

PREAMBLE

We, the supporting Greek organization members at The University of Virginia's College at Wise (UVa-Wise), in accordance with the regulations and policies of the Inter-Greek Council (IGC), in order to promote and perpetuate the best interests of the Greek system, the college, and the college community and to continue to make a significant positive contribution to the UVa-Wise experience of the present and future generations of students at the College, do hereby establish this Constitution for the Inter-Greek Council at The University of Virginia's College at Wise.

ARTICLE I: NAME

Section 1: The name of the organization is the "Inter-Greek Council" (IGC) of The University of Virginia's College at Wise (UVa-Wise).

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

Section 1: To promote unity between Greek organizations at UVa-Wise.

Section 2: To promote the involvement of Greek organizations in college and community affairs.

Section 3: To establish a direct line of communication between the Greek System and the Administration and Faculty of UVa-Wise.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: The IGC shall be composed of one member from each of the Greek organizations at UVa-Wise.

A. Whichever group has their original representative elected to the Office of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary will be allowed to send an additional representative to act as a voting member of the IGC.

B. Each Greek organization's representative will serve on the IGC for the entire school year. The month of May will be a transition for current members and new members.

C. Alternates will assume all responsibilities that would normally be handled by the regular representatives, excluding officers. Only the alternate will be allowed to represent the group in the absence of the elected IGC representative.

Section 2: The three classes of membership shall be (1) regular, (2) probationary, and (3) non-active

A. Regular members shall be:

1. Those Greek organizations already in existence at the adoption of this document.

2.Those Greek organizations that have complied with the procedures necessary for the termination of probationary or non-active status.

B. Probationary members shall be:

1. Those who newly aspire to become members of the IGC. New organizations will have one vote once membership has been granted.

2. Those Greek organizations that have been placed on probation by the IGC. Organizations that are placed under disciplinary probation will lose voting privileges, and will be subject to the rules set down for probationary members in the IGC by-laws and enforced by the Judicial Board.

C. Non-Active members shall be:

1.Those Greek organizations that have lost all rights and privileges associated with being a member of the IGC, but who are eligible to retain membership.

Section 3: Requirements, which must be met in order for a new organization to acquire membership on the IGC, are as follows:

A. Abide by all standards set forth by the IGC. Be active in campus Greek Activities and maintain an active campus presence

B. Establish a new member education program, judicial policy and a judicial board

C. Support an active philanthropy

D. Establish an open motto, crest, flower and colors that are not used by other local or national Greek organizations

E. Establish a written closed ritual and unwritten closed ceremonies (handshake, closed motto, etc.)

F. All newly chartered organizations, with a minimum of 5 members, will be a probationary member of the IGC for a period of one year. These members will be able to vote on the IGC.

G. All charter members of a new organization must meet the requirements set forth in this constitution

H. For each probationary semester, 15 service hours shall be completed by at least 50 % of the petitioning group.

I. After two induction periods, the petitioning group must have at least 10 members.

J. The petitioning group must hold one social event (raffle, tailgate, etc.) that the IGC approves of during the probationary period.

L. The petitioning group must stay in good standing by adhering to all requirements set forth by the IGC constitution.

M. If the petitioning group is reactivating a dead Greek organization, the

following applies: if at all possible, they must have one or more previous member come back to UVa-Wise to give advice and instruction concerning induction. The petitioning group must follow the same guidelines as a new group.

N. If the petitioning group does not fulfill its requirements within the two semesters of probation, the IGC reserves the right to put the group on another semester of probation with supplementary guidelines or to revoke their chapter.

O. The petitioning group must be financially stable and will be audited by the IGC Treasurer.

P. Founding members of a new organization must have an individual grade point average of 2.0 at the University of Virginia's College at Wise.

Section 4: Minimum Grade point Average All Membership Categories

A. All member organizations of the IGC, and the pledge/associate/new members of all member organizations, in all membership categories must have and maintain a chapter minimum 2.0 grade point average.

B. If any IGC member organization, or the organizations pledges/associates/new members falls below a 2.0 GPA, they will be placed on academic probation, to be determined by the judicial board.

