



CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS
UNITED GREEK COUNCIL

UPDATED: 10/14/2024

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CONSTITUTION

Article I: Name

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the United Greek Council for all official business. Hereafter, the organization will be referred to as the UGC.

Article II: Purpose

Section 1: The mission of the United Greek Council is to support a diverse community by creating a culture of respect, inclusivity, and empowerment for our organizations.

Article III: Membership

Section 1: Each member organization of the UGC shall meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the Bylaws Article II, Section 2, and shall be assigned to a membership status as outlined in this section.

Section 2: In accordance with Administrative Regulation 4:1, Registration and Recognition of Student Organizations, no RSO/SSO will be hindered or discriminated against in the ordering of its internal affairs, selection of its leaders and members, defining of doctrines and principles, and resolving organizational disputes in the furtherance of its mission or in its determination that only persons committed to its mission should conduct such activities. In all other respects, all RSOs and SSOs must comply with the University's non-discrimination policy, Administrative Regulation 6:1, Policy on Discrimination and Harassment.

Section 3: Active Chapter Status

A. In order for a chapter to achieve active status, the chapter must meet the following

criteria:

- a. Registered student organization in good standing at the University of Kentucky.
 - b. Recognized organization in good standing with the inter/national organization.
 - c. Achieve a semester chapter average GPA of a 2.0 as determined by Fraternity & Sorority Life Office.
 - d. Sustain an active membership roster listed with Fraternity & Sorority Life Office of three (3) or more members.
 - e. Maintain good standing with the council by upholding the rights and responsibilities as defined in Article III, Section 2B of the Constitution.
- B. Active status chapters shall have the following rights and responsibilities
- a. Full voting rights on all business matters of the UGC including but not limited to officer elections, council budgets, and programming.
 - b. Members shall be eligible to hold elected office in the council.
 - c. Submit payment of all dues and fees as outlined in the Bylaws Article III, Section
 - d. Attendance at all required functions as outlined in the Bylaws Article V.

Section 4: Associate Chapter Status

- A. Associate status chapters shall be assigned to this status when they meet the following criteria:
- a. Registered student organization in good standing at the University of Kentucky.
 - b. Recognized organization in good standing with the inter/national organization.
 - c. Achieve a semester chapter average GPA of a 2.0 as determined by Fraternity & Sorority Life Office.
 - d. Have an active membership roster listed with Fraternity & Sorority Life Office of two (2) members.
 - e. Failure to meet the rights and responsibilities of active status chapters.
 - f. The chapter submits a formal request to the UGC Executive Board requesting to be placed on associate status.
- B. Associate status chapters shall have the following rights and responsibilities
- a. Full voting rights on day-to-day business matters of the UGC, but no voting rights for amendments to the Constitution and/or Bylaws or elected officers of the UGC.
 - b. Attendance at all General Body meetings of the UGC.
 - c. Submit payment of partial dues and fees as outlined in Bylaws Article IV, Section

Section 5: Inactive Chapter Status

- A. Inactive status chapters shall be assigned to this status when one or more of the following criteria are met:
- a. Loss of recognition as a registered student organization at the University of Kentucky.
 - b. Placed in bad standing with the respective inter/national organization.
 - c. Failure to meet the rights and responsibilities of either active or associate membership status.
 - d. Chapter semester GPA is below a 2.0 average for two consecutive semesters as

determined & Sorority Life Office.

e. Chapter membership falls below two (2) active members as determined by the Fraternity & Sorority Life Office.

B. Inactive status chapters shall have no rights or responsibilities with the UGC.

C. Inactive status chapters may request to return to associate or active membership status through a formal request to the Executive Board that demonstrates how the chapter meets the criteria of the changed membership status.

