership Director, and other directors as appointed.

The proposed amendment:

Operational Leadership Team. The Operational Leadership Team consists of the following members: Chapter Operations Director, Cardinal Principles Director, Alumnae Membership Director, Expansions Director, Collegiate Membership Director, and other directors, managers, and coordinators as appointed.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

Clarifies how we are currently structured and how we actually use the term OLT.

Constitutional Consent Proposal #7

Author:

Sara McAllister

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article VII, Section 1

This section currently reads as follows:

Section 1. National standing committees consist of: Nominating, Budget, Constitutional Revisions, Leadership Development (LEAD) Team, Chapter Assistance, Standards, and Financial Review.

The proposed amendment:

Section 1. National standing committees consist of: Nominating, Budget, Constitutional Revisions, Chapter Assistance, Standards, and Financial Review.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The responsibility of the LEAD team is to coordinate and facilitate the national Leadership Development program. Right now we are in the process of developing a fully online, self-paced program, which the Leadership Program Coordinator will be responsible for monitoring and maintaining. Because of the new nature of the program, the LEAD team will no longer be required to coordinate or facilitate presentations for chapters or events. Additionally, should there be a need for the LEAD team in the future, the constitution does allow for the National President to appoint special committees with the BOD's approval (Article VII, Section 3).

Constitutional Consent Proposal #8*

**This proposal's inclusion on this consent agenda is contingent upon the outcome of Constitutional Proposal #4 on the Legislative Agenda for Discussion.*

Author:

Alyssa Bernhardt

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article III, Section 4, Clause 4

This section currently reads as follows:

- Clause 4. In the event there is a violation of sections 1–3, actives, alumnae, new members, or colonists found in violation will be subject to the following steps:
- A. Their names will be given to the National Standards Board.
 - B. For the first offense, actives, alumnae, new members, or colonists found in violation will be subject to a consequence set by the National Standards Board. Consequences may range from a fine to automatic disassociation, depending on the severity of the violation.
 - C. In the event there is a subsequent violation, actives or alumnae found in violation will be disassociated; new members or colonists found in violation will be dropped from the new member class or colonization process, respectively.

The proposed amendment:

- Clause 4. In the event there is a violation of sections 1–3, actives, alumnae, new members, or colonists found in violation will be subject to the following steps:
- A.
 - A. For the first offense, actives, alumnae, new members, or colonists found in violation will be subject to a consequence set by the National Standards Board. Consequences may range from a fine to automatic disassociation, depending on the severity of the violation.
 - B. In the event there is a subsequent violation, actives or alumnae found in violation will be disassociated; new members or colonists found in violation will be dropped from the new member class or colonization process, respectively.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The reason for proposing to strike Clause 4 A is that it is redundant. In clause 4B, it is clearly stated that members in violation will be reported to the NSB and subject to consequences implemented by the NSB.

Service-related Proposals

This section includes amendments to reflect current practice per standard operating procedure.

Constitutional Consent Proposal #9

Author:

Alyssa Bernhardt

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article XVI

This section currently reads as follows:

The chapters have a service program for all of their members. The service program is planned and carried out so that a reasonable balance is achieved among Omega Phi Alpha's four areas of service, which are:

- A. Service to the university community.
- B. Service to the community at large.
- C. Service to the members of the sorority.
- D. Service to the nations of the world.

The proposed amendment:

The chapters have a service program for all of their members. The service program is planned and carried out so that a reasonable balance is achieved among Omega Phi Alpha's six areas of service, which are:

- A. Service to the university community.
- B. Service to the community at large.
- C. Service to the members of the sorority.
- D. Service to the nations of the world.
- E. Service in the area of mental health
- F. Service in honor of the President's Project

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The purpose of this proposal is to add the two areas of service that are missing from this section of the constitution. These areas are mentioned throughout the constitution and bylaws, including in active member requirements. Not clearly stating all the areas of service when service is mentioned in our guiding documents presents confusion.

Diversity & Inclusion Proposals

This section includes amendments proposed by the Diversity & Inclusion Committee addressing accessibility.

Constitutional Consent Proposal #10

Author:

Esther Blue de Avalos

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article X, Meetings – National

This section currently reads as follows:

Amend to add a Section 8.

The proposed amendment:

Section 8. The board of directors and operational leadership team shall ensure that hotels, restaurants, venues, and service project venues are ADA accessible. Planned service, fellowship, leadership development, and other activities should be accessible as well. The team should work together to accommodate requests for accessibility from members with disabilities.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

As stated in its constitution, Omega Phi Alpha has a responsibility to maintain an inclusive and equitable environment that is free of discrimination including those people with a disabilities. Therefore, ableism has no place in the organization and our convention must be an event that promotes accessibility and inclusivity for all.

In order to increase inclusivity of the National Convention, members of the organization and convention planning team must work together to ensure that the event in its totality is accessible to all. This includes members, guests, and the communities we serve. All delegates, attendees, staff, executive directors, board of directors, operational leadership team members, and guests should feel welcomed and included in the aspects of the convention that are open to them for participation.

Planned activities like service projects, meals, award ceremonies, sight-seeing outings, and more should also be inclusive of the different abilities of members and guests. It is essential that everyone at the convention be able to participate in all activities if the event is truly inclusive. If a convention attendee with a disability makes a request for an accommodation the team should work together to make those necessary changes to ensure full participation in the activity. It is critical that inaccessibility does not become a barrier for those who want to attend or participate in the convention.

Member Status Proposals

This section includes amendments clarifying membership statuses.

Constitutional Consent Proposal #11

Author:

Alyssa Bernhardt

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article IV, Section 6

This section currently reads as follows:

- Section 6. An active member may be granted a one-semester leave of absence upon approval of the Chapter Standards Board. This status is meant to reflect a temporary condition that prohibits the active from fully participating in the sorority.
- Clause 1. An active member whose course of study removes them from the main campus will automatically be granted leave of absence status.
- Clause 2. The Chapter Standards Board may grant a member an emergency leave of absence for the remainder of the term at any point during the semester. This status does not relieve the member from financial obligations owed the chapter prior to the emergency leave of absence being granted.
- Clause 3. The local chapter will not place any requirements on any member who is on a leave of absence.

The proposed amendment:

- Section 6. An active member may be granted a one-semester leave of absence upon approval of the Chapter Standards Board. This status reflects a temporary situation that prohibits an active member from meeting active member requirements.
- Clause 1. An active member whose course of study removes them from the main campus will automatically be granted leave of absence status from the Chapter Standards Board.
- Clause 2. The Chapter Standards Board may grant a member an emergency leave of absence for the remainder of the term at any point during the semester. This status does not relieve the member from financial obligations owed the chapter prior to the emergency leave of absence being granted.
- Clause 3. The local chapter will not place any requirements on any member who is on a leave of absence.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The reason for this proposal is to clarify language that a leave of absence is a **temporary** situation (not condition) that prevents a member from being fully involved and unable to meet active requirements. The current language of 'meant to' is too open-ended and it is important to clarify that this status **does** reflect a temporary status.

Changing clause 1 to add CSB serves to clarify that the CSB can grant automatic LOA for the reasons listed and does not need approval from the NSB. Starting in Spring 2015 (8% of active members on LOA status), the percentage of our active membership on LOA each semester has increased more than 10% on average (16% on LOA status in Spring 2020). As we see an increase of the number of active members on LOA each semester, it's important to ensure that the approval of this status truly does reflect a **temporary** condition and that there's no way the active requirements can be met by a member on this status. We want members who join Omega Phi Alpha to get a robust experience with service and leadership and this is impossible while on LOA.

Constitutional Consent Proposal #12

Author:

Alyssa Bernhardt

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article IV, Section 9

This section currently reads as follows:

- Section 9. An active sister may declare alumna status automatically for the following reasons:
- A. When no longer enrolled at the university where the member was active.
 - B. When a student in the final term prior to graduation.
 - C. As a student who has been an active member for at least four academic years.
 - D. Upon meeting a special condition listed in the alumnae membership procedures.
- Clause 1. Sisters must notify their Chapter Standards Board in writing of their status declaration to remain in good standing.
- Clause 2. Sisters not meeting the previously listed conditions may petition the National Standards Board chair for alumnae status, which requires approval of three-fourths of the National Standards Board. All petitions must be filed by September 15 for the fall semester and February 15 for the spring semester.
- Clause 3. Any alumna who owes the sorority money or does not return sorority property will not be considered in good standing until those issues are resolved.

The proposed amendment:

- Section 9. An active sister may declare alumna status automatically for the following reasons:
- A. When no longer enrolled at the university where the member was active.
 - B. When a student is in their final term.
 - C. As a student who has been an active member for at least four academic years.
- Clause 1. If a sister satisfies one of the reasons to automatically declare alumna status, the sister must notify their Chapter Standards Board in writing of their status declaration in order to remain in good standing as a lifetime member.
- Clause 2. Any alumna who owes the sorority money or does not return sorority property will not be considered in good standing until those issues are resolved.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

This proposal serves to clarify B as many members are unclear that “final term prior to graduation” means the term OF graduation (e.g. if you graduate in Spring 2021, then Spring 2021 is your final term prior to graduation).

This proposal also suggests to strike D because there are no alumnae membership procedures to reference to this point. A member is expected to join the organization with the intention of being engaged their entire life.

Striking Clause 2 eliminates the need for an “early alum” petition. Members can automatically elect to go alum after 4 years of active membership and in their final semester. Eliminating the need for alum status before those conditions are met sets the appropriate expectations of joining a membership organization that provides robust experiences as an active and alumni member (lifetime membership). Setting these expectations will help our membership grow and create a stronger sense of sisterhood and community. This proposed change comes from research conducted of other organizations and is in line with the majority of social and service organizations. The NSB purpose is to be focused on upholding standards of the organization – policies, procedures, VP and CSB training – and less on membership statuses so eliminating the need for “early alum” will also allow the NSB to focus on standards and training.

Alum-related Proposals

This section includes amendments relating to alum chapters and alum membership status.

Constitutional Consent Proposal #13

Author:

Alyssa Bernhardt

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article XIII, Section 10

This section currently reads as follows:

Section 10: To attain alumnae chapter status, the alumnae group must petition the Alumnae Membership Director and complete a provisional period of at least two years. The petition must include the following information:

Sub-clause 1. Location of the group

Sub-clause 2. Names and respective chapters of all members

Sub-clause 3. Chapter goals and reasons for desiring chapter status.

Sub-clause 4. Names and addresses of all elected officers.

Sub-clause 5. A \$25 nonrefundable petition fee.

