

Constitution Of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations At Binghamton University **Preamble** The fundamental purpose of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations of Binghamton University is to promote unity amongst, but not solely exclusive to the Latino Greek-Lettered organizations, as well as within the community at large, while striving to uplift the consciousness about our various cultures. It is a governing body that shall serve as a forum where its member organizations can openly discuss the issues, which currently affect the Latino community, and the strategies that we as college students must implement on the individual organization, and council levels in order to empower our Latino constituencies.

The National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations shall do this through educational, environmental, political, social and cultural activities, which will address the needs and concerns of the Latino community and cultural groups at Binghamton University. Hence, we shall promote awareness of all cultures, while establishing our one collective identity. This consciousness shall be attained through positive programs that will allow Latinos and other cultures with programs, which address gender-specific issues, and community services.

The National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations shall bridge the gap between its member organizations and the non-Greek affiliated community. Through this and other common goals, the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations shall promote the academic advancement of our people, while fostering respect, unity, and friendship between the members of the Council.

**Article I** Name The name of the organization shall be the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations of State University of New York at Binghamton.

## **Article**

### **II**

#### **Purpose**

Section 1 To promote unity among the Latino organizations while striving to uplift the consciousness about our various cultures

Section 2 To promote all cultures while establishing our own identities as a whole

Section 3 To enlighten the consciousness of the campus on discrimination both on and off campus towards Latinos and other underrepresented groups.

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Section 4 To create a setting where Latino Greek Organizations can discuss council member concerns and collective strategies towards the empowerment of Latinos and other underrepresented groups

Section 5 To foster Respect, Unity, Friendship, and open lines of communication amongst the members of the different Latino Greek Organizations

Sections 6 To address the needs and concerns of the Latino Community and other cultural groups on this campus

Section 7 To promote unity among the council members and the community at large

Section 8 To promote the academic advancement of our community

Section 9 To create a bridge between the community members (non-Greek-Letter affiliated) through the collective efforts of our Council (i.e. Community Service Projects)

Section 10 To provide service as a vehicle for cultural activities and discussion of affairs currently affecting our community

Section 11 To abolish all negative stereotypes associated with Latinos and other Cultures and with gender

Section 12 To aid and educate the community on environmental, political, social, and cultural affairs and promote positive programs through active service

Section 13 To uphold and abide by the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations creed which goes as following: 1. Criticize ideas, not people 1. Do not retaliate 1. Follow-through with commitments 1. Keep an open mind 1. Listen constructively 1. Maintain confidentiality 1. Question and participate 1. Share responsibility 1. Share your perspective 1. Carry your share of the load

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1. Respect each other

**Article III** Membership Section 1 Membership shall be composed of Latino and other culturally based fraternities and sororities, which are in good standing with the University, and the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations

Section 2 The Current chartered members of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations are: (In English Alphabetical Order)

Chi Upsilon Sigma

Lambda Upsilon Lambda

Lambda Theta Alpha

Omega Phi Beta Sigma

Iota Alpha Sigma

Lambda Gamma Sigma

Lambda Upsilon

Past charter members are:

Lambda Theta Alpha

Gamma Omega Delta Pi

Delta Epsilon Phi Theta

Chi Phi Iota Alpha

Section 3 A. Other than the member who is on the executive board, each organization is required to have one appointed representative and **an optional observer**. Pending extenuating circumstances that must be agreed within the council such as academics, job or other obligations the second member can be excused. B. In the event that the appointed representative cannot attend, any alternate can hold responsibilities. C. The National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations's elected E-Board/Chairs will hold their positions for one academic year. This academic year will begin Fall semester

Section 4 During the end of spring semester the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations will conduct elections for the upcoming year.

Section 5 The monetary amount is **\$15** per active organization, \$2 per executive board member

and \$2 per active seat (1 seat maximum). An optional second observer (aside from the executive board member and active seat holder) is not required to pay dues. This is to be established during the

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first meeting of every fall and spring semester. All dues shall be paid by the second meeting of the academic year.

Section 6 A. Three or more absences during the semester will carry the penalty of probationary status for said Fraternity or Sorority for the duration of that semester. B. Five absences during a semester will carry the penalty of loss of recognition to the council, for the remainder of that academic semester C. Absences during an NALFO Workshop or Forum : It is the responsibility of each organization to have their representatives present for a NALFO planned Workshop. Those that do not abide by this will be fined \$15 and will have no vote for the following NALFO meeting. Those organizations with a legitimate excuse for an absence must notify both the President of NALFO and then the Council at least one week in advance of schedule function date. D. Each organization must be present for the workshop at the designated time. Anything after that is considered late. A fine of \$10 will be implemented. E. If any organization in the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations is late for their scheduled tabling time a fine of \$5.00 will be implemented.

