

PREAMBLE

We, the undergraduate members of the Greek lettered organizations of the Student Government Association, Inc. of Montclair State University, in order to establish an effective means of governing:

- Strive to maintain a physically and emotionally healthy environment in which Greek members and organizations can positively develop;
- Consider problems of mutual interest in its member organizations;
- Strive to build strong brotherhood and sisterhood through friendships, incorporating trust, loyalty, honesty, integrity, and companionship;
- Strive to help each other accomplish goals, foster personal growth, and keep each other focused;
- Recognize that the primary objective of a university education is academic achievement, and support academic excellence among members;
- Strive to maturely engage in the social aspects of Greek Life, which is a vital aspect of the campus community atmosphere;
- Strive to provide opportunities to develop leadership skills which are building blocks and stepping stones for future career opportunities;
- Strive to serve the university and community through volunteer efforts and donations to charities;
- Strive to provide opportunities for members to pursue many philanthropic efforts;
- Strive to create an unbiased community without prejudice due to race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or sexual orientation;
- Strive to respect differences of opinion and freedom of speech by understanding and fostering good will among all individuals and groups;
- Strive to eradicate any behavior which devalues persons through physical, mental, or verbal abuse, harassment, or discrimination;
- Strive to have local Greek lettered organizations conduct themselves in a similar manner as the national organizations;

We, as one unified Greek community, do hereby ordain and establish this Constitution of the Greek Council.

Article I

Section 1: Name

This body shall be known as the Greek Council, an Executive Branch of the Student Government Association, Inc. of Montclair State University.

Section 2: Membership

Membership in the Greek Council is open to any Greek member of a lawfully chartered organization of the Student Government Association, Inc. of Montclair State University, and shall be subject to the Constitution, Statutes and Laws of the Greek Council.

Section 3: Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- A. To provide the means whereby the members of the Greek community may express themselves in the programs of Greek Life which directly affect their intellectual, social, physical, and spiritual welfare;
- B. To promote better brotherhood and sisterhood by developing and promoting student responsibility and accountability;
- C. To coordinate and regulate the activities of all Greek lettered organizations and their members;
- D. To oversee and govern the six Greek sub houses. These sub houses are:
 - a) Interfraternity Council (IFC)
 - b) Intersorority Council (ISC)
 - c) National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC)
 - d) Collegiate Panhellenic Conference (CPC)
 - e) Professional Fraternity Association (Pro House)
 - f) United Greek Coalition (UGC)

Section 4: Voting

All voting will be in accordance with the rules set forth in the Greek Council Statutes.

Article II — Legislative Branch

Section 1: Legislative Powers

All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Greek Legislature.

Section 2: Composition of the Legislature

A. The legislature shall be composed of one representative from each chartered Greek lettered organization including non-voting members which are colonies or probationary status organizations;

B. The elected representatives cannot be of service to their Greek lettered organization the semester in which they completed their new member intake process;

C. The appointment of the representative to the Greek Legislature shall be conducted according to the Greek Council Statutes;

D. All representatives of the Greek Legislature shall hold and maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.25 or higher as certified by the Montclair State University Registrar.

Section 3: Duties and Powers

The Greek Legislature in accordance with the Constitution shall:

A. Act as a formal representative for the undergraduate Greek community;

B. Enact, by two-thirds vote, bylaws of the Constitution to be known as the Greek Council Statutes;

C. Appropriate money according to the Greek Council Statutes and upon a two-thirds majority vote, withhold and modify appropriations;

D. Formulate and review budget policy as it applies to all organizations receiving money from the Greek Council;

E. Confirm or reject, by two-thirds vote, the appointments of the President of the Greek Council;

F. Provide a compiled publication of the legislation, in order that the members of the Greek Council are informed;

G. To approve, or disapprove, of pending Greek lettered organization charter requests, provide for the regulation of Greek lettered organizations of Montclair State University campus, and have the power to withhold approval of Greek lettered organizations activities and function;