The proposed amendment:

Section 10: To attain alumnae chapter status, the alumnae group must petition the Alumnae Membership Director and complete a provisional period of at least two years. The petition must include the following information:

Sub-clause 1. Location of the group

Sub-clause 2. Names and respective chapters of all members

Sub-clause 3. Chapter goals and reasons for desiring chapter status.

Sub-clause 4. Names and addresses of all elected officers.

Sub-clause 5. A \$25 nonrefundable petition fee per member.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The reason for updating sub-clause 5 to require a fee of \$25 per petitioning member aligns with our process for creating a new active chapter in the expansions process. A single \$25 fee is well below any other fees we collect and there doesn't seem to be much information for why we selected this dollar amount. Similar to the active chapter expansions process, if we collected a fee from each petitioning member it would help display commitment to the chapter and process that takes 2 years.

Constitutional Consent Proposal #14

Author:

Alyssa Bernhardt

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article VI, Section 1, Clause 2

This section currently reads as follows:

All candidates for the Board of Director offices and Alumnae Membership Director must be alumnae.

The proposed amendment:

All candidates for the Board of Director offices must be alumnae. All candidates for Alumnae Membership Director must be an alum at the time they would take office.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

Expands reach of candidates for AMD position by removing the requirement that candidates must be an alumna at the time of running for office. Many active members who are transitioning to alumni would be great candidates for this position. Because this position is elected earlier in the year (different from BOD elections which happen in the summer), some of the candidates considering this position with great ideas and goals may still be active.

Proposed Bylaws Amendments

General Bylaws Proposals

These proposals include amendments to:

- General terminology
- Clarify process
- Reflect current operational structure or practice per standard operating procedure

Bylaws Consent Proposal #1

Author:

Kasey Stevens

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article IV, Section 1

This section currently reads as follows:

Section 1. Duties of all officers: All elected and appointed officers of Omega Phi Alpha have a responsibility to perform all duties, as described in their position descriptions in the Member Resource Center, to the best of their abilities, and to obey and uphold the constitution and principles of Omega Phi Alpha.

The proposed amendment:

Section 1. Duties of all officers: All elected and appointed officers of Omega Phi Alpha have a responsibility to perform all duties, as described in their position descriptions, to the best of their abilities, and to obey and uphold the constitution and principles of Omega Phi Alpha.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

There is not really a Member Resource Center, per se, as previously utilized via Dropbox. Yes, many documents may be found on OPAPortal, but many additional operational documents are housed on Google Drive. It makes no sense to refer to the location of these documents as they will be widely available or can be easily provided upon request.

Bylaws Consent Proposal #2

Author:

Kasey Stevens

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article XV

This section currently reads as follows:

Amendments to the bylaws may be proposed at the national convention and voted upon at a national business meeting allowing time for discussion and consideration by the Board of Directors. Ratification of bylaw amendments requires an affirmative two-thirds of the ballots cast. All revisions to the national bylaws take effect upon the final adjournment of the national convention.

The proposed amendment:

Amendments to the bylaws may be proposed and submitted to the Legislation Committee before and at the national convention prior to the opening of new business, allowing time for discussion and proper consideration by the Legislation Committee. If the proposal is approved by the Legislation Committee, it will be considered at the National Convention at the end of new business. Ratification of bylaw amendments requires an affirmative two-thirds of the ballots cast. All revisions to the national bylaws take effect upon the final adjournment of the national convention.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

It could be interpreted by the way the current article reads, that amendments may be proposed at any time during the national convention, without review and proper consideration. It could also be interpreted that voting to ratify amendments could take place at any national business meeting, and it is unclear what a national business meeting is.

This proposal aims to ensure that legislative proposals to amend the national bylaws are given due consideration and that the Legislation Committee has enough time to review prior to inclusion on the new business agenda. This proposal also aims to clarify that votes on amendments to the national bylaws must be performed at the national convention and by the convention delegation.

Bylaws Consent Proposal #3

Author:

Sara McAllister

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article V, Section 9

This section currently reads as follows:

Section 9. The Leadership Development (LEAD) team is chaired by the Cardinal Principles Director and consists of alumnae and actives appointed by the chair and Vice President of Programs. These members will serve as coordinators and facilitators of the national Leadership Program. The team will organize, develop, coordinate, and distribute all materials relating to the national Leadership Program.

The proposed amendment:

Strike the section in its entirety, renumber subsequent sections accordingly.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

Should Constitutional General Proposal #5 be passed, there will be no need to include the responsibilities of the LEAD team here.

Service-related Bylaws Proposals

These proposals include amendments to:

- Clarify chapter requirements under our service program
- Reflect current operating procedure within our service program

Bylaws Consent Proposal #4

Author:

Sara McAllister

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article VI, Section 2

This section currently reads as follows:

The national Permanent Project is mental health. Each chapter should complete two projects per year to further the cause of mental health.

The proposed amendment:

The national Permanent Project is mental health. Each chapter must complete at least one project per semester to further the cause of mental health.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The service program requires that the chapters hold one service project in each area, including the Permanent Project, each fall and spring semester. One project each semester instead of two projects per year more closely aligns with the actual service requirements for active chapters. The change in wording is for clarification only, no requirements are changing.

Bylaws Consent Proposal #5

Author:

Sara McAllister

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article VI, Section 3

This section currently reads as follows:

Every national President will declare a national President's Project each year. Each chapter should hold two projects per year for the cause named as the President's Project. The project will be named yearly.

The proposed amendment:

Every national President will declare a national President's Project each year. Each chapter must complete hold at least one project per semester for the cause named as the President's Project.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The service program requires that the chapters hold one service project in each area, including the President's Project, each fall and spring semester. One project each semester instead of two projects per year more closely aligns with the actual service requirements for active chapters. The change in wording is for clarification only, no requirements are changing. "The project will be named yearly" is redundant.

Bylaws Consent Proposal #6

Author:

Sara McAllister

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article VII, Section 1

This section currently reads as follows:

- Section 1. Each chapter promotes service by doing at least six chapter service projects during each term.
- Clause 1. One project should represent service to the university community.
- Clause 2. One project should represent service to the community at large.
- Clause 3. One project should represent service to the members of the sorority.
- Clause 4. One project should represent service to the nations of the world.
- Clause 5. One project should represent service to the national Permanent Project, mental health.
- Clause 6. One project should represent service to the President's Project. The project will be named yearly by the national President.
- Clause 7. Chapter projects are defined as those that have at least 60 percent participation of the active chapter.

The proposed amendment:

- Section 1. Each chapter will execute at least six projects each semester in which 60% of the active chapter participates.
- Clause 1. One project should represent service to the university community.
- Clause 2. One project should represent service to the community at large.
- Clause 3. One project should represent service to the members of the sorority.
- Clause 4. One project should represent service to the nations of the world.
- Clause 5. One project should represent service to the national Permanent Project, mental health.
- Clause 6. One project should represent service to the President's Project.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

- Changing Section 1 – The service program requires that the chapters hold one service project in each area, including the President's Project, each fall and spring semester. One project each semester instead of two projects per year more closely aligns with the actual service requirements for active chapters. Additionally, "chapter service projects" is very close to "chapter-planned projects" (used in Bylaws, Article VII, Section 2, Clause 1), which are any project that the chapter plans for sisters to participate in and becomes confusing.
- Changing Clause 6 – The President's Project is defined elsewhere already, including this is redundant (Constitution, Article VI, Section 3).
- Eliminating Clause 7 – Eliminating the term "chapter service projects" in Section 1 no longer requires a definition.
- The changes in wording are for clarification only, no requirements are changing.

Bylaws Consent Proposal #7

Author:

Sara McAllister

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article VII, Section 2

This section currently reads as follows:

- Section 2. All active sisters should complete a minimum of 10 service hours during each term.
- Clause 1. All 10 of these hours must be completed through participation in chapter-planned projects. Hours completed through individual participation in service projects outside of the chapter will not be counted toward meeting the minimum requirement.

The proposed amendment:

- Section 2. All active sisters should complete a minimum of 10 service hours per semester.
- Clause 1. All 10 of these hours must be completed through participation in chapter-planned projects.
- Clause 2. Hours completed through participation in service projects outside of the chapter will not be counted toward a member's service hour total.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The service program requires that sisters complete at least 10 hours of service each fall and spring semester. 10 hours each semester instead of each term more closely aligns with the actual service requirements for active members.

“Counted toward meeting the minimum requirement” implies that hours completed outside of chapter planned projects may be counted on top of the minimum requirement of 10 hours, as long as the sister completes 10 hours through chapter-planned projects. Separating Clause 2 from Clause 1 further dissociates the two.

Bylaws Consent Proposal #8

Author:

Alyssa Bernhardt

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article VII, Section 3

This section currently reads as follows:

Section 3. All active chapters must complete a service project report form to be submitted to the national office twice each year. This form should contain the total number of chapter project hours as well as the project hours for each sister.

The proposed amendment:

Section 3. All active chapters must report all chapter service projects and individual service hours to the national office in accordance with standard operating procedure.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The reasoning for this proposal is to update the reporting requirements to include the new OPAportal system. All service projects and individual hours should be tracked in real time on the portal. Doing so eliminates the need for additional forms and reporting to the national service team. This process for reporting should be laid out in standard operating procedure.

Bylaws Consent Proposal #9

Author:

Sara McAllister

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article VII

This section currently reads as follows:

Add Section 4.

The proposed amendment:

Section 4. The chapter service director shall be responsible for organizing the projects, approving the hours submitted by the sisters, and ensuring their accuracy.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The reasoning for this proposal is to update the reporting requirements to include the new OPAportal system. All service projects and individual hours should be tracked in real time on the portal. Doing so eliminates the need for additional forms and reporting to the national service team. This process for reporting should be laid out in standard operating procedure.

Membership Status Bylaws Proposals

These proposals include amendments to:

- Clarify new member processes
- Reflect current operating procedure

Bylaws Consent Proposal #10

Author:

Alyssa Bernhardt

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article VIII, Section 1, Clause 5

This section currently reads as follows:

Clause 5. Each chapter must make a mid-year recruitment check and report the progress of each new member. New members should have one-half of their local requirements completed at this time and reminders of deficiencies should be made. After review of each new member has occurred, each new member will be voted on individually and must have an affirmative two-thirds vote of the active chapter members present in order to continue.

The proposed amendment:

Clause 5. Each chapter must make a mid-year recruitment check and report the progress of each new member. New members should have one-half of their local requirements completed at this time and reminders of deficiencies should be made.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The purpose of this proposal is to eliminate the need to vote on potential new members. Voting at this mid-point is unnecessary and serves as a formality to ensure that members are meeting their requirements. The burden of proof for requirements should fall on each new member and the new member class leader (such as the Membership Director). There should be regular check ins throughout the new member process and no surprises at the midpoint. In general, voting on members is not in line with our core value of inclusivity.