Section 7 A. A charge of \$15 is implemented if the organization is absent during any National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations Meeting. An organization is deemed absent after 15 minutes of the set meeting time. B. A charge of \$5 is implemented if the organization is deemed late after 5 minutes of set time for the Meeting **C. For any fines not paid in one week from the date issued will result in the loss of voting rights until all fines are paid.** D. For a consecutive (per day) lateness of a fine an additional dollar will be added to the original fine. For example if the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations Meeting was on a Monday and a fine of X amount was not paid until the following Tuesday (a day after the meeting) then the fine would be X+1 and so on and so forth.

**Article IV** Division of Power The Executive and Legislative Branches shall govern the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations.

**Article V** Executive Branch Section 1

A. This organization shall be governed by the Executive branch, which consists of the following officers: President, Vice President/Parliamentary, Secretary, Treasurer, Community Service Chair , **Public Relations and** Historian. B. At least one member per organization shall and must occupy a position on the Executive Board. In the event that there are more organizations than Executive Board position, new Executive Positions can be made in the discretion of the council.

C. The elected President of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations shall not hold Presidency of their respective organization. In event of limited membership of an organization, the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations shall make an exception to this provision

Section 2 All officers of the council have to be elected by the Legislative Branch of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations by majority. If majority vote is not reached a run-off election will take place.

Section 3 A. The officer shall assume their duties at the beginning of their term. Should the President be unable to complete his or her term of office, the Vice President shall complete the term. The Legislative body shall appoint the vacated office of the Vice President. B. Should any of the remaining officers be unable to continue his or her term, the Legislative Branch will appoint a designee. C. Any officers appointed by the Legislative Branch shall be deemed “acting”

#### Section 4 Duties of the President

A. It shall be the duty of the president to preside over the Executive and Legislative Branches of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations B. The President shall communicate to the Greek Advisor on matters affecting Council members. C. The President is accountable to the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations and the Greek Advisor for all the actions taken to **ensure insure** adherence to this Council. D. The President will be responsible to establish committees and to appoint a chairperson and members of those committees. E. **Must attend weekly meetings of Fraternity Sorority Leadership Board.** F. Must be familiarized with Robert’s Rule of Order **G. distribute separate explanations of executive board members’ role at the beginning of the fall semester** Section 5 Duties of the Vice President A. It shall be the duty of the Vice President to act in the absence of the President. B. The Vice President will act as the President’s Chief Advisor C. **The Vice President will act as Chief officer of all committees and**

votes in committees only when a tie occurs. In the event of limited membership of an organization the Council shall make an exception to this provision D. The Vice President cannot vote within the Legislative Body unless acting in the absence of the President. E. In addition to the responsibilities and duties entitled by the position of Vice-President, whoever obtains the votes necessary for the Vice-Presidency shall now include within his/her line of duty the responsibilities and obligations formally administered by the Parliamentarian: I. The Parliamentarian shall be responsible for maintaining order at all times. He or she shall access disciplinary actions should a breakdown of order occur. The parliamentarian shall be required to submit all disciplinary actions taken in a written report to the body by the next meeting. II. The Parliamentarian's role shall be to decide if meetings with the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations are conducted according to Robert's Rule of Order and to advise the President of said rules III. The Vice President shall be the liaison of other Greek Council or any other external Student Association and/or Organization.

F. Must be familiarized with Robert's Rule of Order

Section 6 Duties of the Secretary A. The Secretary will be the official Representative of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations. B. The Secretary will keep an accurate record of all proceedings of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations and be responsible for the disposition of all records C. The Secretary shall send out the NALFO Balance Report, as provided by the Treasurer, as an attachment to the minutes of the first meeting of each month. D. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep all files and correspondence between the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations and other campus based groups E. The Secretary is responsible for room reservations for council activities and meetings F. The Secretary is responsible for having minutes prepared for the council meetings G. Must be familiarized with Robert's Rule of Order

Section 7 Duties of the Treasurer A. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep records of all financial reports. B. The treasurer shall send the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations Balance Report to the Secretary prior to the first meeting of each month. C. The Treasurer will organize and execute fundraisers for the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations D. The Treasurer collects dues and fines from each organization represented in the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations E. The Legislative Body must approve all monetary transactions F. Must be familiarized with Robert's Rule of Order

Section 8 Duties of the Community  
Service Chair

A. To organize all communication and fund request to the Vice President and Treasurer B. To organize community services inside and outside of the Binghamton University campus, reinforce mandatory Community Service and assuring successful joint events for the good of the community. C. To notify the council of the following penalties and repercussions for an unexcused absence to the Community Service

1. Required make up community service with the total hours owed by said organizations. And proof or letter by the hosting organization or national organization

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2. A fine of \$30 is implemented and will increase in increments of \$10 with each missed community service there after within the semester 3. **The fine paid for missed community service will be donated to Latino Greek**

**Council treasury fund.** D. To notify the Treasurer is required for an organization of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations to be present in at timely fashion during our most dedicated Goal- Community Service. Therefore, 10 minutes is allotted before the organization/s is considered late from set time and 30 minutes is allotted before the organization/s is considered absent from set time.