C. An associate member, that does not obtain the necessary GPA at the end of his/her initial pledge semester, may petition, in writing, the chapter for one additional semester in which to work on obtaining the necessary GPA. The petition must be approved by a majority of the active members of that organization and will be good for only one semester. If, at the end of the semester, the associate has not obtained the necessary GPA then he/she will be dropped and must re-pledge.

Section 5: Membership Dues

A. Each active Greek member shall pay membership dues to the IGC each semester

B. The IGC dues are set at \$5.00 per member per semester.

C. The IGC will be responsible for setting the dollar amount of the dues at the end of the preceding semester.

D. Each participating Greek organization will be responsible for collecting and turning in these dues no later than one month into each semester.

E. All membership dues shall be used for conducting official IGC business.

Section 6: Any group that ceases to exist due to membership falling below 5 members shall relinquish membership rights to the IGC. IGC dues will be non-refundable in the event an organization ceases to exist during a semester. Any individuals wishing to re-establish the dormant organization must follow the procedures listed within this constitution.

Section 7: Membership shall not be denied because of race, creed, national origin, or handicap.

ARTICLE IV: ORGANIZATION

The general organization shall consist of the IGC, the Executive Council, the Judicial Board and any other committees as may be authorized and controlled by the IGC.

Section 1: The Inter-Greek Council

- A. The legislative body for Greek affairs shall be the IGC.
- B. Regulations:
 1. Meetings will be held on a regular basis.
 2. Each organization with regular status shall have one vote.
 3. A quorum shall consist of 3/5 of the voting members of the IGC.
 4. All IGC representatives must have active status in their respective organizations.
 5. The rules and definitions contained in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* or its latest edition shall govern the proceedings at the meetings of the IGC Assembly in all cases that are not covered by the IGC constitution or its by-laws.
 6. All organizations, regular and probationary, shall have a representative attending each IGC meeting and each official judicial or other committee meetings.
 - a. It is the responsibility of each IGC member to prepare his or her next IGC representative for the next semester.
 - b. Each 2 tardies will constitute one absence, and the Secretary will establish tardies as being 10 minutes late. Consent will be given in the event that a 24-hour written notice of absence is given by the organization.
 - c. Any organization that misses a meeting or committee meeting will be fined \$25.00, for the second absence a \$50.00 fine, for the third a \$100.00 fine. For each meeting missed, a letter will be sent to the organization's advisor (and national representative, if applicable).
 - d. Executive Council officers will be fined at the same rate as organizations for unexcused absences. Two unexcused absences will be grounds for removal from the Executive Council by a majority vote of the executive council. Excused absences must be received and approved by the President at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.
 7. All officers shall be elected by the representatives of the IGC.

- 8. All officers must be members of an organization with regular status
- 9. All officers must have been active in IGC for one semester.
- C. All membership dues shall be used for conducting official IGC business.

Section 2. Officers

A. The officers shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Risk Management Chair

B. The officers shall be chosen from the members of IGC who have been elected by their respective organizations to serve the following year on the IGC.

C. The officers

1. President:

- a. Shall be the presiding office at meetings and oversee the enactment of all IGC decisions.
- b. Will appoint all committees.
- c. Upon request, may act as an arbitrator over disputes between member organizations or between member organizations and the IGC.
- d. Only vote in case of a tie, in which case s/he must vote.
- e. Shall have served at least on semester on IGC.

2. Vice President:

- a. Will assume the role of the President in his or her absence.
- b. Perform all functions of the President except for breaking tie votes. At any tie a tie occurs while the VP is presiding, the motion will be tabled until the President is present.
- c. Shall act as Conveners and Chairpersons at all IGC committees.
- d. Shall have served at least one semester on the IGC.

3. Secretary:

- a. Shall keep all records and minutes of the IGC meetings.
- b. Shall complete any correspondences assigned by the President.
- c. Shall maintain a membership list of all the branches of the Greek system and check attendance at all IGC meetings.