Section 6: Membership Eligibility Prohibition of Dual Membership

A. To be eligible to join an organization within the United Greek Council, potential members/candidates can not have been previously initiated into another organization under the United Greek Council.

a. The exception is membership in Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and Sigma Alpha Iota. Students are permitted to be in another United Greek Council, Interfraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, or Panhellenic Council organization per national bylaws. Students will be charged their Greek Fee based on their membership in the other organization.

B. Eligibility is determined by the organization's national/international headquarter policy.

Article IV: Expansion

Section 1: The UGC is supportive of increased growth of member organizations and the fraternity and sorority community at the University of Kentucky. Further, the UGC welcomes new organizations that meet the criteria for membership in the council.

Section 2: Groups wishing to join the UGC shall adhere to the Expansion policy outlined in the UGC Bylaws Article II.

Article V: Executive Board

Section 1: The Executive Board of the UGC shall be defined as the elected officers.

Section 2: The officers shall be the President, Vice President of Administration, Director of Community and Growth, Director of Programming, and Council Ambassador

Section 3: Officers shall be elected according to the process outlined in Article VIII.

Section 4: The term of office shall be one calendar year.

Section 5: Eligibility of Officers

- A. Each elected officer shall meet the following eligibility requirements.
 - a. Candidates must be full-time enrolled undergraduate students at the University of Kentucky.
 - b. Candidates must have a minimum of a 2.5 cumulative GPA.
 - c. Candidates must be active members of their respective organization for at least one semester prior to election.
 - d. No more than two positions on the Executive Board may be held by members of the same organization.
 - i. At the discretion of the advisor and a majority vote from the council delegates, unfilled positions can be filled by organizations with two members already on the executive board.
- B. Eligibility for President
 - a. Candidates for the office of President shall not be the President of their chapter during the officer term.
 - b. The position of President shall not be held by members of the same organization two consecutive years.
 - i. If there is no viable candidate from the initial election process, the application becomes open to the chapter who has held the presidency the last two years in a row.
- C. Eligibility for Director of Programming
 - a. Candidates for the Director of programming must have had prior experience with event planning
 - i. If there is no viable candidate from the initial election process the application becomes open to those with no prior experience.

Article VI: General Body

Section 1: The General Body of the UGC shall be defined as all active members of member organizations of the council.

Article VII: Advisor

Section 1: The advisor to the UGC shall be assigned by the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office.

Section 2: The advisor to the UGC shall be responsible for:

- A. Maintaining regular communication with the President and Executive Board.
- B. Advocating for the interest of the council within the University of Kentucky community.
- C. Providing advice and counsel to the Executive Board and General Body of the council.
- D. Remain unbiased in activities of the council and hold no vote.
- E. Attend regularly scheduled meetings of the council.

Article VIII: Elections and Voting

Section 1: Elections shall be held in the fall term of each year.

Section 2: Application Process

- A. Applications for the UGC Executive Board shall be open to members on the first weekday of October.
- B. Applications will be live during the first week of October. Applications are created by the advisor and reviewed by the executive board.
- C. Nominees will provide the following information:
 - a. Why are you interested in running for a position on the UGC Executive Board?
 - b. What goals do you have for the position(s) you are running for?
 - c. What experience do you have that makes you qualified for the position(s) you are running for?

Section 3: Voting

- A. Delegates shall be given the applications to bring back to their respective organizations to review and voting will occur two weeks later at the next General Body Meeting.
- B. Voting for elected officers shall occur in order as follows:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President of Administration
 - c. Council Ambassador
 - d. Director of Programming
 - e. Director of Community and Growth
- C. Each active chapter will have one vote.
- D. Voting shall be done by secret ballot.
- E. Votes will be counted by the UGC Advisor.
- F. The Executive Board shall vote only in the case of a tie.

Article IX: Meeting and Delegates

Section 1: The General Body of the UGC shall meet biweekly during the academic term.

- A. General Body Meetings shall be open to any University of Kentucky student.

Section 2: The Executive Board of the UGC shall meet biweekly during the academic term on the off weeks in-between General Body Meetings.