Bylaws Consent Proposal #11

Author:

Alyssa Bernhardt

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article VIII, Section 1, Clause 11

This section currently reads as follows:

Clause 11. The new member class should be voted in individually by three-fourths affirmative vote of all active members before activation. If there are any negative votes, there will be a discussion of the individual in question and a revote taken. Lack of service project completion, an infraction of the local or national new member rules, failure to pass national new member test, failure to complete local requirements, nonpayment of dues or monetary obligations will result in a negative vote.

The proposed amendment:

Strike the clause in its entirety and renumber subsequent sections accordingly.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

As a sorority that values diversity and inclusive and continues to implement practices that reflect those values, I am proposing that we remove any voting associated with new members. It is clear that if new members are not completing their requirements that they cannot become an active member and steps should be taken well before the final vote to ensure that they have the support they need to achieve the requirements. It is not a good practice to engage in discussion about new members that receive negative votes. To be truly inclusive, Omega Phi Alpha would accept any person into our membership that meets all the requirements.

Bylaws Consent Proposal #12

Author:

Alyssa Bernhardt

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article VIII, Section 2, Clause 5

This section currently reads as follows:

Clause 5. The local membership director is responsible for recruiting, training, and activating new members. The membership director forwards the permanent home addresses to the appropriate national officer and submits a copy of the local new member rules to the national office at the end of each academic year for review. The membership director must submit copies of the original national test answer sheets, the new member summary form, and the new member roster to the national office two weeks prior to the activation ceremony. The membership director must report the activities of the new member class to the active chapter at each meeting. The membership director cannot activate the eligible new members until written confirmation is received from the national Collegiate Membership Director.

The proposed amendment:

Clause 5. The local membership director is responsible for recruiting, training, and activating new members. The membership director adds all new members to the membership portal and submits a copy of the local new member rules to the national office at the end of each academic year for review. The membership director must submit national test scores, the new member summary form, and update the new member roster on the membership portal two weeks prior to the activation ceremony. The membership director must report the activities of the new member class to the active chapter at each meeting. The membership director cannot activate the eligible new members until written confirmation is received from the national Collegiate Membership Director.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The rationale for the proposal is to update the required paperwork to reflect the use of the new portal.

Diversity & Inclusion Bylaws Proposals

These proposals include amendments submitted by the Diversity & Inclusion Committee concerning accessibility.

Bylaws Consent Proposal #13

Author:

Esther Blue de Avalos

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article VIII

This section currently reads as follows:

Amend by adding Section 3.

The proposed amendment:

- Section 3. Every chapter must choose accessible buildings and sites for hosting activities, plan accessible activities, and make accommodations for members with disabilities when requested.
- Clause 1. Chapter presidents, membership directors, service directors, and other local officers should schedule chapter meetings, service projects, recruitment events, and other events in ADA accessible buildings on campus or in the community at large. Any mandatory meetings should be held in ADA accessible buildings. All mandatory chapter activities should be accessible activities so that all members can participate and be included.
- Clause 2. If a member with a disability requests accommodations including but not limited to service animals, sign language interpreters, closed captioning, ceremony scripts, or change of venue due to non-accessible buildings, the chapter shall work with their college/ university or the venue/ business to find a way to accommodate these requests. These same accommodations should be made when planning and hosting chapter activities.
- Clause 3. Chapter success coordinators and other members of the operational leadership team will provide guidance, support, or assistance to chapter officers in fulfilling requests for accessibility and accommodation.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

Accessibility is an important tenet of creating an inclusive and equitable environment in our organization. As stated in its constitution, Omega Phi Alpha has a responsibility to maintain an environment that is free of discrimination including those people with a disabilities. Therefore ableism has no place in the organization and this means our chapters must promote accessibility and inclusivity. Omega Phi Alpha does not discriminate on the basis of ability when granting membership.

At a chapter level, local officers should work to create an inclusive and equitable environment that is welcoming to all people with disabilities. That welcoming environment begins during recruitment, continues at activation, chapter meetings, service projects, formals, retreats, events, and endures for a lifetime when an alum comes to visit. This means we must work together to make accommodations when requested so that all members, their guests, or the communities we serve regardless of their ability feel included, welcomed, and celebrated. We also have to be cognizant of the spaces we choose for our programs.

In addition to building accessibility, it is important to be cognizant of the different abilities of our members. The activities that are planned and hosted must be accessible to members with different abilities if the organization hopes to be an inclusive one. For example, if you plan to host a nature hike, chapter officers should try to find a trail that is ADA accessible. If a member with a disability requests an accommodation, these accommodations must be honored to truly include all members in our chapter activities. Chapter officers should approach members requesting an accommodation through a culturally competent lens with respect, empathy, and understanding and should avoid defensiveness. There are many different types of disabilities and

it is important to be flexible and adaptable to meet the needs of our members when they request accommodations.

Chapter officers should be intentional about the spaces that they are creating when deciding where to host an event and what that event will look and feel like. If a potential new member, member, or guest can enter a building but is not able to fully engage in the activities due to inaccessibility then this event is not inclusive. If someone can not enter a building or site due to inaccessibility, then a change of venue is in order. There are many types of disabilities including physical, mental health, cognitive, intellectual, hearing, and vision. It is also important that many members will experience disability at some point in their life due to aging, injury, or even a family member or friend. Keeping this in mind, it is important to consider the building we chose, the activities we plan, and the language we use. Our chapter officers should keep in mind that members with disabilities might request accommodations. It is vital that in these instances to be patient and understanding. This process will not always be the same and sometimes it will require research, creativity, or leveraging resources to find a solution that will make the event or activity inclusive.

Bylaws Consent Proposal #14

Author:

Esther Blue de Avalos

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article IX - District Summits

This section currently reads as follows:

Amend by adding Section 5.

The proposed amendment:

- Section 5. All district summit organizers shall work to ensure that buildings are ADA accessible.
- Clause 1. Members organizing district summits shall ensure that all university or college campus buildings or business booked for district summits are ADA accessible. Planned activities should also be accessible to be inclusive of the different abilities of the members attending.
- Clause 2. Members organizing district summits shall work together to accommodate members with disabilities requests to ensure accessibility. These requests can include but are not limited to allowing members to bring their service dogs, providing a sign language interpreter, or ensuring that there is accessible seating and bathrooms available.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

As stated in its constitution, Omega Phi Alpha has a responsibility to maintain an inclusive and equitable environment that is free of discrimination including those people with a disabilities. Therefore ableism has no place in the organization and the district summit must be an event that promotes accessibility and inclusivity for all. In order to ensure that all members with disabilities are fully included and can participate in the entire program, it is vital that our organization ensures that all district summits are held in ADA accessible buildings. In addition to the buildings, it is critical that the planned activities are accessible to all members with different abilities. It is important to be cognizant of different disabilities when planning activities such as service projects, team building activities, crafts, etc. Members organizing district summits should incorporate accessibility into all parts of the planning of the event. District summits are a required event that both active and alum members attend. If a member with a disability makes a request for an accommodation, the organizers of the summit should work with their campuses or local businesses to ensure those accommodations are met. There are many types of disabilities and not every request for accessibility or accommodation will be the same. Accommodating requests will require research, creativity, and leveraging resources. It is essential that district summit organizers intentionally plan to host the event in a space that is accessible and serve as a respectful, flexible, and understanding team when members make requests for accommodations.

These are examples of how the summit can become a space that is not safe and welcoming for all members attending the district summit. If a member with a disability can enter the building due to inaccessibility, then a new venue should be chosen. If a member with a disability can access the building, but can not fully engage in the activities due to inaccessibility, the event is not inclusive. Therefore, it is critical that the spirit of accessibility and inclusivity be at the forefront of the planning process.

New Chapter Bylaws Proposals

This proposals includes amendments to clarify processes for new chapters.

Bylaws Consent Proposal #15

Author:

Alyssa Bernhardt

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article XII, Section 1, Clause 4

This section currently reads as follows:

- Section 1. A colony is a group of students in the process of earning an Omega Phi Alpha charter.
- Clause 4. The Expansions Director must formally accept the petition for colonization before the group is considered an Omega Phi Alpha colony.

The proposed amendment:

- Section 1. A colony is a group of students in the process of earning an Omega Phi Alpha charter.
- Clause 4. Each petitioning member must pay a colonization fee to the national organization. This initial fee covers dues for their first semester of the colonization process. All colonists must pay a fee equal to national active member dues in each additional semester of the colonization process.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The national organization provides a lot of support to prospective new chapters including use of OPAportal, insurance coverage, and other tools and resources.

When a colony begins colonization in say, January, they pay a colonization fee which is currently equal to national active member dues (\$75). As it stands now, this is a one time fee which is intended to cover the entirety of their colonization process. Most colonies will collect local dues at the time they are declared a colony and will continue to do so each semester even if not yet inducted.

In the past, most colonies have become chapters within a few months and usually prior to the next national dues deadline after their colonization fee is paid. However, if the colonization process were to take a full year and overlap with a national active member dues deadline, this proposal is to ensure that colonists pay national dues.

This would set appropriate expectations for active membership and be in line with local dues collection (they are collecting local dues each semester throughout the colonization process).



OMEGA PHI ALPHA

Legislative Agenda for Discussion

Convention 2021

Approved by Legislation Committee

April Carroll, Chair

Penny Guiles

Marissa Hickel

Megan Small

Kasey Stevens

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Overview

This document provides detail on all proposed amendments to our national constitution and bylaws. It is important that voting delegates discuss these amendments with fellow members

These proposed amendments are quite substantive. This means that during Convention, each amendment will be separately considered, discussed, and voted on.

It is important to note that ratification of amendments to:

- the national **constitution** requires an **affirmative vote of three-fourths** of the ballots cast by voting delegates.
- the national **bylaws** require an **affirmative vote of two-thirds** of the ballots cast by voting delegates.

All ratified amendments to the national constitution and bylaws take effect upon the final adjournment of Convention.

Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Constitutional Proposal #1

Author:

Esther Blue de Avalos

Which portion of the document would be amended?

The Constitution and bylaws in their entirety.

This section currently reads as follows:

All references to colonization, colony, colonist(s)

The proposed amendment:

Replace all references to these terms with their corresponding replacement.

Colonization → Expansion, Colony → Prospective Chapter, Colonist(s) → Prospective Chapter Member(s)

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The terms Colonization, Colony, and Colonist(s) are hurtful and harmful because they are historically associated with the system of oppression and genocide of the ancestors of our Black, Hispanic/Latine, and Indigenous American members.