4. Treasurer:

- a. Shall bill for, receipt, disburse and keep accurate records for all IGC functions.
- b. Shall make regular financial statements to the IGC

- c. Shall notify any member organization of fines or dues assessed to them.
- 5. Risk Management Chair
 - a. Educate IGC member fraternities and sororities on the Risk Management policies concerning risk management
 - b. Coordinate the training of each chapter's risk management chair in the IGC policy and procedure
 - c. Develop and administer a Crisis Management Protocol
 - d. Educate chapters by providing actual examples of risk management successes and failures on a semesterly basis.
 - e. Plan and coordinate at least one risk management program for new members each semester

Section 3: Executive Council

A. Purpose

- 1. To set the agenda for each IGC meeting.
- 2. To meet whenever a complaint is filed to IGC.

B. Membership

- 1. President
- 2. Vice President
- 3. Secretary
- 4. Treasurer
- 5. IGC Risk Management Chair

Section 4: Committees

A. Judicial Board

- 1. The Judicial Board shall act to promote fairness and justice between Greek organizations and/or any other individuals or groups and Greek Organizations.

B. Any other committee that the IGC deems necessary.

ARTICLE V: JUDICIARY

Section 1: The University of Virginia's College at Wise Inter-Greek Council is established to promote and perpetuate the best interests of UVA-Wise and the Greek organizations represented therein. To insure cooperation among Greek organizations and between them and the college authorities and the community, we establish the IGC Judiciary System to deal swiftly with problems that may arise. We feel that this will cause the condition of the Greek organizations and their relations with the College and the community to be improved and enhanced.

Section 2: The jurisdiction of the IGC shall extend to all cases involving:

- A. Violations of the IGC Constitution and By-laws.
- B. Controversies between member groups of the IGC.
- C. Any complaint made against an IGC organization by any member of the student body, faculty, administration or community.

Section 3: Complaints made against individual members of Greek organizations will be handled through normal school channels. In any cases involving legal actions, the penalties levied by the IGC will be above and beyond any legal ramifications that may exist

Section 4: Cases arising under the aforementioned conditions may be referred to the IGC in the following way.

- A. Referral from any person via the Office of Student Affairs, the Director of Residence Life or the IGC.
- B. Referrals must be submitted in written form to the Greek Executive Council.
- C. The President will then turn over the complaint to the IGC Judicial Committee that will obtain the facts and report, via the Vice President, to the Judicial Board when the hearing takes place.

Section 5: Judicial Board

- A. The court of the Judicial Board shall consist of the following:
 - 1. The IGC Vice-President who will serve as Convener and Chairperson and shall have no vote.
 - 2. All members of the IGC holding regular status shall have a judicial board member, elected at the beginning of each year.
 - 3. If a member of Judicial Board is a member of an organization that has made or has had charges made against them, s/he will not take part in the investigation involving his or her group.
 - 4. In the event that the Vice-President of the IGC is a member of the accused group, or a group filing a charge, the President will replace the Vice-President as the Convener and Chairperson and shall act in the same manner as prescribed for the Vice-President.
 - 5. In cases of a deadlock vote, the Judicial Board Chair shall cast the deciding vote.

Section 6: Judicial Proceedings

- A. The Judicial Board shall consider charges against individual groups separately.
- B. All referrals will be turned over to the Executive Council. The referrals must be made within two weeks of the said infraction.
- C. The IGC Executive Council will call meetings as they deem necessary and then turn all referrals over to the Judicial Board.
- D. The Judicial Board will gather information and report the facts that they find on the day of the hearing.
- E. Hearings
 - 1. A hearing must occur for every complaint that is filed.

