

# The Constitution of the Interfraternity Council

Wittenberg University

Approved 09/27/2017

## Mission Statement

**We, the Interfraternity Council of Wittenberg University, set forth this Constitution and By-Laws in order to create closer working relationships and coordination among the member fraternities herein and with the Wittenberg University community. We accomplish these goals through continued support, discussion, member education, adherence to high scholastic and moral standards, conscientious social activities, and a collaboration of human resources.**

## Article I Name and Objectives

### Section 1 - Name

The name of this organization shall be the Interfraternity Council (IFC) of Wittenberg University.

### Section 2 - Objectives

- A. To be the representative, legislative body of the fraternity community and to act as the forum of for the consideration of issues of mutual interest to member organizations.
- B. To provide a sovereign judicial structure for its member fraternities in order to fairly administer penalties and provide Wittenberg University with consequential suggestions for chapters violating University or IFC/NIC policies
- C. To promote relationships which are conducive to the general preservation of the fraternity community at Wittenberg University and which help our fraternity community remain relevant to the student life as it changes on our campus. D. To provide programs, both developmental and social, for all member organizations to help improve their functioning and to provide common experiences that encourage cooperation and unity among organizations.
- E. To educate the fraternity and University communities as to the values of and issues affecting the Greek Life.
- F. To be of assistance to any fraternity in the accomplishment of its goals or activities and to serve our university community and society at large.

## Article II Membership

### Section 1 – IFC Membership

- A. All IFC chapters must have an affiliation with the North-American Interfraternity Conference or have official recognition from Wittenberg University.
- B. All IFC chapters must remain in “good standing,” as defined in Article III, Section 1, to retain full IFC privileges
- C. All fraternities at Wittenberg University must be recognized members of IFC or hold dual membership that includes NIC.

### Section 2 – Colonization and Re-colonization

- A. All organizations desiring to colonize or re-colonize at Wittenberg University must present to the IFC President and the executive board of the Interfraternity Council the following which is then reported to the member chapters in general body meeting:
  - 1. A petition for colonization/re-colonization at Wittenberg University
  - 2. Proof of Wittenberg University alumni support in the case of recolonization
  - 3. A nationally approved constitution and By-Laws
  - 4. Proof of support from the general fraternity, which must be a member of the North-American Interfraternity Conference
- B. Upon the approval of the IFC that the stated requirements have been completed, the organization shall be granted “colony status” pending University approval
  - 1. “Colony status” shall be defined as having representation on the IFC, with no voting rights for a period of one year, at which time the colony may apply for voting rights to the IFC Chief Justice
  - 2. An organization with “colony status” may not hold any IFC related office nor have an IFC Judicial Committee Justice
  - 3. An organization with “colony status” may participate in any IFC sponsored events
    - B.3.a. Should the event require financial obligation on behalf of IFC, a colony may participate by choosing to either pay the normal IFC
      - Dues or pay on a per-activity basis, as prescribed by the IFC Treasurer
    - B.3.b. Should a colony choose to pay on a per-activity basis, they may do so until their expenses meet the established IFC dues in a given semester, after which they will not be required to pay for any further events
    - B.3.c. Should a colony not gain chapter status before one year from their colonization date, said colony must pay 50% of the IFC dues they would normally pay if they were an active chapter.
      - 1. This fee will increase to 100% of the IFC dues after two years of colonization should said colony not reach chapter status at that time.
    - B.3.d. Voting rights for colony delegates will be granted after one year of colonization.
    - B.3.e. The right to hold an Executive position on IFC will be granted after two years of colonization.