The team that oversees this department of the organizational leadership team is currently referred to as the Expansions team. The term Colonization should be changed to Expansion to reflect this relationship and eliminate the negative connotations associated with the current term.

The term Colony and Colonist(s) should be changed to New Chapter and New Member(s) respectively. In citing precedent, it should be noted that Omega Phi Alpha changed its Recruitment vocabulary to New Member. The process of onboarding a new chapter and the education period of the new members mirrors the recruitment and new member education process. Therefore, in an effort to combat this negative stigma, our organization should use terminology that is respectful and culturally competent. Members of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee were proud to welcome a new member from Old Dominion University to their committee who is the first new member from a new chapter to serve on an OPA committee. Some members of the committee have already made an intentional effort to stop using the terms Colonization, Colony, and Colonist(s) and have chosen to refer to the new chapter by the name of the University instead. We are also choosing to describe the new member on our team as a new member or by name. This intentional culture shift allows our team to avoid the hurtful and harmful language that causes deep pain to members every time it is uttered aloud.

It should also be noted that Greek Track the platform provider for OPAportal has stopped using this set of terminology as well. Greek Track has stated that, “We have reviewed our products and have made the decision to remove all references to “colonies” and “colonization” from our system. We believe that these references minimize the destructive and long-lasting impact that imperialist colonization has had on cultures around the world, and we will advise our partner organizations to use a different naming convention for their prospective chapters moving forward. We have adopted the term “prospective chapters” to denote groups that are in the process of becoming full established members of their national organization, and we encourage all fraternities and sororities to examine their own naming conventions for the expansion process in order to remove oppressive language.”

Constitutional Proposal #2

Author:

Esther Blue de Avalos

Which portion of the document would be amended?

The Constitution and bylaws in their entirety.

This section currently reads as follows:

All references to “sister” or “sisters”

The proposed amendment:

Replace all references to these terms with their corresponding replacement.

Sister → Member

Sisters → Members

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The terms sister and sisters are gendered language that establish a gender norm in Omega Phi Alpha. This goes against our responsibility to maintain an environment free of discrimination. Article IV, Section 13 established a policy that ascribes the gendered terminology to all members regardless of their gender. This policy is not equitable, inclusive, or respectful of the different gender identities and expressions that our members hold.

Omega Phi Alpha does not discriminate based on gender identity or expression when granting membership. OPA is not a single-gender organization and our terminology should reflect the diversity of the membership. The constitution and bylaws however currently use the term sister or sisters only 32 times, while the term member or members is used 268 times. To be equitable and inclusive of the diverse gender identities and expressions held by our membership, our language should change to refer to members as such.

Omega Phi Alpha membership was initially limited to women on campus who had been Girl Scouts or Camp Fire Girls. Today our organization doesn't require previous experience with those groups and our members identify with many different gender identities and expressions. Additionally, the service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega who helped establish and organize our organization is now co-educational. This historical context demonstrates that organizations can change to be more inclusive of different people.

Many members may have heard of the “golden rule” that states that you should treat others how you would like to be treated, but our organization should strive to a higher standard and follow the “platinum rule” and treat others the way they would like to be treated so our internal operations are validated by the external communication that touts respect for differences with gender-neutral language.

Some members of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee wondered how a chosen familial relationship could be expressed between our members. It was suggested that the terms sibling or siblings should be adopted to express that relationship in a gender-neutral manner. This cultural shift would allow us to be respectful of others while still acknowledging how our strong bonds of friendship connect our members as one chosen family.

Constitutional Proposal #3

Author:

Esther Blue de Avalos

Which portion of the document would be amended?

The Constitution and bylaws in their entirety.

This section currently reads as follows:

All references to the “nations of the world” area of service

The proposed amendment:

Replace all references to “nations of the world” with “world community”.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

In order to more intentionally express our role as members of the world community, we recommend the phrase “nations of the world” be changed to “world community”.

The term “nations of the world” connotes nebulous or exotic places and fails to describe our responsibility as world neighbors who strive to embody the humanitarian pillar of the organization on a grander scale.

When our members participate in community service, we are held to an ethical and professional standard to responsibly engage in a mutually beneficial, cross-cultural partnership that requires due diligence for sustainable service while growing our cultural perspectives, allowing our members the opportunity to examine multifaceted issues that impact diverse people around the globe.

In addition, the shift of the wording maintains consistency of language as the term community is used in the purpose and goals when describing the “university community” and the “community at large.”

Furthermore, it reaffirms the importance of community, which signifies our continual work towards building diverse relationships through a lens of cultural humility and strive to positively engage various communities and ecosystems at every level - school, city, state, country, continent, and world community - and hopefully affect sustainable, change through equitable service, respectful of the diverse and potentially intricate systems and dynamics of, but not limited to: governance, infrastructure, politics, religious beliefs, communication practices, social constructs, power, cultures, and intersectionality of the community’s members.

Constitutional Proposal #4

Author:

Kasey Stevens

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Article III in its entirety

This section currently reads as follows:

Article III in its entirety – currently includes 3 national policies (Alcohol & Illegal Drug, Discrimination & Harassment, & Hazing) and a section on policy violations.

The proposed amendment:

Strike the article in its entirety and renumber subsequent sections accordingly.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

This article, which includes only SOME of our national policies (Alcohol & Illegal Drug, Discrimination & Harassment, & Hazing), should be removed from the national constitution.

By keeping these policies in the national constitution, we are only able to amend at Convention every 2 years. Instead, these cornerstone policies should live in our Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) which includes policies, procedures and instructions. While these policies are integral to our organization, it is imperative that they be moved to SOP so that they are more easily amended and approved by the Board of Directors as issues arise and additions or edits must be made.

Additionally, not all our policies live in the constitution (Social Media, Privacy, Accessibility) all live as stand-alone policies.

Constitutional Proposal #5

Author:

Corey Goodburn

Which portion of the constitution would be amended?

Article XIII, Section 10

This section currently reads as follows:

- Section 10. To attain alumnae chapter status, the alumnae group must petition the Alumnae Membership Director and complete a provisional period of at least two years. The petition must include the following information:
- Sub-clause 1. Location of the group.
 - Sub-clause 2. Names and respective chapters of all members.
 - Sub-clause 3. Chapter goals and reasons for desiring chapter status.
 - Sub-clause 4. Names and addresses of all elected officers.
 - Sub-clause 5. A \$25 nonrefundable petition fee.

The proposed amendment:

- Section 10. To attain alumnae chapter status, the alumnae group must petition the Alumnae Membership Director and complete a provisional period of at least one year during which the group must complete all required events.
- Clause 1. The petition for alumnae chapter status must include the following information:
 - Sub-clause 1. Location of the group.
 - Sub-clause 2. Names and respective chapters of all members.
 - Sub-clause 3. Chapter goals and reasons for desiring chapter status.
 - Sub-clause 4. Names and addresses of all elected officers.
 - Sub-clause 5. A \$25 nonrefundable petition fee.
 - Clause 2. Required events include 2 events in each of the following categories which are defined in standard operating procedure: sisterhood, service, leadership, and tradition.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

We are amending the language to improve the alumnae chapter process. As of now, we have to complete 4 required events per year as a provisional chapter. If we do 8 events for our first year, we should be able to become an official alumnae chapter of Omega Phi Alpha. We are not saying you have to complete it in a year, but we are just amending the language so future alumnae chapters a choice. Also, we wanted to clarify what events are required for provisional alumnae chapters.

Constitutional Proposal #6

*This proposal was moved from the Consent Agenda. It was previously Constitutional Consent Proposal #2.

Author:

Kasey Stevens

Which portion of the document would be amended?

Any reference to the word “Alumnae, alumna” in both the Constitution and Bylaws

This section currently reads as follows:

Alumnae and alumna

The proposed amendment:

Replace any reference to the plural word “alumnae” with “alumni”

Replace any reference to the singular word “alumna” with “alum”

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

“Alumnae” and “alumna” are the feminine plural and singular forms of this noun respectively.

According to many resources, “alum” is the singular, gender-neutral term for someone who has graduated from an educational institution, which “alumni” is the plural, gender-neutral or mixed-gender term for a group of graduates.

Replacing the current gendered noun with a non-gendered form (“alum” and “alumni”) will be more inclusive for members of Omega Phi Alpha who are gender non-conforming, trans, or otherwise self-identified, and who may not prefer to be referred to in the feminine sense.

Proposed Bylaws Amendments

Bylaws Proposal #1

Author:

Alyssa Bernhardt

Which portion of the bylaws would be amended?

Article III, Section 3

This section currently reads as follows:

- Section 3. A member on leave of absence has the right to attend social and service functions, participate in meetings, wear the letters, and receive the Chevron. Said member cannot vote on sorority issues, hold local, regional, or national office, serve as a convention delegate, or have a little sister. Said member does not pay national dues and is not included in chapter-level awards programs.
1. A member must petition the Chapter Standards Board for leave of absence status.
 2. A member with special circumstances, who cannot complete the first active term immediately after activation, may petition the National Standards Board for a leave of absence.
 3. A member may have up to two chapter granted leave of absence terms. After two leave of absence terms, a sister must petition the National Standards Board by contacting the National Standards Board chair for any additional leave of absence terms. All petitions must be filed by September 15 for the fall semester and February 15 for the spring semester.
 4. After serving at least one active term, if a member wishes to have leave of absence status, said member must petition the chapter standards board.
 5. A leave of absence may not be granted for longer than two academic terms at a time. In the case of a yearlong school-related absence, a member may petition the National Standards Board for alumna status by contacting the National Standards Board chair.
 6. The Chapter Standards Board has the right to revoke a member's leave of absence status if the reason a sister requested the leave of absence is found to be false or if the original reason has changed.
 - Sub-clause 1. This must be done before the Membership Status Report Form is due. If the leave of absence was granted at the end of the previous term, a decision must be made by the second meeting of the current school term.
 - Sub-clause 2. This decision must have a unanimous vote from the Chapter Standards Board.
 - Sub-clause 3. A Chapter Standards Board cannot revoke a member's emergency leave of absence.

The proposed amendment:

- Section 3. A member on leave of absence has the right to attend service functions, participate in meetings, wear the letters, and receive the Chevron. Said member cannot vote on sorority issues, hold local, regional, or national office, serve as a convention delegate, or have a little sister. Said member pays reduced national dues not to exceed 25% of current active dues is not included in chapter-level awards programs.
1. After serving at least one active term, if a member wishes to have leave of absence status, said member must petition the chapter standards board.
 2. A leave of absence may not be granted for more than one academic term.
 3. The Chapter Standards Board has the right to revoke a member's leave of absence status if the reason a sister requested the leave of absence is found to be false or if the original reason has changed.
 - Sub-clause 1. This must be completed prior to the due date for updating member statuses each semester. If the leave of absence was granted at the end of the previous term, a decision must be made by the second meeting of the current school term.
 - Sub-clause 2. This decision must have a unanimous vote from the Chapter Standards Board.
 - Sub-clause 3. A Chapter Standards Board cannot revoke a member's emergency leave of absence.

