The Constitution

of the

InterFraternity Council

of

Binghamton University

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Preamble

The InterFraternity Council is established to promote a forum for communication, unity, and interfraternalism amongst member fraternities at Binghamton University. The fraternities that comprise this council shall be dedicated not only to their respective organizations, but the college community as a whole. By way of our association in this council we shall strive to effectually better our university and uphold its overall mission by combining our resources, ideas, and goals so as to collectively reach our fullest potential.

Article I: Name

The name of the organization established to enforce this constitution shall be the InterFraternity Council (IFC) at Binghamton University.

Article II: Purpose

1. Encourage closer communications amongst the social fraternities
2. Represent, advise, regulate the fraternities at Binghamton University in accordance with the provisions of the IFC governing documents.
3. Serve as a body to improve the overall fraternity experience for the college man.
4. Act as the legislative and judicial body in matters pertaining to member organizations.
5. Promote and foster partnership between the member organizations of the IFC and member organizations of the other Greek councils.

Article III: Membership

1. Requirements for Membership

a. The following are requirements for all social fraternities who want to be recognized as a full member organization of the IFC:
   i. All member organizations must be recognized by the University, per the nomination of the IFC, and by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
   ii. All member organizations must be recognized by their respective national headquarters.
      1. Tau Alpha Upsilon (TAU) as a local organization is excluded from this requirement.
   iii. All member organizations must fulfill the academic and service requirements outlined within this article.
   iv. All member organizations must fulfil all other requirements outlined in this constitution, including but not limited to financial requirements and attendance requirements.
   v. All member organizations must adhere to the risk management policy of the IFC.

b. Failure to meet these requirements may result in loss of full membership status within the IFC, following review by the IFC Judicial Board.

2. Types of Membership

a. Full membership
    i. A full member organization of the IFC will have full voting rights, ability for its members to run for executive board, and full access to all social, athletic, recruitment, philanthropic, and any other privileges offered by the IFC.
b. Probationary membership
    i. Member organizations on probation do not have voting rights during their probationary period.
    ii. Representatives of the organization are not allowed to run for or hold any office on the IFC executive board.
    iii. Social, athletic, recruitment, philanthropic, and any other privileges offered by the IFC may be limited at the discretion of the IFC Executive Board.
    iv. Member organizations on probation are still required to fulfil all requirements of an IFC member organization, including attending meetings and paying dues.
c. Suspended membership
    i. A suspended member organization shall have limited rights within the IFC, as decided upon by the IFC Executive Board and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
    ii. A suspended member organization will still be required to uphold requirements of a member organization as decided by the IFC Executive Board and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

3. Academic Requirements

a. Each member organization of the IFC must appoint a scholarship or academic chair to monitor the academic progress of its members and its new members during their pledge process.
b. Each member organization is required to maintain in good academic standing within the IFC.
c. To maintain good academic standing, each chapter must:
    i. Achieve a chapter grade point average of at least 3.0 each semester
    ii. Achieve a new member class grade point of average of at least 3.0 the semester they pledge.
d. Failure to maintain good academic standing within the IFC will result in the following.
    i. For the first semester a chapter fails to maintain good academic standing within the IFC the chapter President and Scholarship / Academic chair must meet with the Executive Vice President and the Vice President of Academics to develop a scholarship plan and track the academic progress of the chapter.
    ii. For the second consecutive semester a chapter fails to maintain good academic standing within the IFC the chapter will be put on probation by

the IFC, and the scholarship plan shall be reevaluated with the IFC Executive Vice President and the Vice President of Academics.

iii. For subsequent consecutive semesters a chapter fails to maintain good academic standing within the IFC the chapter will be referred to the IFC Judicial Board, wherein the Judicial Board shall prescribe a sanction deemed appropriate.