2. The Judicial Board may subpoena any Greek member whom they see fit. Subpoenas must be in writing at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing.
3. The IGC and the Judicial Board may also ask for the participation of any non-Greek member that may have any pertinent information. These invitations to participate in the hearing must be submitted in writing at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing.
4. All Judicial Hearings shall be closed.
5. Any non-Greek member that files a complaint has the right to act as prosecutor.
6. If the non-Greek member does not wish to act as prosecutor, the IGC will decide on the manner in which the case will be handled.
7. Before the hearing, the person filing the complaint must be present to answer any and all questions of the Judicial Board. All relevant evidence must be brought forward at this time.
8. In cases filed by a Greek member or organization, a member of that organization must act as prosecutor.
9. Any organization having charges brought against them will be given the opportunity to prepare a defense. A member of the accused organization must present the defense to the Judicial Board.
10. The Judicial Board shall have the right to decide each case and forward an appropriate penalty to the Vice Chancellor for Administration
11. There must be a majority vote of the Judicial Board to find an organization guilty of any infraction.
12. The IGC Constitution and By-laws will be used to determine all rules, all procedures, and all guidelines for punishments.
13. The accused group may have their current faculty advisor present to advise them.
14. The Judicial Board's decision will be turned over to the Vice Chancellor for Administration.

Section 7: Appeals

A. To the Vice Chancellor for Administration

1. Both the plaintiff and the defendant have the right to appeal the outcome of a judicial hearing. A written appeal must be given to the President of the IGC within 48 hours of the verdict.
2. The President will turn the appeal over to the Vice Chancellor for Administration, who will have the right to conduct their own hearings and investigation.

3. The Vice Chancellor for Administration will have the right to determine guilt or innocence of the group making an appeal.
4. The Vice Chancellor has the right to review the case and overturn, reduce, or agree with the original sanctions that were set forth by the IGC.
5. The appeal must be heard within two weeks of the date that the appeal is filed.

B. To the Chancellor

1. Both the plaintiff and the defendant have the right to appeal the outcome of a judicial hearing. A written appeal must be given to the President of the IGC within 48 hours of the verdict.
2. The President will turn the appeal over to the Chancellor, who will have the right to conduct their own hearings and investigation.
3. The Chancellor will have the right to determine guilt or innocence of the group making an appeal.
4. The Chancellor has the right to review the case and overturn, reduce, or agree with the original sanctions that were set forth by the IGC.
5. The appeal must be heard within two weeks of the date that the appeal is filed.

ARTICLE VI: RUSH

Section 1: Rush

- A. The IGC shall oversee the operation of two Rush programs per year.
- B. The IGC shall set the dates for Rush.
- C. Eligibility for Rush
 1. Any student interested in Greek Life at UVa-Wise may be rushed.
 2. A student who has attended UVa-Wise or who has transferred from another institution, must have a 2.0 cumulative GPA from UVa-Wise or the other institution(s) to be eligible for membership in any Greek organization.

Section 2: Induction Period

- A. Hazing, as defined by State Law and UVA-Wise, shall be forbidden.
- B. Any complaints concerning the induction period shall be submitted to the IGC in writing.
 1. Sorority Rush is limited to females; Fraternity Rush is limited to males.

ARTICLE VII: IMPEACHMENT PROCEDURES

Section 1: Any member of the IGC may be impeached for due cause and convicted by a 3/5-majority vote of the IGC.

Section 2: All procedures defined in this constitution must be followed.

ARTICLE VIII: FINES

Section 1: All fines are payable within 2 weeks (14 days) of notice from the IGC Treasurer

A. In the case of an appeal, the organization must appeal the notice of the fine within one week from the date received to the treasurer.

B. If the organization is found in fault the fine must be paid.

Section 2: Failure to make payment within this period will result in the group receiving non-active status in the IGC until the fines are paid. Letters will be sent to the Faculty Advisor and the National Representative (if national).

ARTICLE IX: RATIFICATION

Section 1: The ratification of this constitution and by-laws occurs after all member organizations have approved the document by a 3/5 vote. The constitution and by-laws shall be effective immediately after the approval by the IGC.

Section 2: All new amendments must be passed by a 3/5 majority vote of all member organizations. The amendments shall be effective immediately following their approval by the IGC.