What is the rationale behind this amendment?

The purpose behind this proposal is to restructure the LOA membership status to be in line with other social and service collegiate organizations. It also allows our chapters to set the expectations for members in regards to participation and engagement so that multiple LOA semesters are not necessary.

This proposal serves to clarify that LOA status is a temporary condition and does not continue for multiple semesters.

The proposed change in the main text removes the national dues stipulation and opens the opportunity to charge members on LOA up to 25% of national active dues (no amount specified as dues can change with each budget) for the services that are still provided by the national organization while holding that status. The national organization provides insurance coverage for all members that attend official OPA functions, meetings, etc., provides OPAportal, as well as creates and send the Chevron which is covered by national membership dues.

This proposal also removes the opportunity for members on LOA to attend official social events. If a member on LOA is available to attend social and service events as well as meetings, they can maintain active status.

Striking clause 1 because it is repetitive with clause 4.

Striking clause 2 removes the opportunity for a new member to go LOA in their first active semester, except in cases of study abroad and internship (automatic LOA per constitution). This also minimizes the number of statuses that the NSB votes on so that NSB can focus on upholding the standards of the organization instead of on membership statuses.

Striking clause 3 removes the ability for chapters to grant two semesters of LOA. In the Constitution, Article 4, Section 6, Clause 2 – the CSB can grant a onetime LOA for a member so keeping this clause here contradicts the constitution. A member who takes longer than a one semester leave of absence loses a great deal of experience as an active member and has a more challenging time transitioning back into active membership.

The changes to clause 5 clarifies that only 1 LOA may be taken and also eliminates LOA requests to the NSB.

Call to Order, Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 9:11am by National President Jan Titsworth.

Roll Call was called by Megan Sheppard.

Alpha Chapter – present
Gamma Chapter – present
Delta Chapter – present
Epsilon Chapter – present
Mu Chapter – present
Nu Chapter – present
Omicron Chapter – present
Rho Chapter – present
Sigma Chapter – present
Tau Chapter – present
Phi Chapter – present
Chi Chapter – present
Omega Chapter – present
Alpha Alpha Chapter – present
Alpha Beta Chapter – *absent*
Alpha Gamma Chapter – present
Alpha Delta Chapter – present
Alpha Zeta Chapter – present
Alpha Theta Chapter – present
Alpha Iota Chapter – *absent*
Alpha Kappa Chapter – present
Alpha Lambda Chapter – present
Alpha Mu Chapter – present
Alpha Nu Chapter – present
Alpha Xi Chapter – present
Alpha Omicron Chapter – *absent*
Alpha Pi Chapter – present
Alpha Rho Chapter – present
West Delegates – 3 of 3 present
Midwest Delegates – 3 of 3 present
South Delegates – 3 of 3 present
East Delegates – 3 of 3 present
At-Large Delegates – 2 of 2 present
National President – present
VP Finance – present
VP Programs – present
VP Lifetime Membership – present
VP Communications – present

Purpose and Goals of the sorority were stated together as a group.

Bless Our Sisters Forever – A moment of silence was held in memory of the sisters who've passed on in the last two years.

Rules of the Day were introduced by Leann Williams.

- Wear your nametag during business meetings.
- Turn off cell phones.
- Refrain from using laptops/tablets (unless on official Convention-related OPA business).
- Voting delegates, please get the attention of the parliamentarian when exiting or entering the room during a business session.
- Debate on each motion is limited to 5 minutes, after which time we will proceed to a vote, unless there is a motion to extend the time limit for debate.
- If the motion is debatable, the motion maker may speak first. Each other person may speak twice per motion.
- Elections for the NEB will be conducted by secret ballot, unless otherwise moved.
- A nominee's name will be added to the slate of candidates after she has accepted a nomination and provided a completed petition to the chair of the Nominating Committee.
- Raise your rose and numbered card to be recognized.
- When speaking, stand up, state your name and number, and speak loudly enough to be heard in the whole room.
- Swirl your rose in the air to indicate agreement, instead of taking time to just say you agree.

Old Business

Catherine Ferrell moved to table the approval of the 2017 Convention minutes until the delegates have the opportunity to review them on the Dropbox, motion was seconded by **Carrie Johnson**. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Crystal Genter moved to table old business and open new business; motion was seconded by **Jenna Zielinski**. *Motion passed unanimously.*

New Business

Jessica Toms moved to open the slate of candidates; motion was seconded by **Jamie Sullivan**. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Jessica Toms introduced the slate of candidates.

- **President**
 - Jan Titsworth
- **VP Communications**
 - Thea Moritz
- **VP Finance**

- Leann Williams, Leanne Kirby
- **VP Lifetime Membership**
 - Alyssa Bernhardt, Alexandra Arnold
- **VP Programs**
 - Andie Hixson

Catherine Ferrell moved to table to the slate of candidates; motion was seconded by **Crystal Genter**. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Susie Larson moved to table new business; motion was seconded by **Karen Sloan**. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Old Business

Chapter Status report was present by Andie Hixson.

- Tau and Alpha Beta on suspension, due to lack of communication with the national organization. We have one representative from Tau here, no sisters from Alpha Beta are present.
- Three chapters have closed since Convention 2017 – Upsilon, Psi, and Alpha Epsilon

Break until 2:30pm for State of the Sorority / Vision 2020 / Legislative Review (Lunch)

Call to Order at 2:43pm by Jan Titsworth.

Roll Call completed by Megan Sheppard.

Absent: Alpha Beta, Alpha Omicron, VP Lifetime Membership

VP Lifetime Membership entered the business meeting at 2:46pm.

Resume Old Business

Vision 2020 Year 4 (2018-2019) presented by **Jan Titsworth**.

Goal 1 – Branding and Image

- Ten organizations are identified as most promising/best fit to target – not completed

Goal 2 – Internal Communication

- Pilot officer training is offered – started
- Member Resource Center has a minimum of 50 documents – Done, but needs more visibility
- Technology solution recommendations have been presented (database, file sharing, etc.) – Done, not affordable at this time (possible use of the OPA Foundation non-profit pricing)
- Sister updates increase by 10% - Complete, reached 11.5%

Goal 3 – Finance

- 501C(3) is created/expanded and operational. – Done
- Fundraising strategies and tools are in place for Convention 2019. – Done
- 5-year projection to support paid staff roles is complete. – In progress

Goal 4 – Lifetime Membership

- Baseline data for Strategy 1 (all membership info) is collected. – Done
- Alumnae attendance at Summits increases by 10%. – Slight decrease in 2019
- Total active membership remains consistent with the 2017-2018 headcount. – Done, slight increase

Goal 5 – Chapter Excellence

- Themes are documented for survey results and recommendations created. – In progress
- All CSCs have received 5 chapter-initiated contacts. – Done
- CSC and sorority leadership are all trained in 990 process change. – Delayed
- Three professional development workshops are held.

Goal 6 – Administration

- 80% of volunteer positions are filled. – Done, but needs improvement
- Onboarding process for new volunteers is implemented. – In progress
- Technology platforms are in place and used routinely. – In progress, room for improvement.
- A plan is in place for increased paid support staff in 2019. – In progress, presentation at Convention 2019.

Financial Review presented by **Michelle Brannon**, VP of Finance.

Presentation of fiscal reports from 2017, 2018, and 2019.

- The 2017 report was not final at Convention 2017 due to the fiscal year not ending until after Convention concluded.
- The 2019 report is not finalized yet due to the fiscal year ending 11 days ago.

Review of Assets, Liabilities & Equities, Income, and Expenses

- Prepaid Convention Revenue – paid in April, May, & June by Convention 2019 attendees, not revenue until July (for the 2020 fiscal report).
- Operating Fund Balance – money available in savings to use as needed (if needed)
- Net Income in 2017 was considered a loss due to the cost of 2 conventions within that fiscal year (2016 in Phoenix, AZ and 2017 in Bowling Green, OH).
- Net Income in 2018 and 2019

Andie Hixson moved to table Old Business until the delegates have the opportunity to review the Convention 2017 minutes; motion seconded by **Carrie Johnson**. *Motion passed unanimously.*

- Convention 2017 minutes have been uploaded to the Convention 2019 Facebook page. Delegates were asked to review those this afternoon/evening. When we reconvene tomorrow morning, we will vote on the minutes.

Catherine Ferrell moved to un-table New Business; motion seconded by **Amanda McFarland**. *Motion passed unanimously.*

New Business

Review of Robert's Rules of Order by **Leann Williams**

Constitutional Revision from the National Executive Board

- **Michelle Brannon moved** to revise any reference to the “National Executive Board” throughout the National Constitution to “Board of Directors;” motion seconded by **Crystal Genter**. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Constitutional Revisions from the Collegiate Membership Team

- **Jenna Zielinski moved** to accept Constitutional Revisions 1- 7 from the Collegiate Membership Team; motion seconded by **Melissa Stevko**.

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update any reference to rushee to Potential New Member.• Update any reference to pledge to new member.• Update any reference of pledge period to new member period.• Update any reference of rush to recruitment.• Update any reference to pledge education to new member education.• Update any reference to pledge educator to new member educator.• Update and reference to pledgeship to new membership. |
|--|

- Discussion

- **Jenna Zielinski** explained the rationale of these revision was to rid our organization of the stigma (negative connotations) associated with the terms “rush” and “pledge.”
- **Abby Gillin moved** to amend Revision 2 from “Update any reference to pledge to new member” to “Update any reference to pledge to **potential** new member,” motion seconded by **Jessica Aikens**.

