

Preamble

We, the undergraduate members of the Interfraternity Council of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, set forth this Constitution and By-Laws in order to promote and encourage the personal development of all the member Fraternities- intellectually, morally, physically, and socially- and to foster closer friendships, set standards, and develop a stronger sense of community among the member Fraternities and the University.

Article I

Name

Section 1 The name of this organization shall be the Interfraternity Council of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, herein denoted IFC

Article II

Membership and Dues

Section 1 Membership in the IFC shall be composed of all colonized and charter are Fraternities affiliated with the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, herein denoted the University, that are recognized by the IFC

Section 2 Each Fraternity shall be represented by two (2) members:

- a. an IFC representative, selected by each Fraternity
- b. the Chapter President
- c. or a duly designated representative in the absence of the President or the Representative

Section 3 Admission into the IFC shall require a written petition to be submitted to the IFC Executive Board for review. After a two week period, the Petitioner shall offer a presentation to the IFC membership, as defined in Article II, Section 2. Following the presentation, a closed hearing shall ensue. A vote on the candidate's suitability will be taken after the hearing. Should a motion to table pass, the period for further review shall not be less that two (2) weeks, not exceed three (3) weeks. A previously tabled petition for membership may not again be tabled.

Section 4 The criteria for Chapter admission shall be defined accordingly:

- a. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the IFC membership in attendance at a regularly scheduled meeting.
- b. The colony must be officially recognized as a Chapter in good standing with their respective National organization. In the case of Local Fraternities, the period of colony status shall be not less than three (3) years.
- c. After two (2) years of colony status in a nationally recognized Fraternity, a petition may be initiated and presented to the IFC Executive Board for recognition as a Chapter.

Section 5 Each Fraternity shall be entitled to two (2) votes, one (1) to be cast by the Chapter President and one (1) by the Representative.

- a. The Chapter President and the Representative, or their stand-in, must be present to vote.
- b. Under no circumstance shall the President or the Representative cast the other's vote, nor vote twice.

Section 6 Each Fraternity is responsible for a proportionate share of all financial burdens assumed by the IFC. Dues and assessments shall be determined by the Treasurer and the IFC Executive Board. Dues must be paid to maintain membership in the IFC.

Section 7 Any IFC member may request a reassessment of dues allocation by filing a written complain with the Chair of the Judiciary Committee. The process for review shall be outlined accordingly:

- a. A written petition must be signed by three-fourths (3/4) of a recognized Chapter's membership.
- b. Upon receipt of written complaint, and within fifteen (15) calendar days, the Judiciary shall investigate the complaint in a manner prescribed by a majority vote of its membership in attendance at a scheduled meeting.
- c. Within fifteen (15) calendar days of its investigation, the Judiciary Committee shall, upon a majority vote of its membership in attendance at a scheduled meeting, report to the IFC Membership as to its recommendation.
- d. If the Judiciary Committee shall have recommended to change the monetary amount of the dues, a motion will be brought before the IFC membership at the next regularly scheduled IFC meeting and would require two-thirds (2/3) vote of the IFC membership in attendance for the change to take effect.

Section 8 Dues must be paid within three (3) weeks of receipt of the bill from the IFC Treasurer. The IFC Treasurer is empowered to set fines or establish an adequate policy for delinquent bills.

Section 9 An active member of the IFC is responsible for participation in the activities of the IFC. Every member of the IFC must be an active participant in at least one Committee as outlined in Article VII. Fraternity Presidents shall have the option of appointing a permanent stand-in to fulfill his committee obligation, which shall be subject to the attendance guidelines as proscribed by Article IX. The IFC President shall be responsible for overseeing these Committees to ensure that they are functioning and contributing to the area.

Article III

Meeting Format

Section 1 The meetings of this body are to be run in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 2 Quorum shall be defined as two-thirds (2/3) of the voting membership in attendance.

Article IV

Purpose

Section 1 The purpose of this organization shall be:

- a. to foster growth morally and socially;
- b. to promote favorable interaction between the Fraternities and Sororities, the University, and the University Community-at-large;
- c. to encourage the implementation of our Ideals: brotherhood, personal character, and scholarship;
- d. to act as the voice of the Fraternities regarding policy and public relations;

Article V

Officers

Section 1 The officers of the Council shall be: President, Vice-President of Communication, Vice-President of Finance, Vice-President of Recruitment, Vice-President of Activities, Vice-President of Alumni Relations, Vice-President of Community Service, and Vice-President of Standards.

