

Phi Alpha: Constitution

Mission Statement: Eager to promote a closer bond among students of social work and to enter into more intimate fellowship with those dedicated to the promotion of humanitarian goals and ideals by a professional group which quality educational preparation is deemed imperative, students and faculty involved in social work education at Elizabethtown College resolve to sponsor a Chapter of Phi Alpha National Honor Society, thereby to foster high standards of education for social work and to invite into membership those who have attained excellence of scholarship and distinction of achievement as students of social work.

ARTICLE I : Name

The name of this organization shall be the Phi Alpha Honor Society.

ARTICLE II: Object

The purpose of this chapter of Phi Alpha shall be:

Section 1. To recognize and promote scholastic achievement among students and faculty involved in the graduate social work program at The University of Houston.

Section 2. To recognize, improve and further the goals of social work in the community, state, nation and world.

Section 3. To stimulate interest in preparation for a career in social work.

Section 4. To encourage continued study and research at, the graduate level, and in professional practice.

Section 5. To recognize those professional social workers and others whose service, contributions and leadership are held in esteem.

ARTICLE III: Members

Section 1. Any social work student at Elizabethtown College who meets the qualifications set forth in the By-Laws shall be eligible for active membership.

Section 2. Faculty members having an official connection with the social work curriculum may be granted membership upon invitation.

Section 3. Honorary membership may be granted to professional social workers and others whose support of social work education and practice merit such recognition.

ARTICLE III: Government

Section 1. To supreme governing body shall be the National Council as defined in the National Constitution.

Section 2. The governing body of this Chapter shall be the duly elected officers and the Executive Committee as defined in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VI: Officers

Section 1. The officers shall consist of the President and Vice-President (or Co-Presidents) as appointed by the faculty advisor.

Section 2. Duties of the officers

- a. President/Vice-President/Co-Presidents. Shall preside over meetings, all activities, and the induction ceremony. Shall attend club council meetings, club treasurers meetings, and presidents' forums on campus. Shall take care of all finances. Shall schedule and conduct at least one service project each semester.

ARTICLE V: Meetings

Chapter meetings shall be held a minimum of one time during the academic year.

ARTICLE VI: Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. The President/Vice-President/Co-Presidents shall preside over meetings and determine how the meetings shall run.

ARTICLE VII: Constitutional Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the active chapter membership and approval by the faculty advisor.

Section 2. Amendments may be proposed by any active member of the chapter.

Phi Alpha: By Laws

CHAPTER 1: Officers of the Executive Committee

Section 1. The officers of the organization shall consist of a President and Vice-President (or Co-Presidents) as selected by the faculty advisor and department faculty.

Section 2. The President shall preside at meetings of the chapter; appoint such committees as may be provided for by Chapter Constitution or By-Laws or by vote of the chapter; call special meetings of the chapter; be responsible for all Chapters reports; perform the duties or ritual chair at initiation ceremonies, and promote the welfare of the Society and Chapter.

Section 3. The Vice-President shall perform all duties of the President in the latter's absence or disability and any other duties assigned by the President.

Section 4. A faculty member in the undergraduate or graduate social work program shall serve as the faculty advisor.

CHAPTER II: Organization and Procedures

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President and Vice-President (or Co-Presidents).

Section 2. The Chapter shall meet in official sessions at least once each year.

Section 3. Standing Committee may be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Special committee may be appointed by the President.

Section 5. The Chapter year shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30.

Section 6. The Chapter shall maintain adequate and accurate records of its membership activities and finances. Such records shall be kept in such a way as to serve as a permanent and historical record.

Section 7. Qualified persons may be inducted into membership the end of the spring semester.

CHAPTER III: Membership

Section 1. A social work student is eligible for active membership after achieving:

- A grade point average of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale.
- Local Chapters may establish higher eligibility requirements.

Section 3. A faculty member may be granted membership by invitation of the Executive Committee and approval of the Chapter membership.

Section 4. The Executive Committee with the approval of the membership may grant Honorary Membership to a maximum of two individuals per year who have made outstanding

contributions to the field of social work. Honorary members shall not be assessed membership dues.

Section 5. The method of granting membership shall be in accordance with procedures established by the local chapter.

Section 6. Any member may be expelled from membership for reasons of academic or personal conduct unbecoming a student of social work, by a three-fourths vote of the chapter, after a thorough investigation has been made by the Executive Committee, and the members so charged has been granted an impartial hearing before the Executive Committee. Dismissal from the Social Work program or College/University is cause for automatic recommendation for expulsion.

CHAPTER IV: Dues

Section 1. The initiation fee shall be of sufficient amount to include the following:

- The initiation fee required by the National Society is \$20.00.
- The initiation fee required by the local chapter is \$20.00.

Section 2. Annual chapter dues shall be established in accordance with chapter needs by action of the Executive Committee and a three-fourths vote of the chapter membership present.

Section 3. Special fees may be levied by the Executive Committee with a three-fourths vote of the chapter membership present.

CHAPTER V: Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the Executive Committee and upon ratification by a three-fourths vote of the membership.

Affirmative Action Statement

Membership shall be available to all eligible persons without regard to age, gender, color, race, creed, ethnic or national origin, political or sexual orientation, or disability.