- Discussion followed with input from Abby Gillin, Ashley Dussault, Jenna Zielinski, Amanda McFarland, Abby Bohannon, Becca Koblin, and Michelle Brannon.
 - Time for discussion expired. No motion for extension.
 - A Roll Call vote was held – 39 nays – *Amendment fails*. No addition of the word “potential” to “new member.”
- Resume discussion about Constitutional Revisions 1-7 from the Collegiate Membership Team
 - **Jamie Sullivan** posed the question, why change the terminology at all? Won’t this confuse people?
 - **Ally Freehoffer** explains that some universities require the terms “recruitment” and “new member” in order to reflect a more positive outlook toward Greek life.
 - **Suvi Bhalgat**, moves to amend revision 2 from “Update any reference to pledge to new member” to “Update any reference to pledge to **unactivated** new member.” Motion seconded by **Catherine Ferrell**.
 - Discussion followed with input from Ashley Dussault, Jenna Zielinski, and Amanda McFarland.
 - **Crystal Genter** calls QUESTION. No objections to the call of question.
 - Voice vote to amend revision 2 to include “unactivated,” *amendment fails*.
 - **Andie Hixson** moves to table discussion on Constitutional revisions 2, 3, 5, 6, & 7, **Haylee McGeorge** seconds. *Motion failed*.
 - **Hannah Stadler** called to QUESTION for Constitutional Revisions 1-7. No objection to the call of question.
 - *Constitutional Revisions from the Collegiate Membership Team 1-7 passed.*

At 3:48pm, Jan Titsworth recessed business until the scheduled Saturday morning business session.

Call to Order, Saturday, July 13, 2019 at 9:05am by National President Jan Titsworth.

Roll Call was called by Megan Sheppard.

Absent: Alpha Beta and Alpha Omicron

Andie Hixson moved to un-table the Convention 2017 minutes; motion seconded by **Crystal Genter**. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Carrie Johnson moved to revise “unable” to “unable” in the district assignments in the 2017 Convention Minutes.

Crystal Genter moved revise last names of sisters who were written in two forms for consistency across the minutes.

Megan Small moved to accept the minutes with those revisions; motion seconded by **Jamie Sullivan**. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Constitutional Revisions from the Legislation Committee

Leann Williams moved to revise Article IV, Section 7, Clause 1 and Clause 3 as presented, **Abby Gillin** seconded.

- Clause 1, Part A: At the written request of the member ~~via~~ the voluntary disassociation form ~~(available in the National Handbook)~~.
- Clause 3: All disassociations for reasons in clause 1 and 2 must follow the national disassociations procedures ~~in the National Handbook~~.

Motion passed unanimously.

Leann Williams moved to revise Article IV, Section 10, clause 1 as presented, **Catherine Ferrell** seconded.

If a chapter deems it necessary to conduct selective recruitment, they must receive prior written approval from the Vice President of Membership and comply with procedures outlined in the National Handbook.

Revise to read:

~~If a chapter deems it necessary to conduct selective recruitment, they must receive prior written approval from the Collegiate Membership Director and comply with the selective recruitment guidelines that will be provided in procedures.~~

Motion passed unanimously.

Leann Williams moved to revise Article V by deleting Sections 3, 4, & 6 and renumbering accordingly as presented, **Meaghan Martin** seconded.

- ~~• District Officers—District officers shall consist of:~~
 - ~~– Traveling Leadership Consultants—elected by the District Senate Delegation of the District Senate; they will re-serve; and~~
 - ~~– Active District Officers—elected by the active sisters of each district annually in the manner specified which they have agreed;~~
- ~~• Regional Officers—Regional officers shall consist of directors of all major activities—appointed in compliance with procedures in the national handbook to serve one year term;~~
- ~~• All nationally district and appointed officers must be members in good standing of Omega Phi Alpha;~~
- ~~• All members of the Board of Advisors, Affairs and traveling leadership consultants must be a former member of Omega Phi Alpha;~~

Motion passed unanimously.

Leann Williams moved to revise Article VI, Section 2 as written, **Megan Small** seconded.

- Members of the National Executive Board will be elected at the national convention.
 - Vice President positions shall serve two-year terms and be elected every two years beginning in 2015 with the exception of the offices up for election in 2014 and those ending in 2017.
 - 2014: Vice President of Communications, Vice President of Chapter Support (ending in 2017), Vice President of Expansions (ending in 2017), and Vice President of Administration (ending in 2017).
 - 2015: Vice President of Business Operations (ending in 2017), and Vice President of Membership (ending in 2017).
 - 2016: President, Vice President of Programs, Vice President of Lifetime Membership, Vice President of Communications and Vice President of Finance.
 - A written election schedule shall be placed in the national handbook for further clarification.
- Revise to read:
- Section 2. Election of Board of Directors and Operational Leadership Team.**
- Clause 1. Members of the Board of Directors will be elected at the biennial national conventions held in the odd-numbered years.**
- Clause 2. Members of the Operational Leadership Team that are elected are the Chapter Support Director, the Cardinal Principles Director, the Alumnae Membership Director, the Collegiate Membership Director, and the Expansions Director. The slate for these officers will be presented at even-year District Summits The officers will be elected according to the Summit Election Procedure for two-year terms.**
- Clause 3. All remaining Operational Leadership Team members will be appointed in even years for two-year terms.**

Motion passed unanimously.

Leann Williams moved to revise Article VI, Section 3 as written, Ashley Myers seconded.

- A member of the National Executive Board may not be elected to the same office for more than two consecutive full terms.
- Revise to read:
- A member of the Board of Directors or the Operational Leadership Team may not be elected or appointed to the same office for more than two consecutive full terms.**

Motion passed unanimously.

Leann Williams moved to revise Article VI, Section 4, Clause 1 as written, **Ally Freehoffer** seconded.

- * The National President with the recommendations of the National Executive Board shall fill vacancies on the National Executive Board and/or ~~National Board with the exceptions of local president~~ Operational Leadership Team. Any person appointed to elected offices shall serve until the next ~~national convention~~ scheduled election, at which time a replacement shall be elected to fill the remainder of the un-expired term.

Motion passed unanimously.

Leann Williams moved to revise Article VI Section 4 Clause 2 as written, **Ashley Dussault** seconded.

- * In the case of a vacancy of the national president, the president-elect shall become president. In the case where there is no president-elect, the next officer in succession as per the order stated in Article V, Section 1 of the constitution should assume the position of interim president until the National Executive Board can elect a new president to serve until the next national convention, at which time a replacement shall be elected by the delegation to fill the remainder of the unexpired term.

Revise to read:

In the case of a vacancy of the National President, the next officer in succession as per the order stated in Article V, Section 1 shall become interim president until the Board of Directors can elect a new president to serve until the next national convention, at which time a replacement shall be elected by the delegation to fill the remainder of the unexpired term.

Motion passed unanimously.

Leann Williams moved to revise Article X Section 4 as written, **Amanda McFarland** seconded.

- * Special meetings may be called by the National President or by petition of ~~five~~ three or more members of the National Executive Board.

Motion passed unanimously.

Leann Williams moved to revise Article X Sections 5 and 7 as written, **Haylee McGeorge** seconded.

- All meetings of the National Executive Board or the ~~National Board~~ Operational Leadership Team shall be considered open to any lifetime member of the national organization unless otherwise specified by the National Executive Board.
- The ~~National Board~~ Operational Leadership Team shall meet at the call of the National President.

Motion passed unanimously.

Leann Williams moved to revise Article XIII Section 1 Clause 1 as written, **Madison Coyne** seconded.

- The Vice President of Chapter Support, in cooperation with the Traveling Leadership Consultant for and a representative from said chapter, will establish written guidelines for the chapter to follow for one year.
- Revise to read:
~~The Chapter Support Director, in cooperation with the Chapter Success Coordinator and a representative from the chapter, will establish written guidelines for the chapter to follow for one year.~~

Motion passed unanimously.

Leann Williams moved to strike Article XIII Section 3 and renumber the subsequent sections, **Melissa Stevko** seconded.

Section 3. An active chapter whose membership drops below ten active members must notify the Vice President of Membership, who must then take action to help the chapter with membership problems.

Motion passed unanimously.

Leann Williams moved to revise Article XIV Section 1 as written, **Melissa Horth** seconded.

- The sorority shall be divided into districts using the procedures described in the national handbook. A list of all the chapters in each district shall be placed in the national handbook.
 - Each district shall have at least one traveling leadership consultant.
 - A district shall consist of no less than three chapters.
 - Each district shall have a number of Active District Officers equal to or greater than the number of active chapters in that district.
 - Active chapter distribution will be evaluated at least once every ten years using the procedures in the national handbook to ensure proper arrangement of chapters into districts.
- Revised to read:
- The sorority shall be divided into districts using the national procedure.
 - Each district shall have a parity District Summit.
 - A district shall consist of no less than two chapters.
 - Each district shall have Active District Officers from each chapter in that district.
 - Active chapter distribution will be re-evaluated at least once every ten years using the national procedure.

Motion passed unanimously.

Leann Williams moved to revise Article XV Section 2 as written, **Francesca Circosta** seconded. **Suzy McTaggart proposed** a friendly amendment to the position title name from Director of Alumnae Activities to Regional Alumnae Activities Coordinator; **Leann Williams** accepted the revision.

- The sorority shall be divided into regions using the procedures described in the national handbook. An actual map depicting the region boundaries shall be placed in the national handbook.
 - Each region shall have at least one director of alumnae activities. The number appointed will be determined based on procedures in the national handbook.
 - Alumnae membership will be evaluated at least once every ten years using the procedures in the national handbook to ensure proper representation of all alumnae members.
- Revise to read:
- The sorority shall be divided into regions using the national procedure.
 - Each region shall have at least one Regional Alumnae Activities Coordinator to be appointed by the national procedure.
 - Alumnae membership will be re-evaluated at least once every ten years using the national procedure to ensure proper representation.

Motion passed unanimously.

Constitutional Revisions by Acclamation

Leann Williams moved to accept the following Constitutional Revisions by Acclamation as presented, **Kathleen Schaaf** seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Jessica Aikens moved to accept Article IV, Section 1, Clause 1 as presented, **Dani Frank** seconded.

Discussion followed with input from: **Jessica Aikens, Jamie Sullivan, Dani Frank, Suzy McTaggart.**

Discussion time expired, no motion to extend discussion.

Article IV, Section 1 (addition of Clause 1)

Clause 1. Actives with dual enrollment at multiple campuses (included at a chartered campus) can choose to remain active during semesters enrolled exclusively at an affiliate campus if they can fulfill all chapter requirements for active members. For a semester during which the member has requirements at both campuses, the member can remain active or be allowed an automatic LOA.

Motion passed (4 nays).