1. A fine of \$15 is implemented if deemed late to a Community Service. A. To implement that those organization that are absent two out of three mandatory community services will be subsequent to loss of all National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations privileges for the rest of the semester

A. Must be familiarized with Robert's Rule of Order

Section 9 Duties of the Public Relation A. Creates any and all of the promotional elements for any and all events **B. Promote all events through all outlets (Instagram, Flyers, Facebook, Twitter, & B-line) C. Delegating all promotional tasks D. promoting the events sent in by active council members**

Section 10 Duties of the Historian A. The Historian for the council shall maintain an updated archive of all activities, information and memorabilia regarding the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations. **B. In charge of creating/updating National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations scrap book.**

**Article VI** Perspective Goals Section 1 Responsibility It is the responsibility and a

requirement for the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations to host a minimum of two educational forums, have one Community Service, a mixer within the council and a Fundraiser event per semester. Committees will be appointed as needed.

## Section 2 Educational/Cultural/Social Committees

A. Locates and screens prospective speakers and/or groups to insure the objective of the Preamble are being met  
B. Forwards all communications and fund request to the Vice President and Treasurer  
C. Organize activities and events to celebrate unity among council members

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**Article VII** The Executive Board Section 1 The Executive power of this Council is vested within the Executive Board

Section 2 The President shall preside over the Executive Board and only vote in the event of a tie

Section 3 No organization can hold more than one Executive Board position, unless there are less active organizations than there are positions.

Section 4 The Executive Board shall be the legal body of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations

Section 5 The current "Rules and Expectations" provided by Binghamton University shall be the frame of all actions of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations

Section 6 The National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations shall adjudicate all cases involving violations by Fraternities and Sororities concerning National, State, Local, University as well as the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations Rules and Regulations

Section 7 All members of the Executive Board must be in attendance at all hearing proceedings within the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations

Section 8 The actions of the Executive Board are final but subject to appeal. Appeals shall be made within 48 hours and in writing to the President, Vice President, and Advisor of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations. Appeals are only granted by 2/3 vote of the Legislative Body.

Section 9 Slander against any organization of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations by an NALFO organization or a member of an NALFO organization shall not be tolerated. It will be the responsibility of the slandered organization to bring it to the Executive Board. Maximum penalty shall be a fine of \$20. Maximum penalty for the slander is suspension of rights and privileges for that academic semester. Slander includes but is not limited to any form of belittling through any and all form of social networks and or media.

**Article VIII** Legislative Branch Section 1 The Legislative Branch shall consist of all member organizations of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations

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Section 2 A. It shall have the power to draft and introduce legislation to the Body B. Each member organization has the power to introduce Legislation to the Body C. The Legislative Body shall consist of one vote per organization D. The Legislative Body has the right to amend the agenda of all NALFO meetings E. The Legislative Body shall have the power to vote on new membership by majority vote F. The Legislative Body will elect the Executive Branches of the NALFO

**Article IX** Governmental Procedures Robert's Rule of Order shall govern all meetings of the Council. Check Appendix one at the end of the constitution.

**Article X** Meeting and Voting Section 1

A. The National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations meets on a weekly basis

B. The President may arrange calls for special meetings of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations as

deemed necessary 24 hours prior notice must be given to each organization C. Any member of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations shall have the right to request the President to

call a special meeting of the National Association

## of Latino Fraternal Organizations

Section 2 A. A majority of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations shall constitute a quorum for transacting business. A plurality of votes shall constitute a decision B. Each organization of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations is entitled to one vote cast from one of its representatives, except for probationary/provisionary members and Executive Board Members

Section 3 Elections A. Any member of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations may run for a position on the executive board, except probationary/provisionary members. B. During elections candidates shall present their platform to the members of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations. Candidates will step out of the room while the council discusses the candidates. a. Voting will occur by secret ballot, and is counted by the President. The candidate must have a 2/3 vote to obtain position.

**Article XI Powers and Obligations** Section 1 A. The National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations have the power to remove any officer of any branch not fulfilling his/her responsibilities, as stated in the constitution by a 2/3 vote of the entire National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations

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B. Such procedures shall begin by a written warning said officer of his/her irresponsibility and that possibility that whether he/she is to maintain the position is up to a secret ballot which is to be counted by the president.

