

BY-LAWS OF THE ALPHA BETA RHO CHAPTER PI SIGMA ALPHA

ARTICLE 1 Name and Location of Organization

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the Alpha Beta Rho Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society.

Section 2. This chapter shall be situated at the University of North Alabama.

Section 3. This document supersedes any previously approved By-Laws.

ARTICLE 2 Purpose of Organization

Section 1. The objectives of this organization shall be as follows:

- a. to stimulate productive scholarship and intelligent interest in the subject of government;
- b. to seek to promote a better understanding of government among its members;
- c. to promote worthwhile curricular and extracurricular activities related to political science;
- d. to advance and diffuse knowledge and interest in political science;
- e. to organize and conduct seminars, conferences, research, discussion groups, and publications in the subject of political science.

Section 2. It is a professed goal of this chapter to recognize superior scholastic ability in the field of political science at the University of North Alabama and to ensure that those possessing these qualifications will be afforded the opportunity to become a proponent of the above principles in Pi Sigma Alpha.

ARTICLE 3 Membership

Section 1. Membership in this chapter shall be active, faculty or honorary, as detailed below.

Section 2. Primary qualifications of student candidates for active membership include high scholarship, manifested interest in political science, and promise of achievement in their chosen field. Any student who fulfills the following requirements shall be admitted into *Pi Sigma Alpha*:

- a. completion of at least three political science courses, at least one of which must be at the 300-level or higher. Transfer students must have completed at least two of the three courses at UNA;

- b. a minimum of a 3.0 GPA overall;
- c. not less than a 3.2 GPA in political science courses.

Section 3. Any member of the faculty of the department of political science at UNA may be elected to faculty membership. Faculty members shall possess all the privileges of active members.

Section 4. Any person of recognized ability and achievement in the field of political science, and who is deemed worthy of special recognition by the chapter for her/his contribution to the objectives for which this chapter strives, may be elected as an honorary member. No more than two such members may be elected in any one year. Honorary members shall possess all the privileges of active members except that of holding office. The election of an honorary member must take place at any general membership meeting throughout the year. In order to be elected, 2/3rds of the membership present at that meeting must concur with the nomination of the honorary member. Officers, excluding the president, are allowed to vote. The president will preside over the voting.

Section 5. Any persons duly elected to membership (other than honorary) at another institution, who subsequently enroll as students or are serving as faculty members at UNA, shall be deemed members of this chapter.

Section 6. The Alpha Beta Rho chapter shall initiate new members at such time as is deemed advisable by the organization's officers and faculty advisor. Initiations must occur annually, but can also occur biannually.

Section 7. The privileges of membership of an active member once initiated may be suspended or revoked by the unanimous vote of the entire chapter.

ARTICLE 4 Officers and Committees

Section 1. Officers of this chapter shall be those provided by the national constitution, to wit: a President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and Faculty Advisor.

Section 2. All officers shall be selected by the Faculty advisor with advice and consent of the outgoing officers. Officers shall serve a term of one year.

Section 3. The duties of the President shall be as follows:

- a. to call special meetings of this chapter;
- b. to appoint committees and committee chairmen as s/he deems necessary;
- c. to be responsible (with the Faculty Advisor) for arranging speakers, programs, and entertainment for meetings of the chapter;
- d. to see to it that the chapter follows the general policy direction as set forth in Article II;

- e. to name the time and location of the meetings.

Section 4. The Vice-President shall assist the President and Faculty Advisor in any way possible and fulfill the duties of the President in the President's absence.

Section 5. The Secretary-Treasurer shall handle all correspondence of the chapter, including the following:

- a. notification of members of the time and place of meetings;
- b. keeping the minutes of the proceedings thereof;
- c. collect and handle all dues, fees, etc., which pertain to this organization.

Section 6. The Faculty Advisor shall assist the President in arranging speakers, programs, and entertainment for the meetings of this chapter. S/he shall also seek to provide greater communication between the student and faculty members of the organization.

Section 7. Chairmen of such committees as the President may appoint shall designate the meeting times and places for the members of their respective committees as they shall deem appropriate. Important chairships to consider include a social chair, a publicity chair, and a chair for a speakers committee.

Section 8. Vacancies occurring on committees or in any elected office shall be filled by appointment of the Faculty Advisor of the chapter.

Section 9. Any officer of the chapter may be removed by the concurrence of three-fourths (3/4ths) majority of the entire active membership of the chapter.

ARTICLE 5 **Fees and Dues**

Section 1. For initiation into the chapter, a one-time membership fee, including national dues and dues to the local chapter, shall be due and payable to the Secretary-Treasurer or the political science department administrative assistant by the day of initiation, or by a time pre-arranged as deemed necessary by the officers.

Section 2. Annual dues, if assessed, shall be approved by the active and faculty members present at the first business meeting held during the fall semester. Payment of such dues will be required for participation in chapter activities.

Section 3. In the case of the initiation of honorary members, the chapter treasury shall be assessed for the initiation fee payable to the national office.

Section 4. All initiation fees of active, faculty, and honorary members shall be paid by the Secretary-Treasurer or political science department administrative assistant to the national office within ten days of the initiation date.

Section 5. No other dues or fees will be assessed or collected by the officers of this chapter except by majority resolution of those present and voting at any business meeting; such fees shall be payable to the Secretary-Treasurer or political science department administrative assistant.

ARTICLE 6

Meetings

Section 1. Business meetings of this organization shall be held as necessary during the period September through May (excluding mid-semester break) at a time and place determined by the faculty advisor to be most convenient and expedient.

Section 2. Attendance of all active members is required at all business meetings and initiations. Notice of time and place of meetings shall be made by the officers of the chapter at least three days prior to the date of the meeting.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called at any time when deemed necessary by the President of the chapter.

Section 4. The procedure at all meetings, chapter and committee, shall be governed by accepted Parliamentary rules of order, and members shall observe proper decorum during the sessions of the chapter and its various committees.

ARTICLE 7

Constitution and Amendments

Section 1. The chapter shall have the power to make and amend these by-laws not inconsistent with the word and spirit of the national constitution, as may be deemed necessary.

Section 2. Amendments shall be adopted by the favorable concurrence of not less than two-thirds (2/3rds) of those members present and voting, provided that such amendment or amendments shall have been read in full to the chapter.