Constitutional Revisions from the NEB

Article III – National Policies
Abused and Illegal Drug Policy

- Design the Agency complies with all federal, state, local, and university laws and regulations regarding the use, possession, and distribution of alcohol and illegal drugs.
- There shall be no use, possession, or distribution of alcohol or illegal drugs at any school or on **COPA Phledge or Active Event**. COPA members and invited guests may not attend the **COPA Phledge or Active Event** if they are under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- An **COPA Phledge or Active Event** is defined as an event, project, meeting, or gathering being officially coordinated, sponsored, or promoted by a chapter, an active, ~~inactive~~ phledge, or colonist as a part of society activities.
- An **COPA Phledge or Active Event** is also defined as any meeting, meeting, or gathering that is planned or planned "1) at another **COPA Phledge or Active Event**, meeting, or gathering; or 2) through official means of **active chapter website** communication, including but not limited to society email, social lists, or social media groups.
- Within an **COPA Phledge or Active Event** acts, or acts

- Alcohol may be consumed at OPA/Alumnae Events in accordance with the guidelines published by the National organization.
- An OPA/Alumnae Event is defined as an event, project, meeting, or gathering that has been coordinated, sponsored, or promoted by the national organization, otherwise organized, or an alumnae as part of ongoing activities.
- An OPA/Alumnae Event is eligible for attendees to consume alcohol only if no OPA active members are otherwise, regardless of the active members' age.
- OPA funds may not be used for the purchase of alcohol under any circumstances.
- Alcohol at an OPA/Alumnae Event should be served by a licensed third-party vendor.
- When an OPA/Alumnae Event ends, or an individual social, alumni, pledge, or alumni event that aligns with the intent of not returning, attendees are subject to federal, state, local, and university laws and regulations.
- Alumnae member are prohibited to attend any OPA, Pledge or Active Event following the consumption of alcohol per Article 2.

Krishna Patel moved to add a sub-section G to Clause 3, **Paxton Cooke** seconded.

Article III, Section 1, Clause 3

Section G. Omega Phi Alpha cannot be associated with irresponsible alcohol usage in promotional material, such as written copy, social media platforms, or images otherwise distributed by alumnae.

Discussion of the inclusion of sub-section G followed with input from: **Krishna Patel, Jessica Aikens, Amber Hazelett, Thea Moritz, Michelle Brannon.**

Nikki Garcia moved to strike the word irresponsible from sub-section G, **Ashley Myers** seconded.

Section G. Omega Phi Alpha cannot be associated with ~~irresponsible~~ alcohol usage in promotional material, such as written copy, social media platforms, or images otherwise distributed by alumnae.

Discussion followed with input from: **Hannah Stadler, Suvi Bhalgat, Kathleen Schaaf, Amber Hazelett.**

Discussion time on the exclusion of “irresponsible” expired.

Jamie Sullivan moved to extend for 5 minutes; **Francesca Circosta** seconded. *Motion failed, no further discussion.*

Vote to remove the word “irresponsible” from clause G. *Motion passed.*

Return to discussion on the inclusion of sub-section G to Article III, Section 1, Clause 3. Four minutes, 45 seconds remaining.

Discussion continued with input from: **Jamie Sullivan, Susie Larson, Thea Moritz.**

Discussion time expired.

Francesca Circosta moved to extend discussion by 5 minutes; **Hannah Stadler** seconded. *Motion passed with majority.*

Discussion continued with input from: **Suzy McTaggart, Rachael Pearson, Ashley Dussault, Hannah Stadler.**

End of extended discussion time.

Vote on the inclusion of sub-section G. *Motion failed, no inclusion of clause G.*

Three minutes left in discussion on the revisions to Article III, Section 1.

Jessica Aikens moved to add Clause 5; **Haylee McGeorge** seconded.

Clause 5. OPA shall not be directly associated with alcohol usage in promotional material such as written copy, social media platforms, or images otherwise distributed by new members, actives, honorary members, or alumnae.

Discussion on the addition of Clause 5 followed with input from: **Jessica Aikens, Kathleen Schaaf, Suzy McTaggart, Jamie Sullivan, Karen Sloan, Kennedy Dixon.**

Mary Harrison moved to strike “new members, actives, honorary members, or alumnae” and add “collegiate members;” **Hannah Stadler** seconded.

Clause 5. OPA shall not be directly associated with alcohol usage in promotional material such as written copy, social media platforms, or images otherwise distributed by collegiate members ~~new members, actives, honorary members, or alumnae.~~

Vote on addition of “collegiate members.” *Motion passes.*

Discussion on the inclusion of Clause 5 continued with input from: **Jenna Zielinski, Suzy McTaggart.**

Voting on the inclusion of Article III, Section 1, Clause 5. *Motion failed.*

Resumed discussion on the revisions to Article III, Section I as originally presented; 2 minutes, 35 seconds remaining.

Discussion followed with input from: **Hannah Stadler, Jan Titsworth.**

Mary Harrison moved to amend Clause 4 (see below); **Catherine Ferrell** seconded.

Clause 4. There shall be no use, possession, ~~or~~ distribution, ~~or indication; to include but not limited to smell, look, paraphernalia, mention of illegal drugs as defined by federal law~~ at any kind of OPA Alumnae Events.

Discussion followed with input from: **Ashley Dussault, Kathleen Schaaf**

Rachel Seaman moved remove “smell” from the revised Clause 4; **Jamie Sullivan** seconded.

Melissa Stevko calls QUESTION.

Vote on removal of smell from revised Clause 4. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Discussion on the revision of Clause 4 resumes (2 minutes remaining) with input from:

Jessica Aikens, Courtney Harris, Arianna Stittiams, Olivia Bush.

Discussion time expires.

Vote on the revision to Clause 4. *Motion failed.*

Return to the discussion of Article III, Section 1 when business reconvened in the afternoon.

Recess business at 10:41am.

Call to Order, Saturday, July 13, 2019 at 3:19pm by National President Jan Titsworth.

Roll Call was called by Megan Sheppard.

Absent: Alpha Beta, Alpha Omicron, VP Finance, VP Programs.

Resumed discussion of Article III, Section 1; 2 minutes left in discussion.

Jessica Aikens moved to remove Clause 4 from Section 1; **Mary Harrison** seconded.

Discussion followed with input from: **Hannah Stadler, Jessica Aikens.**

~~There shall be no use, possession, or distribution of illegal drugs at any kind of OPA Alumnae Events.~~

Motion passed unanimously. Clause 4 stricken from Section 1.

Amanda McFarland moved to add the word “social” before “events” in Clause 3, **Dani Frank** seconded.

- Alcohol may be consumed at OPA Alumnae **Social** Events in accordance with the guidelines published by the National organization.

Discussion followed with input from **Amanda McFarland, Jenna Zielinski, Mary Harrison, Jessica Aikens, Jamie Sullivan, Crystal Genter, Haylee McGeorge, Becca Koblin.**

Melissa Stevko calls QUESTION. Vote on the addition of the word “social.”
Motion failed.

VP Finance and VP Programs enter the room.

Resumed discussion on Article III, Section 1; 1 minute, 50 seconds left in discussion.

Catherine Ferrell moved to add “non-service” before “events” in Clause 3, **Madison Coyne** seconded.

- Alcohol may be consumed at OPA Alumnae **Non-Service** Events in accordance with the guidelines published by the National organization.

Discussion followed with input from: **Dani Frank, Rachael Pearson, Francesca Circosta.**

Discussion ended, moved to a vote. *Motion failed.*

Resumed discussion on Article III, Section 1; 1 minute 35 seconds remained, with input from: **Jenna Zielinski**

Hannah Stadler moved to rephrase Clause 3, part A as presented, **Catherine Ferrell** seconded.

- A. An OPA Alumnae Events is defined as a **non-service** event, **fundraiser**, **project**, meeting, or gathering that has been coordinated, sponsored, or promoted by the national organization, alumnae chapter, or an alumna as a part of sorority activities.

Discussion followed with input from: **Ashley Dussault**, **Suzy McTaggart**, **Carrie Johnson**, **Alyssa Bernhardt**.

Discussion time expired. No motion to extend.

Vote to rephrase Clause 3. *Motion failed.*

Resumed discussion, 1 minute 20 seconds remained– **Michelle Brannon** called QUESTION



Vote on Article III Section 1, Clause 1, 2, and 3 as presented. Roll Call vote. *Motion passed!*

Bylaws Revisions from the NEB

Mary Harrison moved to revise the bylaws updating any reference to the National Executive Board to Board of Directors; **Morgan Taylor** seconded. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Bylaws Revisions from the Collegiate Membership Team

Jenna Zielinski moved to revise 1-7 as presented; **Brittany Jaggars** seconded.

- Update any reference to rushee to Potential New Member.
- Update any reference to pledge to new member.
- Update any reference of pledge period to new member period.
- Update any reference of rush to recruitment.
- Update any reference to pledge education to new member education.
- Update any reference to pledge educator to new member educator.
- Update and reference to pledgeship to new membership.

Motion passed unanimously.

Bylaws Revisions from the Legislation Committee

Carrie Johnson moved to accept the proposed bylaws changes from the legislative committee as presented; **Laura Graham** seconded.

1. Definition of full officers: It shall be the duty of all selected and appointed officers of the Chicago Police Department to perform all duties as described in the municipal franchise, to the best of their ability, and to carry out and uphold the constitution and policies of the City of Chicago. The duties of all municipal officers shall begin at the conclusion of the municipal elections at which they are elected, or upon appointment. All officers, except those in minor positions, shall receive training, however, the Chicago President and Vice President of the Police may not be the same person.

[illegible]

1. *Deputies, staff officers: It shall be the duty of all elected, elected and appointed officers, in Omega Phi Alpha to perform all duties, as described in their position descriptions, in the Ministerial Resources Center, to the best of their abilities, and to obey and uphold the constitution and principles of Omega Phi Alpha.*

1500-1600 23 1500-1600 1500-1600 1500-1600

Classroom 1. All Windows collected as 40-manuals, with 1000 copies of 1000 and 1000

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Classical 19. 19th-century architectural style with two square apses, each with a dome. The dome is made of brick and is covered with a green patina. The building is made of brick and has a red-tiled roof. The building is located in the center of the city and is a landmark. It is a good example of the architectural style of the 19th century.

Kollisionsregeln über Elektrische Stromkreise angewendet im mathematischen Modell der neuronalen Aktivität

Section 3. Several of Director's essay test items are shown that test knowledge of Director's role concurrently, but other officers of the Municipal Police may receive in some cases less than concurrently.

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[illegible]

The Service Council shall select **Qualified Service Directors or Other Personnel and Programs, in the instance of Service Directors those not then appointed or re-appointable** **Qualifid Principles Director and Service Programs Coordinators, and include** at least one service director from each chapter. Its duties shall include, but not be limited to, the following: to select, appoint, re-appoint and discontinue the service directors and programs; to select, appoint, re-appoint and discontinue the service programs; to provide advice for service projects. It is the duty of all council members to respond promptly to communications received, to remain objective, to provide constructive criticism, to attend the council as representative to council or any other group and to report to council the results of the group's work, and to improve their chapter while working as members of the council.