H. Submit, by a two-thirds vote, to the undergraduate Greek student body, any bill or issue which it feels the Greek students should act upon collectively;

I. Have the power to remove Greek Council Student Executive Board officers by proceedings initiated by a two-thirds vote of the entire Greek Legislature at the following regular meeting;

J. Have the power to make rules and regulations necessary for the proper administration of elections within the guidelines established by the SGA Legislature;

K. Have the power to make legislation necessary to promote the general welfare of the Greek student body;

L. Have the power to petition the President of the Greek Council or the President of the Greek Legislature, or by a two-thirds vote of the Greek Legislature, called a special meeting.

Section 4: Meetings

A. The Greek Legislature shall convene every week from the start of the second week of each semester to two weeks before finals each semester (excluding Winter, Spring, and Summer recesses) on such day and time as stated in accordance with the Greek Council Statutes;

B. The President of the Greek Legislature shall call the Greek Legislature into session for the first meeting in September not more than one week after the resumption of classes.

C. The President of the Greek Council or the President of the Greek Legislature may call the Greek Legislature into emergency session at any time.

D. All regular meetings of the Greek Legislature shall be open to all undergraduate students of Montclair State University except those meetings which, by majority vote of the representatives, are declared to be executive sessions.

E. The procedure for order in the Greek Legislature shall be as governed by *Robert's Rules of Order, Revised*, unless otherwise specified in the Constitution or Statutes.

F. All members of the Greek Legislature shall have one vote; voting shall be based on the total votes present, unless otherwise specified in the Constitution or Statutes. The President of the Greek Legislature is required to vote in case of a tie and shall only vote in such a case.

G. Three **UNEXCUSED** absences during a semester shall result in expulsion from the Greek Legislature for the remainder of the term of office with the following sanctions:

- **1st offense**- Suspension.

If after the initial three **UNEXCUSED** absences, a fourth **UNEXCUSED** absence occurs, the organization shall have the following sanctions:

- **2nd offense**- Go through a Judicial Review procedure

Section 5: Quorum

A quorum shall be two-thirds of the representatives.

Section 6: Vacancies

Should a vacancy occur in an elected Executive position not otherwise dealt with in the Constitution, the Greek Legislature shall provide for an election in the area where the vacancy occurs not more than fourteen (14) days following the creation of the vacancy. Vacancies in the Greek Legislature shall be filled in accordance with the Statutes.

Section 7: Term of Office

The term of office of representatives shall begin the last full week of August of the year of their election and terminate on May 31 of the following year.

Section 8: Advisors

A. The Greek Legislature shall have a faculty/administrative advisor. The advisor will be qualified in administrative, financial, and Greek Affairs. The advisor must be present at all regular open meetings of the Greek Legislature.

B. The Greek Council Advisor is appointed by the Greek Council President at the first meeting of the Greek Council in the fall semester.

C. A two-thirds vote of approval is required by the Greek Legislature to appoint the Greek Council Advisor.

Article III — The Executive Branch

Section 1: Executive Officers

A. The executive power shall be vested in the President of the Greek Council. The President and three other executive officers, the Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, shall be elected for a term of one year, beginning June 1 of the election year and terminating May 31 of the following year. The officers shall be elected in the following manner:

- a. By the Rules of the Elections set forth in the Greek Council Statutes;
- b. By self-nominating petitions submitted at least ten days prior to the election and signed by one-hundred members of the Greek undergraduate student body (as verified by the SGA Attorney General);
- c. By having a minimum of one years time in service to their Greek organization not including the semester in which they pledged;
- d. By maintaining a 2.5 or higher cumulative grade point average as certified by the Montclair State University Registrar;
- e. By saying the following oath administered by the SGA Attorney General before entering office... **“I (state full name) do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of _____ of the Greek Council, of the Student Government Association, Inc. of Montclair State University, and that I will, to the best of my ability, uphold the Constitution of the Greek Council, and all of its Statutes and Laws.”**

B. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, the Vice-President shall assume the office. Any other vacancies to be filled will be done in accordance with the Greek Council Statutes.