Section 3: Delegates

- A. Each active and associate member chapter shall select one delegate.
- B. Delegates shall serve a minimum term of one semester and be selected by their respective chapters.
- C. If the delegate is unable to attend, they will find a replacement from their respective

organization.

Article X: Dues and Fees

Section 1: All active and associate member chapters of the UGC are expected to pay dues to the council as described in Bylaws Article III.

Section 2: Chapter dues shall be assessed each semester based upon the membership roster maintained by the Fraternity & Sorority Life Office at the start of the semester.

Section 3: Dues shall be paid to the UGC no later than the third General Body meeting of each academic term.

A. Late fees shall be assessed in accordance with Bylaws Article III, Section 3.

Section 4: Fines and penalties will be assessed to member chapters in accordance with Bylaws Article III, Section 3.

A. Payment of fines and penalties is expected no later than the General Body meeting following the notification of the fine.

Article XII: Amendments

Section 1: Amendments to this Constitution may be made by any member in good standing with the UGC or the advisor.

Section 2: Amendments shall be proposed in writing to the Vice President of Administration for review prior to presentation to the General Body for review.

Section 3: Amendments must pass with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active member organizations of the UGC.

BYLAWS

Article I: Executive Board Structure

Section 1: President

A. The President shall preside over all meetings and business of the UGC.

B. The President shall maintain close contact with the Executive Board officers and the council advisor to ensure promptness and efficiency in the work of the UGC.

C. The President shall serve as the public face of the UGC both within the fraternity and sorority community as well as the University of Kentucky community.

a. The President shall attend or appoint another member of the council to attend all

University meetings, task forces, and commitments as asked.

- b. Meet monthly with the Presidents of the Interfraternity, National Pan-Hellenic, and Panhellenic Councils.
- D. The President shall be responsible for developing agendas of all UGC meetings and formal activities.
- E. The President shall only vote in the case of a tie in any matters of the UGC. F. The President shall spend one hour per week in the Fraternity & Sorority Life Office working on business and issues related to the UGC.
- G. Serve as the summer student worker for the Fraternity and Sorority Life office a. If the student is not able to work over the summer due to an internship - then the summer student worker will default to the Director of Programming

Section 2: Vice President of Administration

- A. The Vice President of Administration shall perform the duties of the President in their absence.
- B. The Vice President of Administration shall be responsible for organizing any revisions to the Constitution and/or Bylaws of the UGC.
- C. The Vice President of Administration shall be responsible for taking minutes for all UGC meetings and formal activities.
- D. The Vice President of Administration shall be responsible for attendance at all UGC meetings and programming events.
- E. The Vice President of Administration shall supervise any issues and programming related to risk reduction for the council and its member organizations.
- F. The Vice President of Administration shall be responsible for all monies and financial records of the UGC including chapter dues, approval of BBNvolved finance requests, and fines.
- G. The Vice President of Administration shall review UGC events submitted to BBNvolved for approval.
- H. The Vice President of Administration shall spend one hour per week in the Fraternity & Sorority Life Office working on business and issues related to the UGC.

Section 3: Director of Programming

- A. The Director of Programming shall oversee all programs and activities of the UGC.
- B. The Director of Programming shall be responsible for securing all necessary reservations for University and off campus facilities for UGC business and programs.
- C. The Director of Programming shall be responsible for reviewing events in an effort to ensure that events foster positive relations amongst UGC organizations.
- D. The Director of programming shall serve as the UGC representative for co-council communication and event planning.
- E. The Director of Programming shall spend one hour per week in the Fraternity & Sorority Life Office working on business and issues related to the UGC.