Section 2 All officers shall serve for one (1) year terms as non-voting members and shall not serve as representatives from their respective Fraternities.

Article VI

Executive Board

Section 1 The Executive Board shall consist of the Executive officers of the IFC, as defined in Article V, Section 1.

Section 2 The Executive Board shall have, but it is not limited to, the following powers:

- a. to state the IFC policy position on any question;
- b. to serve as the Fraternity consulting body on relevant Greek issues;
- c. to advise the University Administration on matters pertaining to the Fraternity system;
- d. to initiate policy and procedure;
- e. to regulate all IFC elections and/or referenda;
- f. to act for the IFC if it is unable to meet or if quorum cannot be attained;
and
- g. to undertake any act deemed necessary and proper to enable the execution of the powers vested by this Constitution.

Section 3 Any action taken by the Executive Board can be rescinded by a majority vote of the IFC membership in attendance at a regularly scheduled meeting.

Section 4 The IFC shall monitor the submission, documentation, and the administration of all IFC papers by the Office of Fraternities and Sororities. These papers are to be made public for inspection by recognized IFC members at all times. These papers shall be required to be kept in good order and shall be filed in a conspicuous place.

Section 5 The rules and procedures outlined in this Constitution shall take precedence over all other governing documents of the Inter-Fraternity Council.

Section 6 No member of a Colony Chapter recognized by the IFC shall be permitted to run for an IFC Executive Officer.

Section 7 No member of a Fraternity recognized by the IFC may run or hold an Executive Office position without a minimum cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.0.

Section 8 The Executive Board shall meet no less than once (1) every week when classes are in session.

Article VII

Elections

Section 1 A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the general membership, as defined by Article III, Section 2 of this Constitution, is needed for quorum. A quorum of the member Fraternities shall be present for elections to take place.

Section 2 Nominations for IFC Officers shall be one (1) meeting prior to the elections

Section 3 Elections shall be conducted as follows:

- a. At the election meeting, the candidates shall present a speech not longer than five (5) minutes in duration.
- b. After his speech, the candidate will leave the room while two (2) speakers selected by the candidate will present speeches no longer than three (3) minutes in duration on the candidate's behalf.
- c. After all the speakers for the candidate have spoken, the floor will be open for discussion. There will be two (2) pros and two (2) cons for each candidate.
- d. The IFC Presidents and Representatives (equaling two votes per house) shall vote by means of secret ballot.
- e. The IFC Officers shall be elected by a majority vote. IN the case of more than two (2) candidates running for the same position, the candidate with the lower number of votes will be eliminated. The election proceedings will be continued until one (1) of the candidates receives a majority vote.

Section 4 Should a vacancy occur during the natural term of the Executive Board, an announcement shall be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting, and a call for nominations will be issued. At the next meeting, elections shall be conducted for said office, as prescribed in Article VII, Section 3 of this Constitution.

Section 5 Officers may be impeached by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the IFC membership. The Officer in question must be notified in writing two (2) weeks prior to any such action being voted upon.

Article VIII

Committees

Section 1 There shall be seven (7) Committees of the Inter-Fraternity Council as prescribed herein.

Section 2 The Communication Committee shall be responsible for:

1. Maintaining Accurate Records of all IFC business
2. Maintaining and facilitating communication throughout the Greek System
3. Maintaining the IFC website
4. Preparing all press releases and correspondence with the media
5. The keeping of attendance
6. Determining the validity of all absences
7. Publishing the IFC newsletter
8. Assisting with the production of all recruitment and public relations materials

Section 3 The Finance Committee shall be responsible for:

1. Maintaining accurate and complete records of the revenue and fee accounts within campus activities
2. Drafting a budget request for the SGA Ways and Means Committee
3. Issuing bills and collect receipts for chapter dues
4. Ensuring familiarity with the Operating processes of the Campus Activities
5. Levying all fines