ARTICLE X: OATH OF OFFICE

I, (name) as (name of office) of the Inter-Greek Council reaffirm my loyalty to the University of Virginia's College at Wise and my desire to serve the school's best interest. I will strive to create the spirit of close cooperation and good will between member fraternities and sororities, and to work for their mutual benefit. I promise to uphold the provisions of the Inter-Greek Council Constitution and its By-Laws and rules and regulations in the execution of my office and to be fair and impartial in my dealings with any member organization.

ARTICLE XI: BY-LAWS

Section 1: Rush

A. Rush sign-ups will take place each semester.

B. IGC will sponsor an activity to open Rush week. (Karaoke night, dinner,

etc.)

Section 2: Induction Period

- A. All members of the IGC must adhere to the following guidelines.
 - 1. Any activity that might be reasonably expected to bring physical harm to anyone is forbidden.
 - a. Striking associate members in any way is forbidden (ex. Paddling)
 - b. Requiring associate members to wear any uncomfortable garments is forbidden.
 - c. The consumption of alcohol during any activity is forbidden.
 - d. The forced eating or drinking of any foreign substance is forbidden.
 - e. Blindfolding associate members is forbidden.
 - 2. Subjecting associate members to cruel and unusual psychological conditions is forbidden.
 - a. Associate members have the right to decline to wear any garments or objects they find degrading.
 - b. The carrying of paddles is forbidden by any member or associate member throughout the induction period during classes.
 - c. Morally degrading or humiliating games or any other activities that make an individual the object of amusement, ridicule, or intimidation are forbidden.
 - 3. Any requirement which compels a regular or associate member to participate in any activity which is illegal, perverse, publicly indecent, or contrary to the individual's morals and/or beliefs is forbidden.

Section 3: Penalties

- A. In order to promote fairness and consistency, the IGC will be required to follow a guideline of set penalties and sanctions.
- B. Penalties will range in the following manner:
 - 1. Probation – An organization found guilty of a violation, while on IGC probation, will automatically receive the maximum penalty defined in that class of infractions.
 - 2. Community Service – Any projects deemed necessary by the IGC. At least one half of the organization must participate in the community service.
 - 3. Fines – Will be set according to the severity of the infraction.
 - 4. No Associate Members – The organization will not be allowed

to participate in Rush activities or extend any bids.

5. Loss of Membership in Greek Council – The organization will lose all privileges and rights of an IGC member. This penalty will carry a recommendation to the Vice Chancellor for Administration to revoke the charter of the organization in question.

D. Infractions will fall into the following classes:

1. Class 1

a. Any act that creates disharmony between Greek organizations, or between Greek organizations, the college and the community. (Ex. Vandalism, any public defamation of a Greek organization's name, etc.)

b. Any group failing to fulfill specified requirements for any IGC activity.

c. Punishments - Minimum: 10 hours community service & Maximum: \$500 fine plus damages

2. Class 2

a. Hazing

b. The violation of the Dry Rush Policy

c. Punishments - Minimum: 25 hours community service/letter of warning/probation & Maximum: Loss of membership on the IGC including loss of charter for four years.

3. Any combination of the penalties that fall below the minimum penalty in a class may also be added to a punishment.

Section 4: Elections

A. Elections will occur 30 days prior to the end of each school year.

B. Each organization's current and succeeding representatives must attend this meeting.

C. The President will oversee the elections.

D. The current representatives must make nominations for officers.

E. Each current representative will receive one vote.

F. Voting will be done by secret ballot.

G. The President and Vice President will receive and count votes.

H. If a tie results, a re-vote will take place between the nominees that are involved in the tie.

I. In the case that the vote still results in a tie, the Greek Advisor will declare a victor.

J. New officers will be installed at the conclusion of the meeting.

Section 5: Eligibility Requirements

A. All members of Greek organizations at UVA-Wise must remain in proper academic standing according to college policies.

Section 6: Faculty/Staff Advisors

A. All Greek organizations will be required to have at least one advisor.

Section 7: Inter-Greek Council Activities

A. At any IGC sponsored event there must be ¼ of each Greek Organization present. If there is not ¼ of the organization (which may include pledges) present there will be a \$10 fine. If this is not one week, then the organization will be put on non-active status. If cannot be present, send someone to explain.