Section 4: Director of Community and Growth

- A. The Director of Community and Growth shall focus on the expansion of the UGC and serve as a resource for UGC organization recruitment.
- B. The Director of Community and Growth shall search for potential organizations to join the UGC and be their direct contact.
- C. The Director of Community and Growth shall focus on building the UGC brand and raise recognition of it on UK's campus through maintaining positive public relations.
- D. The Director of Community and Growth shall be responsible for maintaining the official UGC social media accounts including hosting social media "takeovers" with one representative of each organization within UGC.
- E. The Director of Community and Growth shall be responsible for education and awareness of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion both within and outside of UGC.
- F. The Director of Community and Growth shall perform the duties of the Director of Programming in their absence including but not limited to:
 - a. Securing all necessary reservations for University and off campus facilities for UGC business and programs.
 - b. Reviewing events in an effort to ensure that events foster positive relations amongst UGC organizations.
 - c. Serve as the UGC representative for co-council communication and event planning.
- G. The Director of Community and Growth shall hold one office hour a week in the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office

Section 5: Council Ambassador

- A. Council Ambassador will represent all organizations within UGC.
- B. They will be responsible for checking in with the individual organizations to address any concerns or questions including but not limited to mandatory attendance, group/individual needs, management resources, and recruitment aid.
- D. They are required to have recurring meetings with the individual organizations and then relay any important information discussed to the UGC Executive Board.
- E. They will be responsible for holding one office hour a week in the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office

Article II: Expansion Policy

Section 1: The UGC is supportive of increased growth of member organizations and the fraternity and sorority community at the University of Kentucky. Further, the UGC welcomes new organizations that meet the criteria for membership in the council.

Section 2: Eligibility

- A. Organizations wishing to join the UGC must adhere to the following criteria to be eligible for any membership status, as outlined in the UGC Constitution Article III.
 - a. Registration with the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office is the first criteria for membership. Eligible groups must adhere to the Criteria for Consideration of Student Organization Registration as a Social Fraternity or Sorority at the University of Kentucky.
 - b. Organizations must be a social or culturally based fraternity or sorority that is not eligible for regular membership in the Interfraternity, Panhellenic, or National Panhellenic Councils.
 - c. Only officially recognized colonies or chapters of inter/national fraternities and sororities will be recognized by the council.
 - d. All interested groups must meet the minimum requirements for active or associate membership in the council.

Article III: Dues and Finance

Section 1: All active and associate member chapters are required to submit dues to the council as outlined in the Constitution Article X.

Section 2: Dues

- A. The council will assess a chapter fee and a per member fee.
- B. Associate status chapters shall be assessed \$50 per semester. C. Active status chapters shall be assessed a per capita fee of \$10 per member, per semester.

Section 3: Fines

- A. Any fines shall be assessed to member chapters for the following reasons:
 - 1. Failure to Pay Dues: Dues not submitted by the due date outlined in the Constitution Article IX, Section 3.
 - a. If dues are not submitted by the given due date, a warning letter shall be issued within 2 business days after the given due date.
 - b. Failure to pay dues within the week of the warning letter will result in an assessed late fee of ten percent (10%) of the total amount due.
 - 2. Failure to Attend UGC General Body Meetings: Failure to meet the attendance requirements as outlined in article V will result in the offending chapter being issued a \$30 fine.
 - a. Failure to have the mandatory amount of attendance at UGC Open House as outlined in the Bylaws Article V shall result in a \$50 fine
 - b. Upon the third violation as listed in the Bylaws Article IV Section 3, the offering chapter will be assessed a fine by the Executive Board.
 - 3. Failure to Meet Program Attendance Requirement as outlined in Article V:
 - a. First offense: a warning letter.

- b. Second offense: \$25 fine
 - c. Offenses are accrued per semester, starting with zero offenses at the beginning of the semester.
4. Any other fines shall be assessed at the discretion of the Executive Board and may range from ten dollars to fifty dollars (\$10-\$50).
5. Organizations that fail to return required paperwork from the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, such as semesterly Required Forms and Chapter Status Reports, by the advertised due dates will incur a fine of \$10/week until outstanding paperwork is turned in.