4. Philanthropy and Service Requirements

a. Each member organization of the IFC must appoint a Philanthropy chair to ensure their chapter is a charitable and contributing member to the community.
b. Each member organization is required to maintain good philanthropic standing within the IFC.
c. To maintain good philanthropic standing, each chapter must:
    i. Host and run at least one philanthropy event per academic year
        1. A philanthropy event is defined as a fundraiser, sale, blood drive, or other event approved as a philanthropy event by the IFC.
    ii. Sponsor or cosponsor at least one philanthropic event outside of their organization per semester.
    iii. Engage its members in at least one community service event per semester.
        1. Community service events are defined as events in which brothers are physically present and performing a service for the community. These events can take the form of community cleanups, soup kitchen work, volunteering, or other projects approved as community service by the IFC.
d. Failure to maintain good philanthropic standing within the IFC will result in the following.
    i. For the first semester a chapter fails to maintain good philanthropic standing within the IFC the chapter President and Philanthropy chair must meet with the IFC Executive Vice President and the Vice President of Service to develop a plan to meet philanthropic goals and host events.
    ii. For the second consecutive semester a chapter fails to maintain good academic standing within the IFC the chapter will be put on probation by the IFC, and the philanthropic goals of the chapter will be discussed with the IFC Executive Vice President and Vice President of Service.
    iii. For subsequent consecutive semesters a chapter fails to maintain good philanthropic standing within the IFC the chapter will be referred to the IFC Judicial Board, wherein the Judicial Board shall prescribe a punishment deemed appropriate.

5. Privileges of Membership

a. Full membership organizations will each receive complete and equal rights within the IFC.

b. Full membership organizations have the right to vote in IFC elections as well as on any decision pertinent to the IFC.
c. Full membership organizations will have access to all committees and events sponsored by the IFC, including but not limited to social, athletic, recruitment, and philanthropic.
d. Equality of rights shall not be denied or abridged by the IFC on a basis of race, creed, religion, national or ethnic identity, age, disability, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Article IV: Officers

1. The Executive Board

a. The officers of the Executive Board shall consist of President, Executive Vice President, Vice President of Social Responsibility, Vice President of Programming, Vice President of Academics, Vice President of Service, Vice President of Finance, and Vice President of Communications.
b. The following are the duties and Responsibilities of the IFC executive board.
    i. The President shall
        1. Chair all IFC general body meetings.
        2. Chair all IFC executive board meetings.
        3. Maintain a relationship with University officials and the administration.
        4. Act as the official spokesman of the IFC.
        5. Attend all council presidents meetings.
        6. Sit on the Fraternity Sorority Leadership Board (FSLB) as the voting representative for the IFC and act in its best interest.
        7. Call special meetings of the IFC as deemed necessary.
        8. Appoint ad-hoc committees as deemed necessary.
        9. Serve as an ex-officio member on all committees of the IFC.
        10. Represent the highest ideals of a fraternity man.
        11. Perform all other duties that this office may require.
    ii. The Executive Vice President shall
        1. Perform all functions and duties of the President, in his absence.
        2. Oversee all officers, chairs, and committees within the IFC and ensure they are completing their duties and purpose.
        3. Work with all Vice President positions within the IFC to ensure chapters meet the requirements outlined in this constitution.
        4. Appoint members of any committee, upon approval by a majority of the executive board.
        5. Assist the President in the conduct of the IFC's business.
        6. Serve as an ex-officio member on all committees of the IFC.
        7. Represent the highest ideals of a fraternity man.
        8. Perform all other duties assigned to him by the president.
    iii. The Vice President of Social Responsibility shall

1. Serve as Chief Justice of the IFC Judicial Board, and preside over the entire board.
2. Provide chapters with educational opportunities for better implementation of risk management.
3. Act as a resource for chapters for questions pertaining to risk management.
4. Work to establish a safe culture for the IFC and larger community.
5. Represent the highest ideals of a fraternity man.
6. Perform all other duties assigned to him by the president.

iv. The Vice President of Programming shall
1. Organize, plan, and execute social events for IFC organizations.
    a. Social events include events with organizations within the IFC, as well as between IFC organizations and organizations from other councils.
2. Work to establish relationships within the IFC between organizations.
3. Plan events to enrich all aspects of the IFC, including but not limited to recruitment events, athletic events, and awareness events.
4. Serve as a resource for chapters looking to plan events.
5. Represent the highest ideals of a fraternity man.
6. Perform all other duties assigned to him by the president.