C. An executive officer may be removed (impeached) by a three-fourths vote of the Greek Legislature. Just cause for removal shall be:

- a. Failure to maintain undergraduate status at Montclair State University;
- b. Failure to uphold and fulfill the purpose and policies of the Greek Council Constitution, Statutes, and Laws;
- c. Malfeasance, misfeasance, or non-feasance in the functioning of the Greek Council.

Section 2: The President

The President of the Greek Council shall:

A. Appoint members of the Cabinet and the Greek Council faculty/administrative advisor, subject to a two-thirds vote of the Greek Legislature; and remove, at discretion, any office appointed;

B. Preside over all meetings of the Cabinet, exercise all powers pertaining to the calling of meetings and the conduct of business in accordance with this Constitution, and coordinate the performance of the duties by the Cabinet members and the Sub-Houses;

C. Faithfully execute the laws of the constitution;

D. Inform and recommend to the Greek Legislature matters concerning Greek Student welfare;

E. Have the power to sign or veto acts, or any part thereof, of the Greek Legislature and amendments to this Constitution proposed by that body, provided that such power is exercised no later than on the fourteenth day of passage. The first day of passage is considered to be that day it was passed by the Greek Legislature. A bill shall become law if:

- a. The President approves and signs it within the period allowed for consideration, or
- b. The President does not return it to the Greek Legislature before the expiration of the period allowed for consideration, or
- c. Upon reconsideration of the bill objected to by the President, two-thirds of the Greek Legislature agrees to pass the bill, or three-quarters of the legislation originally approved by a two-thirds majority. The President's objections shall be entered into the minutes of the proceedings at the next regular meeting of the Greek Legislature, or
- d. The President signs legislature which has been amended and reenacted by the Greek Legislature after the President's objections within six days after being re-forwarded by the President of the Greek Legislature. No bill shall be returned by the President a second time.

F. Act as the official host, representative, and signatory of the Greek Council;

G. Appoint ad-hoc committees with the advice and consent of the Greek Legislature;

H. Have the power to investigate and report in any area of Greek Life.

Section 3: The Vice-President

The Vice-President of the Greek Council shall:

- A. Be the President over the Greek Legislature and preside over the Greek Legislature meetings;
- B. Succeed to the Presidency should that office become vacant and at such time have the power to nominate a successor subject to the approval of two-thirds of the Greek Legislature;
- C. Forward all acts of Legislature to the President within three days of their passage;
- D. Have the power to investigate and report in any area of Greek Life;
- E. Be a member of the President's Cabinet.

Section 4: The Treasurer

The Treasurer of the Greek Council shall:

- A. Disburse all moneys appropriated by the Greek Legislature;
- B. Assist the President and be assisted by the Greek Council Advisor in preparing budgets and compiling the account of expenditures for the Greek Legislature, and report to the Greek Legislature monthly at a regular meeting;
- C. Review and formulate financial policies subject to approval of the Greek Legislature;
- D. Recommend to the President the appointment of such assistant treasurers as are necessary to execute the office of the Treasurer;
- E. Have the power to investigate and report in any area of Greek Life;
- F. Be a member of the President's Cabinet.