Section 8: An organization may be put on non-active status when a fine is not paid in two weeks. Each week the fine is not paid following the deadline, 10 hours of community service will be assessed. If the fine has not been paid by the end of the semester, it will be considered a class 2 violation

ARTICLE XII: RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

The policy establishes a minimum standard for the member fraternities and sororities of the Inter-Greek Council of The University of Virginia's College at Wise. Any member fraternity or sorority whose national/international chapter has a risk management policy, which goes beyond the precepts and tenants of this policy, will be expected to hold the higher standard.

Section 1: ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

- A. The possession, sale, use or consumption of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, while on chapter premises or during a fraternity or sorority event, in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, or in any event an observer would associate with the fraternity or sorority, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state, province, county, city, and institution of higher education, and must comply with either the BYOB or Third Party Vendor Guidelines.
- B. No alcoholic beverages may be purchased through chapter funds nor may the purchase of same for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of, or on behalf of, the chapter. The purchase or use of a bulk quantity of common sources of such alcoholic beverage, e.g. kegs or cases, is prohibited.
- C. OPEN PARTIES, meaning those with unrestricted access by non-members of the fraternity or sorority, without specific invitation, where alcohol is present, shall be forbidden.
- D. No members, collectively or individually, shall purchase for, serve to, sell alcoholic beverages to any minor (i.e., those under legal "drinking age").

- E. The possession, sale or use of any **ILLEGAL DRUGS** or **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES** while on chapter premises or during a fraternity or sorority event or at any event that an observer would associate with the fraternity or sorority, is strictly prohibited.
- F. No chapter may co-sponsor an event with an alcohol distributor, charitable organization or tavern (tavern defined as an establishment generating more than half of annual gross sales from alcohol) where alcohol is given away, sold or otherwise provided to those present.
- G. No chapter may co-sponsor or co-finance a function where alcohol is purchased by any of the host chapters, groups or organizations.
- H. All rush activities associated with any chapter will be a **DRY** rush function.
- I. No member shall permit, tolerate, encourage or participate in "drinking games."
- J. No alcohol shall be present at any pledge/associate member/novice program, activity, or ritual of the chapter.

Section 2: HAZING

A. No chapter, colony, student or alumnus shall conduct nor condone hazing activities. Hazing activities are defined as: "Any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity or sorority premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol; paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activity carried on outside or inside the confines of the chapter house; wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts and buffoonery; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; and any other activities which are not consistent with academic achievement, fraternal law, ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution or applicable state law."

Section 3: SEXUAL ABUSE AND HARASSMENT

A. The chapter will not tolerate or condone any form of sexually abusive behavior on the part of its members, whether physical, mental or emotional. This is to include any actions which are demeaning to women or men including but not limited to date rape, gang rape or verbal harassment.

Section 4: FIRE, HEALTH, SAFETY

A. All chapter houses should meet all local fire and health codes and standards.

- B. All chapters should have posted by common phones emergency numbers for fire, police, and ambulance and should have posted evacuation routes on the back of the door of each sleeping room.
- C. All chapters should comply with engineering recommendations as reported by the insurance company.
- D. The possession and/or use of firearms or explosive devices of any kind within the confines and premises of the chapter house is expressly forbidden.

Section 5: EDUCATION

- A. Each fraternity and sorority shall annually instruct its students and alumni/alumnae in the Risk Management Policy of the UVa-Wise Inter-Greek Council. Additionally, all students and alumni/alumnae members shall annually receive a copy of said Risk Management Policy.
- B. Each chapter and the IGC shall establish and elect a Risk Management Chair for their organization. The Risk Management Chair will verify that each chapter event or function meets all guidelines of the UVa-Wise IGC Risk Management policy and will submit a check-list 48 hours prior to any event with their signature affixed stating that all policies have and will be followed for said event.

Section 6: INSURANCE

Each chapter is encouraged to attain liability insurance and/or to establish a limited liability corporation within the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Last Revised September 17, 2003