v. The Vice President of Academics shall
1. Work to improve the overall academic performance of the IFC through programming and resources.
2. Run academic programming for new members during their new member processes to enrich skills such as organization, good study habits, and overall academic excellence.
3. Seek out opportunities to enhance the membership development of all IFC organizations, including but not limited to programs focussed on physical and mental health, and other academic adjacent programming.
4. Work with the Executive Vice President to implement academic plans for organizations that fall out of academic good standing within the IFC.
5. Represent the highest ideals of a fraternity man.
6. Perform all other duties assigned to him by the President.

vi. The Vice President of Service shall
1. Organize philanthropy and community service events for the IFC.
2. Serve as a resource for organizations looking to improve their philanthropy or community service events.
3. Inform IFC organizations of opportunities to participate in philanthropy or community service events.

4. Collect and record information on the philanthropy and community service events of each organization.
5. Work with the Executive Vice President to assist organizations who are unable to meet the service requirements of the IFC.
6. Represent the highest ideals of a fraternity man.
7. Perform all other duties assigned to him by the President.

vii. The Vice President of Finances shall
1. Be responsible for all funds of the IFC.
2. Create and maintain an accurate budget of all incoming and outgoing funds for the IFC, and make the budget available to all IFC organizations.
3. Collect all dues and payments to the IFC.
4. Disburse funds for all approved expenses of the IFC.
5. Represent the highest ideals of a fraternity man.
6. Perform all other duties assigned to him by the President.

viii. The Vice President of Communications shall
1. Keep accurate records, reports, and minutes of all meetings of the IFC general body and executive board.
2. Share copies of the minutes from each IFC general body meeting with the representatives from each IFC organization and officers of the executive board.
3. Be responsible for the dissemination of information of relevant information throughout the IFC community.
4. Oversee the social media accounts for the IFC and work to promote an online image for the IFC.
5. Represent the highest ideals of a fraternity man.
6. Perform all other duties assigned to him by the President.

Article V: Selection of the Executive Board

1. Eligibility

a. Any member in good standing with a full membership IFC organization is eligible for any of the executive board positions.
b. Candidates for the IFC executive board must have a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.00.
c. A candidate must intend on being a student at Binghamton University for the full two semester term.

2. Slating

a. The selection process for the executive board of the Interfraternity Council shall be determined by slating.
b. Slating for a new executive board will occur at the end of each Fall semester.
i. The slate must be presented, and voted on, before the last day of classes.

c. The slating committee will consist of the current executive board, as well as the IFC advisor.
    i. Any current executive board seeking another term on the executive board will recuse themselves from the slating committee for the entirety of the slating process.
d. Applications for the executive board will be open to all eligible IFC members.
e. Every interested candidate must submit their application to the slating committee at least two weeks prior to the scheduled election of the slate.
f. The slating committee will meet to determine the slate prior to the scheduled election of the slate.
    i. Each slated position will be decided on by a majority vote of the slating committee.
    ii. The slated executive board will be sent out to each IFC organization at least one week prior to the scheduled election.
g. The slate will be voted on by the IFC general body at a scheduled meeting.
    i. The current IFC President will present the slate to the IFC general body.
        1. The IFC President may provide explanation on any decision.
        2. Members may ask for clarification on any decision on the slate prior to the vote on the slate.
    ii. The entire slate will be voted on by the IFC General body.
        1. The vote will be cast by secret ballot.
        2. Each organization with voting rights within the IFC will have one vote.
        3. The vote will be decided by a simple majority.
            a. If the vote passes, the entire slate will be approved as the new executive board for the following year.
            b. If the vote fails, the slate will be broken and positions will be voted on individually.
h. If the slate is broken, elections of individual positions will occur as outlined below.
    i. Slated positions will be voted on individually.
        1. Positions will be voted on in the order of President, Executive Vice President, Vice President of Social Responsibility, Vice President of Programming, Vice President of Academics, Vice President of Service, Vice President of Finances, Vice President of Communications.
    ii. The vote will be cast by secret ballot.
    iii. Each organization with voting rights within the IFC will have one vote.
    iv. The vote will be decided by a simple majority.
        1. If the vote passes, the slated individual will be confirmed for the position on the executive board for the following year.
        2. If the vote fails, the position is opened for nominations.
            a. The slated individual will be automatically nominated for the position.