Section 5: The Secretary

The Secretary of the Greek Council shall:

- A. Maintain all records and files of the Greek Council and shall arrange for permanent preservation of its archives;
- B. Recommend to the President of the Greek Council the appointment of the Clerk of the Greek Legislature who shall keep full and accurate minutes of the proceedings of a Greek Legislature, and perform other such duties as the

Greek Legislature and the Secretary may direct, and of such undersecretaries as are necessary to execute the office of the Secretary;

C. Be responsible for all correspondence and office operations of the Greek Council;

D. Utilize every possible source to promote and publicize the activities of the Greek Council among the students of Montclair State University;

E. Have the power to investigate and report in any area of Greek Life;

F. Be a member of the President's Cabinet.

Section 6: The Cabinet

There shall be a Cabinet to assist and advise the President, the membership of which shall be determined by the Greek Council Statutes. The Cabinet members, with the exception of ex-officio members, shall be appointed by a majority vote of the Greek Legislature. Cabinet posts not created in this Greek Council Constitution shall be created in accordance with the Greek Council Statutes. Cabinet members may not be representatives and must have a 2.5 or higher cumulative grade point average as certified by the Montclair State University Registrar.

Article IV — The Judicial Court

The judicial power of the Greek Council shall be vested in the Judicial Court. The Judicial Court will remain inactive until such time as it is necessary to convene the Judicial Court. Authority to activate the Judicial Court will be ANY violation of Greek law and code of conduct for Greek behavior. All proceedings of the Judicial Court will be strictly adhered to. The Student Government Association, Inc. of Montclair State University is the convening authority of the Judicial Court. Upon convening the Judicial Court, any laws not expressed in this Greek Council Constitution or the Greek Council Statutes, will be duly enforced and opinions handed down by the SGA Judicial Branch Justices.

Article V — Finances

Section 1: Dues

A. An amount of \$5.00 per active member from each participating organization shall be collected at the beginning of each semester;

B. Failure to pay by collection due dates shall result in sanctions to be determined by the executive board elect.

Section 2: Collection

The Treasurer shall inform each organization, in writing, of budget and dues. Each organization shall pay dues no later than the first October meeting for the fall semester, and the last February meeting for the spring semester.

Section 3: Reports

The Treasurer shall submit semesterly itemized financial statements to each member of the Greek Council.

Article VI— Fundraising

The organization shall use only its full name in all its advertising for all meetings and events. All advertising shall state:

“The Greek Council, an Executive Branch of the SGA, Inc.”

Article VII — Reading of the Constitution

A. The Greek Council Constitution shall be read to the members present at the first meeting of the fall semester, by the Vice President;

B. Each member shall be presented with a copy of the Greek Council Constitution and Greek Council Statutes at this time.

Article VIII — Greek Council Statutes

A. The six Sub-Houses of the Greek Council will be governed by the Greek Council Statutes, and shall be responsible for adhering to this Greek Council Constitution.

B. Upon ratification of this Greek Council Constitution it shall be the responsibility of the Greek Council to approve any and all changes to the Greek Council Statutes by two-thirds majority of the members in good standing.

C. Upon ratification of the Greek Council Statutes, or any changes thereof by the Greek Council, all copies must be forwarded to the SGA Government and Administration Committee for approval, the SGA Legislature for approval, and final approval by the President of the SGA, subject to SGA Legislature override.

D. If approved by the SGA, the SGA is responsible for making the necessary changes to the Greek Council Statutes, and forwarding a copy of the revised Greek Council Statutes to the Greek Council. At this point, it is the responsibility of the Greek Council to be certain that the members receive current Greek Council Statutes.

E. Changes so passed shall take effect the semester following its ratification.

Article IX — Amendments To The Greek Council Constitution

Section 1: Introduction of Amendment

Amendments may be introduced by any member of the Greek Council Executive Board, or any representative of the Greek Council in good standing. The proposed amendments must be introduced at least two meetings prior to voting.

Section 2: Passage

A three-fourths vote of the voting membership shall be required for the amendment to pass.

Section 3: Final Approval

Final approval by two-thirds of the Legislature of the Student Government Association, Inc. of Montclair State University is mandatory for amendments to go into effect. Amendments so passed shall take effect the semester following its ratification.

Article X — Officer Compensation

Officials of the Greek Council and its subsidiary organizations shall not receive as a reward for performed duties, financial or material remuneration in the performance of said duties.