Section 4 The Recruitment Committee shall be responsible for:

1. Developing a Fraternity wide recruitment plan
2. Coordinating recruitment efforts with the Sororities
3. Organizing new member activities
4. Developing and producing all recruitment materials for the system in conjunction with the Office of Fraternities and Sororities
5. Assisting with efforts to increase the visibility of the System
6. Design and Offering recruitment workshops
7. Working to expand the Greek System through the addition of new Fraternity chapters

Section 5 The Activities Committee shall be responsible for:

1. Coordinating major events for the Fraternity and Sorority system
2. Assist chapters with the planning of events
3. Assist chapters with fulfillment of programming requirements as outlined by the Standards document
4. Encourage activities that will promote Inter-Greek unity

Section 6 The Alumni Relations Committee shall be responsible for:

1. Maintaining correspondence with the Greek Area Alumni Council
2. Work to develop and maintain records of Fraternity Alumni
3. Planning alumni events on campus
4. Working to ensure alumni involvement in the Greek System

Section 7 The Standards Committee shall be responsible for:

1. Maintaining records of the responsibilities of chapter obligations as defined by the Standards Document
2. Maintaining the accurate record of the IFC Constitution
3. Maintaining the accurate record of the Standards Document

Section 8 The Community Service Committee shall be responsible for:

1. Coordinating all Fraternity and System-wide Community Service events
2. Assisting with the promotion of all Greek Community Service events

Section 9 Committee memberships shall be appointed by the Executive Board upon review of committee preference forms submitted by the delegates.

Section 10 No Chapter may comprise more than 50% of a Committee's membership

Section 11 Each Committee must be composed of at least 2 members

Section 12 Committees may create subcommittees as needed

Article IX

Meetings

Section 1 Regular meetings of the IFC shall take place every week, on a day in which has been set at the beginning of each semester by the Executive Board.

Section 2 A quorum for the transaction of business of the IFC shall consist of a full two-thirds (2/3) of the IFC membership, as defined by Article III, Section 2 of this Constitution.

Section 3 Special meetings may be called by the President at any time. Special meetings must also be called by the President at the request of any two (2) Fraternities with a notice of no less than twenty-four (24) hours. A quorum of the membership of each Chapter requesting the meeting is required, as well as, a written statement declaring quorum was attained and a copy of the roll call votes of the Chapter membership, signed by the respective Chapter's Executive Board.

Section 4 Committee meetings shall be held as needed, at a time and place set by the Committee membership, and notification be posted at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the start of the meeting.

Section 5 Joint IFC/Panhel Councils shall take place at least once (1) a month and shall be known as Greek Council. The Executive Boards of both Councils will decide upon a date, place, and time for the meeting. The Greek Council has no legislative or policy making powers.

Article X
Attendance

Section 1 Attendance by two (2) Representatives of each Fraternity at all IFC and Greek Council meetings shall be mandatory.

Section 2 An excused absence will only be permitted if an excuse is presented to the Vice-President of Communication at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.

Section 3 In the event of an excused absence, a chapter will be permitted to send a duly designated representative, who shall have voting privileges as defined by Article II, Sections 2 & 5.

Section 4 Absences may be excused for any one (1) of the reasons prescribed herein:

1. Personal Illness
2. Family Obligation
3. Exam or other scholastic commitment scheduled during meeting time
4. Religious Observance

Section 5 Upon accumulation of three (3) unexcused absences by a chapter during the semester, the IFC shall administer a \$50.00 fine to be levied by the Vice President of Finances.

Section 6 Any appeal of this fine shall only be in order during the new business period of the meeting immediately following the levying of the fine.

Article XI

Hazing and Rush

OFFICIAL IFC STATEMENT:

Every member fraternity must have an anti-hazing policy statement on file at the IFC Office and the Office of Greek Affairs and must state the support of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' position against hazing. The IFC and its members support and will enforce adherence to the dry rush policies that all National and Local Organizations have developed.

Article XII

Amendment

Section 1 The IFC, alone, shall have the power to amend the Constitution. The IFC shall institute, administrate, and execute the goals and ideals of the Fraternity system.

Section 2 This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) positive vote of a quorum of the member Fraternities.