b. Any other present member who meets eligibility may be nominated.

v. Elections for the open position will be as follows:
    1. All candidates will give a timed speech.
        a. Candidates will give their speeches in alphabetical order.
        b. All other candidates for the position must leave the room.
        c. Candidates may not mention the names of the other candidates, nor say anything that could be construed is degrading, derogatory, or offensive.
        d. The timing for speeches is:
            i. Three minutes for President, Executive Vice President, and Vice President of Social Responsibility
            ii. Two minutes for Vice President of Programming, Vice President of Academics, Vice President of Service, Vice President of Finances, and Vice President of Communications.
    2. Following all speeches for a position, all candidates will reenter the room for a question and answer period.
        a. Any member of an IFC organization may ask a question.
        b. All candidates will have the opportunity to answer all questions
        c. No questions can be targeted for or against a certain candidate.
            i. The President and Adviser shall have the power to veto any question.
    3. All candidates for that position will leave the room for an open discussion.
        a. Any member of an IFC organization can bring up a point either for or against a candidate.
            i. Comments may be critical of the candidates abilities, but may not be attacks on their character.
        b. There is no limit to discussion, and will continue until all members feel they have heard enough to make an informed vote.
    4. Voting will be conducted by secret ballot.
        a. For a candidate to win, they must receive 51% of the votes
            i. If no candidate receives 51% of the vote, a runoff vote will be conducted between the two candidates with the most votes.
            ii. If a tie results for a runoff election, the president will cast the deciding vote.

3. **Vacancies**
    a. If the Presidency is vacated, the Vice President of Administration shall assume the role of Presidency.
        i. The role of Vice President of Administration will be vacated and will follow the procedure outlined below.
    b. Any position other than President, if vacated, will be immediately open for nominations.
    c. Elections will be held at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the IFC general body.

Article VI: Impeachment

1. **Bringing of Charges**
    a. If any member feels as if an elected officer of the IFC is not fulfilling the duties of their office, they may bring charges of impeachment against the officer at any general meeting of the IFC.
        i. Charges must be endorsed by at least two IFC chapters in good standing with full membership.
        ii. The member bringing the charges will have three minutes to make their case for the bringing of impeachment charges.
        iii. A vote by secret ballot will be conducted in which each IFC chapter in good standing will receive one vote, and the executive board of the IFC will not receive a vote.
            1. A two-thirds majority is required to bring charges of impeachment.

2. **Impeachment Hearing**
    a. If charges of impeachment are approved, the general body will move directly into a hearing.
    b. The officer facing impeaching will have 3 minutes to speak.
    c. The officer facing impeachment will leave the room, and the floor will be open for discussion and additional information.
    d. Following a motion to vote, the general body will move to a vote.
        i. A simple majority of votes is required to convict an officer and vacate their position.

Article VII: General Meetings

1. **General Meetings**
    a. General meetings will occur on a regular basis during the academic year as deemed appropriate by the executive board.
        i. A schedule of meetings will be made available to all chapters
    b. Special meetings of the IFC may be called by the President, assuming sufficient notice is given to all chapters.
    c. All general meetings of the IFC are mandatory for all IFC chapters to maintain full membership.
2. **Absences**

a. The President has the ability to excuse any absence of a chapter from any meeting.
b. Penalties for missed meetings will be as follows:
    i. Following the first and second unexcused absence within one semester, a chapter will be issued a warning by the President of the IFC.
    ii. Following the third unexcused absence, a $25 fine will be imposed upon the chapter. The chapters national headquarters will also be notified of the chapters continued absence.
    iii. Following any additional unexcused absence during the semester, the following will occur:
        1. Immediate suspension of that chapters voting rights within the IFC
        2. The President of the IFC will bring the chapter before the IFC Judicial Board.