Section 2 A. The National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations shall have the authority to change laws/by-laws or Amend the constitution by the following process:

1. By 2/3 vote of the Legislative Branch; and 2. Majority vote of the Executive Branch B. The President shall have the power to veto such amendments or change laws/By-laws of the constitution. Such votes can be determined overturned by 3/4 Vote of the Legislative Body

## **Article XII Organizations Expansions**

Section 1 Council Requirements A. The National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations is open for expansion to any organization willing to follow the ideals and constitution set forth by

the Council. B. An organization transferring from one council to the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations shall be subjected to a one semester provisional period, which will consist of: i. At least two members of the organization must attend National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations meetings, however

will not have any voting privileges and may not run for any executive board positions B. All new fraternities and sororities seeking recognition must first complete the Procedures for Recognition as outlined in the Binghamton University Fraternity/Sorority Recognition and Governance Policy. The Fraternity/Sorority Leadership Board will be responsible for granting provisional recognition to all eligible chapters. C. From the date of the granting of provisional recognition to the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations, the chapter will have one year to complete the process and/or guidelines for becoming a fully recognized chapter of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations as outlined in the constitution and approved by the F/S Leadership Board. At the end of the provisional year The National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations must make one of the following recommendations to the F/S Leadership Board based on the chapter meeting this Council's criteria:

- a. Recommend to the F/S Leadership Board that the group be granted full Recognition.
- b. Recommend to the F/S Leadership Board that the group be Provisional Recognition be extended
- c. Recommend to the F/S Leadership Board that the group be Provisional Recognition be withdrawn.
- E. The organization must be Latino based.

Section 2 Provisional Period A. Accepted Organizations shall be subjected to one complete semester provisional period.

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B. Provisional Organization shall provide support the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations as a whole. Such support shall be in the form of a minimum of two members from each organization attending one of the council's professional workshops each semester. As well as a minimum of two members of the provisional organization attending one workshop of every organization on the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations each semester. C. A total of three short terms of Community Service must be completed by at least two members of the provisional organization-Two of the Services must be Multicultural based and the other must

be Latino based. Each Community Service must be verified by the Greek Advisor. D. Provisional Organizations shall possess Professional, Courteous, Honest and Respectful demeanor towards current National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations Members and uphold the mission statement set fourth by the Council. A. Provisional Organizations must have two members attend National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations meetings, will not have voting rights, and will not be able to hold Executive Board Positions. A. The Provisional organizations are not allowed to have a week and are limited to the number of events, with the permission of the council.

- i. Refer to Article XV, Section 1 for a definition of a week
- ii. Proof of national requirements must be submitted to the council if more events are needed to be held then listed in statement (F)

**Article XIII** Past Charter Member Intake Section 1 Re-Entry of an Organization into the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations The following will only be applied if the Organization has not exceeded a total of Two years (Four Academic Semesters) being unrecognized from the time they were last consider Recognized in the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations

Section 2 Qualifications 1. A total of three short terms Community Service must be completed, two of the services must

be Multicultural based and the other Latino based. Each Community service must be documented and letters must be provided 2. One Member is all that is needed to Charter under the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations 3. A letter from their Nationals is required stating Status of the Chapter 4. The President or Vice President of NALFO must meet with the chapter advisor of said

organization seeking reentry. 5. The organization shall not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, gender, sexual orientation,

or physical handicap 6. This council is open for expansion to any organization willing to abide by the rules and

regulations set forth by Sec. 15.1 of NALFO Constitution and Current “Rules and Expectations” established by Binghamton University. Unless Moratorium is provided for a certain amount of time

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**Article XIV General**  
**Rules of Conduct**

No person, either singly or in concert with others, shall take action, create or participate in creation of any situation which recklessly or intentionally endangers mental or physical health, or which involves the forced consumption of alcohol or drugs or other substances for the purpose of initiation into or affiliated with any Organization. The National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations will annually review this Article of the Constitution and its attendant ramifications with the membership

**Article XV Events Section 1 Week of Events**

A. A week constitutes as an organization's pre-scheduled dates held within a five-day period. Within this week of pre-scheduled events, the organization can hold and are not limited to, fundraisers, forums, workshops, socials, and informational. Those who wish to hold an event during another organization's week may only do so at the discretion of the organization who is hosting that current week.

B. Method of selecting pre-scheduled weeks should consist of random selection. All organizations shall choose an envelope. Each envelope shall display a range of numbers that determine order of week selection.

C. If it is not any organization's week, and any organization within the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations plans to hold any event, they must first seek the approval of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations one week prior to the event. Penalization for not submitting a request and not receiving approval will result in a \$10 fine to the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations from said organization that has violated this clause.

Section 3 Social House Event A. No organization of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations shall conduct/host a Social House Event during dates previously selected by other organizations in the Council. B. A Social House Event will not take precedence over an organization's date/event. 12/11/2015