¹ The Advancement & Access Committee shall be advised by the Vice President of Advancement. Candidates must consist of the advanced students of each chapter and the president of each chapter should be selected. The committee shall interview the advanced and chapter leaders. The committee shall make a final decision on the promotion of students according to the standards ~~established~~ previously, and work together to establish relationships between advanced and non-advanced students.

The National Standards Board shall be appointed by the Vice President of Education Administration and shall consist of a National Standards Board Chair who is on the Board of Directors, and National Standards Board members that will be defined in procedures on the Member Resource Center. It shall be the duty of this committee to ensure that the standards of the College of the Siskiyous are being updated by the National Standards Board. The National Standards Board shall be responsible for making decisions on the national level regarding dissemination and status of members and providing training materials to College Standards Boards.

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• All active chapters shall complete a "working" project report. Some to be submitted to the National K-12 Silver Award jury. ~~Others to be submitted to the National K-12 Gold Award jury.~~

-Clausen 2). The local membership director shall be responsible for recruiting, training and evaluating platoon members. He shall oversee the

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The national organizations shall require competitive bids for all purchases paid from the national recovery operation that over thousand dollars in compliance with purchasing procedures set forth in the **Philippines-USA-ASEAN national procedures**.

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These records should include the most current copies of the National Executive Board Minutes and the National Handbook.

Abstract

(2) **Section 1.** A governmental unit or private entity shall be allowed use the digital files.

Motion passed unanimously.

Bylaws Revisions by Acclamation

Crystal Genter moved to accept all bylaws revisions by acclamation as presented; **Jaiden Turk** seconded.

Article V
Section 3. Change "Vice President of Administration" to "Director of Administration."
Section 4. Change "Vice President of Administration" to "Director of Administration or her designee."
Section 6. Change "Vice President of Alumnae Relations" to "Alumnae Membership Director."
Section 7. Change "Vice President of Membership" to "Collegiate Membership Director." Change "Vice President of Chapter Support" to "Chapter Operations Director."
Section 8. Change "Vice President of Chapter Support" to "Chapter Operations Director." Change "Chapter Support Leadership Consultant" to "Chapter Support Coordinator."
Section 9. Change "National Leadership Program Director" to "National Programs Director."
Section 10. Change "Vice President of Business Operations" to "Director of Administration."
Article VII
Section 2. Change "Vice President of Chapter Support" to "District Summit Coordinator."
Article VIII
Section 2. Change "Vice President of Administration" to "Director of Administration."
Article XIII
Change title reference of "Vice President of Operations" to "Operations Director."
Article XIII, Section 1
Change "Vice President of Alumnae Relations" to "Alumnae Membership Director."
Article XIII
Change "Vice President of Operations" to "Operations Director."

Motion passed unanimously.

Substantive Proposals

Susie Larson moved to rename the OPA Scholarship to permanently be called the *Pamela McCullough McEwen Scholarship Award*; **Leann Williams** seconded.

- This is in honor of a great lady who furthered this scholarship and worked for it more than anyone. She also became the first to leave a bequest in her will to the scholarship. She led by example and we can think of no greater honor. – Submitted by **Susie Larson** (Mu), **Ginger McGarity** (Delta, Nu), and **Leann Williams** (Nu)

Carrie Johnson further shared with the delegation Pamela McCullough McEwen's substantial influence on Omega Phi Alpha.

At 3:58pm **Michelle Brannon** requested a 2-minute recess in order to hold a meeting with members of the Scholarship Trust. (Board of the Scholarship Trust decided to rename the OPA Scholarship Award to the *Pamela McCullough McEwen Scholarship Award*.)

4:00pm Business Resumed

Jenna Zielinski moved to form a committee in order to address alcohol and social media concerns; **Taylor Outler** seconded. *Motion passed unanimously.*

District Assignments for 2019-2020

Liberty District

- Alpha Theta – The Pennsylvania State University
- Alpha Iota – Notre Dame of Maryland University
- Alpha Pi – West Virginia University

Bluegrass District

- Epsilon – Tennessee Technological University
- Mu – Middle Tennessee State University
- Rho – Western Kentucky University
- Sigma – The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Azalea District

- Nu – Georgia Institute of Technology
- Omicron – Auburn University
- Alpha Zeta – Kennesaw State University

Lone Star District

- Delta – Texas A&M University
- Tau – The University of Texas at Austin
- Alpha Nu – Texas State University

Cactus Pine District

- Phi – Arizona State University
- Alpha Alpha – Northern Arizona University

Founding District

- Alpha – Bowling Green State University
- Gamma – Eastern Michigan University

Blue Ridge District

- Chi – University of South Carolina
- Alpha Lambda – North Carolina State University
- Alpha Rho – Virginia Tech

Heartland District

- Alpha Gamma – Oklahoma State University
- Alpha Kappa – University of Kansas

Peaches and Beaches District

- Alpha Delta – Georgia Southern University
- Alpha Xi – University of Central Florida
- Alpha Omicron – University of Florida

Colonial District

- Alpha Mu – Boston University
- Omega – Rutgers University

****Flexible**** Alpha Beta (University of Mississippi) will participate with either Azalea or Bluegrass depending upon location of the summit.

Budget Approvals 2019-2020, 2020-2021

Michelle Brannon moved to accept the 2019-2020 budget as presented to the delegation during the financial review workshop, **Susie Larson** seconded. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Michelle Brannon moved to accept the 2020-2021 budget as presented to the delegation during the financial review workshop, **Brittany Jaggars** seconded. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Michelle Brannon moved to accept the uses for fund balance as described in the changes in operating fund balance for the 2019-2020 fiscal year as presented in the financial review workshop, **Lacey Leschefsky** seconded. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Michelle Brannon moved to accept the uses for the fund balance as described in the changes in operating fund balance for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, **Melissa Horth** seconded. *Motion passed unanimously.*

At 4:10, the delegate broke for a 10-minute recess, until 4:20pm.

Call to order, Saturday, July 13, 2019 at 4:22pm by Jan Titsworth.

Roll Call was called by Megan Sheppard.

Absent: Alpha Beta, Alpha Omicron, South Alumnae Delegate Susie Larson.

Elections

Jan Titsworth stepped down from chairing the meeting, VP of Lifetime Membership **Suzy McTaggart** took over as chair.

Carrie Johnson moved to elect National President Jan Titsworth, VP Communication Thea Moritz, VP of Programs Andie Hixson, and VP of Finance Leanne Kirby by acclamation; seconded by **Crystal Genter**.

- Voting alumnae delegate Susie Larson enters at 4:26pm.

No objection to vote by acclamation. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Floor opened for discussion on the candidates for Vice President of Lifetime Membership with input from: **Jamie Sullivan, Carrie Johnson, Catherine Ferrell, Kennedy Dixon, Paxton Cooke, and Jenna Zielinski.**

Time for discussion on the candidates expired, no motion to extend.

Suzy McTaggart moved to a secret ballot for the election of Alyssa Bernhardt or Alexandra Arnold to the position of VP of Lifetime Membership.

Suzy McTaggart announced the election of the VP of Lifetime Membership for the 2019-2021 term – *Alyssa Bernhardt.*

At 4:45pm, **Catherine Ferrell moved to adjourn** business until our next Convention in 2021; **Abby Gillin** seconded the motion. *Motion passed unanimously* (with gusto).

Parliamentary Procedure Quick Reference

Motion	Applies to the Following Motions	May Interrupt Member Who Has the Floor	Mover Must Be Recognized First	Requires a Second	Debatable	Vote Required	Motions that May Apply to It
Fix the time of the next meeting	None	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	Amend, reconsider
Adjourn	None	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority (not a quorum)	None
Question of privilege	None	Yes, if necessary	No	No	No	Decided by Chair	None, but all may apply to resulting motion
Call for orders of the day	Any order	Yes, for a special order	No	No	No	None, but 2/3rds vote to postpone special order	None, except to postpone orders
Rise to a point of order	Any motion or act	Yes	No	No	No	None, unless appealed	None, but see appeals
Suspend the rules	Any motion where needed	No	Yes	Yes	No	2/3rds	None
Motion to Ballot	Any motion that may be voted	Interrupts Chair	No	Yes (for motion to ballot)	No	Majority	None
Motion to Table	Main motion, appeals, questions of privilege, reconsider	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	None
Motion to take from table	Only a motion that was tabled	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	None

Parliamentary Procedure Quick Reference

Motion	Applies to the Following Motions	May Interrupt Member Who Has the Floor	Mover Must Be Recognized First	Requires a Second	Debatable	Vote Required	Motions that May Apply to It
Close or limit debate	Any debatable motion	No	Yes	Yes	No	2/3rds	Reconsider
Postpone to a certain day	Main motion, questions of privilege, reconsider	No	Yes	Yes	Yes (only as to propriety of postponement)	Majority (unless special order)	Amend, reconsider, limit or close debate
Refer to a committee	Main motion, questions of privilege	No	Yes	Yes	Yes (limited issues)	Majority	Amend, reconsider, limit or close debate
Amend	Main motion, limit debate, refer, postpone definitely, fix time of next meeting	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Amend, reconsider, limit or close debate
Postpone Indefinitely	Main motion, question of privilege	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Limit or close debate, reconsider
Reconsider	Any motion except adjourn, suspend rules, lay on the table	Yes, for entry	No	Yes	Yes	Majority	Limit or close debate, lay on the table, postpone indefinitely
Rescind	Main motions, appeals, questions of privilege	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3rds or majority on notice	All

District Assignments 2021-2022

Liberty

Alpha Theta (Penn State)

Alpha Iota (Notre Dame of Maryland)

Alpha Pi (West Virginia University)

Bluegrass

Epsilon (Tennessee Tech)

Mu (Middle Tennessee State)

Rho (Western Kentucky)

Azalea

Nu (Georgia Tech)

Alpha Zeta (Kennesaw State)

Lonestar

Delta (Texas A&M)

Tau (Texas at Austin)

Alpha Nu (Texas State)

Cactus Pine

Phi (Arizona State)

Alpha Alpha (Northern Arizona)

Founding

Alpha (Bowling Green State)

Gamma (Eastern Michigan)

Blue Ridge

Alpha Lambda (North Carolina State)

Alpha Rho (Virginia Tech)

Alpha Sigma (Old Dominion)

Heartland

Alpha Gamma (Oklahoma State)

Alpha Kappa (Kansas)

Sunshine

Alpha Xi (University of Central Florida)

Alpha Omicron (University of Florida)

Colonial

Alpha Mu (Boston University)

Omega (Rutgers University)

New District

Chi (South Carolina)

Alpha Delta (Georgia Southern)