Article IV: Risk Reduction Policies

Section 1: Events with Alcohol

- A. In planning and implementing social events, members of the United Greek Council are bound by a number of laws, regulations, and policies concerning alcohol and other risk-related issues. The responsibility for compliance with these policies and the subsequent liability for negligence rest solely on each individual chapter.
- B. In no event may UGC funds be used for the purchase of alcohol for individual organizations or council events.
- C. Alcohol and Other Substances
 - a. The UGC does not condone the misuse or abuse of alcohol and substances by any members of the council and supports the efforts of each member organization to provide a safe social environment for members and guests.
 - b. All UGC member organizations shall abide by the University of Kentucky Alcohol Policy (Administrative Regulation 6:4 University Alcohol Policy).
 - c. All events sponsored by the UGC shall be alcohol and substance free.

Section 2: Hazing Prevention

- A. No organization shall employ hazing to both non-initiated and initiated members that includes but is not limited to:
 - a. Subtle
 - i. Deception
 - ii. Assigning demerits
 - iii. Depriving privileges granted to other members
 - iv. Requiring new members to perform tasks not assigned to current members
 - v. Name calling
 - vi. Quizzing/drills on meaningless information
 - vii. Socially isolating new members
 - viii. Expecting certain items to always be in one's possession
 - b. Harassment
 - i. Verbal abuse
 - ii. Asking new members to wear humiliating attire

- iii. Requiring new members to perform humiliating acts
 - iv. Sleep deprivation
 - v. Sexual simulations
 - vi. Interfering with personal hygiene schedules
 - vii. Treats or implied treats
 - viii. Expecting new members to do chores or personal favors for existing members
- c. Violent
- i. Forced or coerced into alcohol consumption, drug consumption or consumption of a vile substance
 - ii. Beating, paddling, burning, branding or other forms of assault
 - iii. Water intoxication
 - iv. Exposure to extreme weather without appropriate clothing or protection
 - v. Abduction/kidnap
 - vi. Public nudity
 - vii. Bondage
 - viii. Expecting illegal activity
- B. The United Greek Council shall support the state hazing law and the University of Kentucky's Hazing Prevention Administrative Regulation.
- C. These hazing policies are applicable to individual organization members as well as UGC organizations.
- D. All infractions of the above clauses shall be dealt with in a serious manner by the UGC Executive Board and the University of Kentucky.

Section 3: Event Registration

- A. All events must be registered on BBNvolved at least two weeks prior to the event's scheduled date.

Article V: Attendance

Section 1: Recognizing the importance of the meetings and programs sponsored by the council, attendance at UGC meetings and functions is expected of all member organizations of the UGC.

Section 2: Mandatory Functions

- A. General Body meetings shall be mandatory for all chapter delegates and the Executive Board.
- B. Open House shall be mandatory for 2 representatives of each active member organization to attend.
- C. Programs of the UGC shall be mandatory for thirty-three percent (33%) of members of each active member organization rounded to the nearest whole number.
 - a. The Executive Board shall determine which programs are mandatory and shall announce these events to the General Body no later than two (2) weeks prior to

the event.

D. UGC K-Week Event shall have two (2) members of each active member organization to attend.

E. Rock the Block shall have two (2) members of each active member organization to attend.

Section 3: Excuse Policy

A. The UGC shall abide by the University of Kentucky excuses policy for absences B. Any member organization who will be unable to attend the required programs shall submit notice of this absence no later than one (1) week prior to the Vice President of Administration via email.

C. Emergencies that prevent full attendance from the program shall be excused as long as notice is sent within 72 hours after the absence to the Vice President of Administration via email.

Article VI: Amendments

Section 1: Amendments to these Bylaws may be made by any member in good standing with the UGC or the advisor.

Section 2: Amendments shall be proposed in writing to the Vice President of Administration for review prior to presentation to the General Body for review.

Section 3: Amendments must pass with a majority vote two-thirds of the active member organizations of the UGC.