Article VIII: Finances, Budget, and Dues

1. Budget

a. The budget for the IFC will be prepared for each semester by the Vice President of Finance
    i. The budget shall be voted on by the general body at the first general meeting of the IFC each semester, and will be approved by a simple majority vote.
b. The budget will be open and available to any member of an IFC member organization.
c. The IFC executive board and the Vice President of Finance is responsible for maintaining the budget and ensuring it accurately reflects the spending of the IFC.

2. Dues

a. Dues shall be set by the IFC executive board at the end of each semester for the following semester.
b. All dues shall be due by the third IFC General Meeting of the Semester.

Article IX: Recruitment

1. Recruitment Regulations

a. All fraternities must abide by the rules and regulations set by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
b. A fraternity shall rush no student unless he is rushing in accordance with the IFC and University Policies.
c. The recruitment dates for the IFC will be set at the conclusion of the previous semester by the IFC executive board, with consideration from the Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Board.
    i. No chapter may hold any recruitment event before the specified beginning of the IFC recruitment date.

ii. A recruitment event is defined as any interaction between students affiliated with a fraternity or sorority and a prospective member in the context of a prearranged activity.

d. No recruitment event may include any form of alcoholic beverages
   i. A recruitment event is defined as any interaction between students affiliated with a fraternity or sorority and a prospective member in the context of a prearranged activity.
e. No group may advertise an event involving alcoholic as part of a rush flyer; even if that event falls outside the set recruitment dates.
f. No pledging activities are permitted during the specified recruitment dates.
g. In order to participate in recruitment and be considered for membership, a student must:
   i. Have a minimum grade point average of a 2.50
   ii. Earned a minimum of twelve credit hours during matriculation at a college campus prior to pledging.
      1. AP credits from High School do not count for this requirement.
   iii. Not have been initiated as a member of another organization within the IFC.
h. Members of the IFC may not bar a person from member on the basis of race, color, religion, national history, or origin.

Article X: New Member Education

1. Pledging Regulations

a. No student shall participate in a new member education program unless he is doing so in accordance with the IFC, Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, and University regulations.
b. Fraternities may under no circumstances engage in any time of activities, assignments, or practices that involve hazing, or could lead to violations of the New York State Laws, IFC, or University regulations.
   i. New member activities are defined as any interaction between an individual active member of an organization and a new member on or off campus.
c. New member education programs may not begin before the conclusion of the specified recruitment dates.
d. All members involved in a new member process must be submitted to the IFC and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority life.
e. A new member may withdraw from a new member education program at any point without the fear of coercion or intimidation by the chapter.
f. Any organization in violation of any of these policies are subject to be brought up on charges to the IFJB by the IFC as well as student conduct.

Article XI: Social Powers

1. Social Powers

a. The IFC has the power to regulate chapter social gatherings.
b. All organizations must adhere to the IFC Risk Management Policies regarding all social gatherings.
    i. In addition, all organizations must adhere to all state and local ordinances.
        1. This is including, but not limited to, alcohol, noise, and size regulations.
    ii. All organizations should consult their national and insurance policies, and follow all policies set.
c. An organization may under no circumstance charge or advertise for a fee for admittance into any social gatherings.
    i. This is including, but not limited to, charging for cups, donations, special events, etc.

Article XII: Judiciary Powers

1. Establishment of Powers

a. The IFC will have the power to conduct judicial hearings of any member organization.
b. The Judicial Body of the IFC shall be the InterFraternity Judicial Board (IFJB)
c. All procedures of the IFJB will be outlined and amended through the IFJB Judical Procedures governing document.

Article XIII: Amendments

1. **Proposing of amendment**

a. Any member may submit an amendment for the IFC Constitution by emailing the President and Vice President of Administration the proposed amendment.
b. Amendments will be brought up at the next IFC General meeting.
    i. The floor will be opened for discussion for clarification of the amendment.
c. Voting on the amendment will occur at the following general meeting of the IFC.

2. Voting of amendments

a. The submitting member will have one minute to present the amendment again to the general body.
b. Following, the floor will be open for discussion.
c. Amendments will be passed by a two-thirds majority vote.

Article XIV: Ratification

1. Ratification of the Constitution

a. This Constitution shall be ratified following a three fourths vote of the IFC general body, and is effective immediately.