4. "Colony status" shall be completed upon the discretion of the fraternity headquarters, pending both University approval and the IFC vote of approval

#### Section 3 – Council Advisor

- A. The Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life, or an appointed council advisor, must be an ex-officio member of the Greek community and will serve as the university approved advisor to the IFC

### **Article III Privileges and Responsibilities**

#### Section 1 – Good Standing

- A. All IFC chapters must maintain an annual cumulative GPA at or above the allmen's campus average
  - a. Should a chapter not reach the required GPA standard for one semester, said chapter will be required to create an Academic program that encourages its members to raise its GPA to the required standard. The program should be submitted to and approved by the Vice President of Scholarship before active participation in IFC meetings and sponsored events is granted.
  - b. Should a chapter not reach the required GPA standard for two consecutive semesters, said chapter will lose its IFC voting privileges.
- B. All IFC chapters must be insured with liability coverage
- C. All IFC chapters must fulfill all financial obligations to IFC in a timely manner as specified by the IFC Vice President of Finance and Records E. All IFC chapters must comply with this constitution, council by-laws, University Conduct Board sanctions, university policies, NIC expectations, and all State and Federal laws
  - F. Violation of good standing will provide that a chapter is given a probationary period as defined by Article III, Section 5

#### Section 2 – IFC Chapter Rights

- A. All IFC chapters found to be in good standing are extended the following rights and are not denied so unless explicitly stated in this document or as the result of individual fraternity sanctions:
  1. Equal representation and voting rights on IFC
    - a. This consists of one official delegate per chapter
  2. Ability of all Chapters' members to be in attendance at any IFC sponsored event
  3. Access to all resources and programs provided by the IFC

#### Section 3 – IFC Delegates

- A. All IFC chapters are allowed one official delegate for voting representation on IFC and an alternate delegate
  1. Voting delegate will be selected by each member chapter

2. Voting delegate's primary responsibility will focus on communication between IFC and chapter
3. IFC delegates may not be a current member of the IFC Executive Board or currently serve as his Member Fraternity's IFC Judicial Committee Justice.

**B. Responsibilities**

1. Delegates must come with some sort of report for their chapter every week.
2. Delegates are responsible for communicating everything discussed in IFC meetings with the chapter they represent.
3. Matters and motions that require chapter approval must be addressed at the next chapter meeting or chapters will be fined \$15 for every week they fail to vote on said matter or motion.

**Section 4 – Council Voting**

- A. Each chapter in “Good Standing” will have voice in every IFC matter, with one vote, through their IFC voting delegate
- B. All voting procedures will be carried out by the Chief Justice of Standards, or in descending order of Article IV, Section 1 in his absence, or by the proxy voting procedure

**Section 5 – Probation**

- A. Any IFC chapter found not to be in “Good Standing” will be notified by the IFC President or Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life and receive a one semester probationary period
- B. Probationary expectations and fines are to be suggested by IFC Judicial Hearing and passed with a 2/3 vote by delegates from IFC chapters in “Good Standing”
  1. IFC Judicial Hearings will consist of each IFC Executive member not already a member of the chapter in question
- C. Failure to return to Good Standing within the allotted one-semester probationary period will cause the chapter to automatically lose all IFC voting rights, forfeit all seats on the IFC Executive committee, and risk losing IFC membership
- D. Any IFC chapter found not to be in “Good Standing” for a duration longer than one semester will have their general fraternity notified of the situation by the IFC President or Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life

**Article IV**  
**Structure of the Interfraternity Council**

**Section 1 – Members**

- A. The IFC shall consist of the following:
  1. The IFC Executive Council, consisting of:
    - a. President
    - b. Chief Justice of Standards

- c. Vice President of Recruitment
  - d. Vice President of Records and Finance
  - e. Vice President of Philanthropy and Project Development
  - f. Vice President of Scholarship
  - g. Vice President of Member Development
  - h. Vice President of Public Relations
2. One official delegate and one alternate delegate per chapter
  3. Fraternity and Sorority Life Senator
  4. Council Advisor (See Article II, Section 3)

## **Article V IFC Judicial Committee**

### Section 1 - IFC Judicial Committee Jurisdiction

The IFC shall be a self-governing organization with an independent Judicial Committee which shall have jurisdiction over cases involving alleged Member Fraternity violations, including but not limited to:

- A. The IFC Constitution, Bylaws, Wittenberg Student Code of Conduct, and other policies
- B. The rules and regulations of Wittenberg University
- C. The general values-based conduct of fraternity men

### Section 2 - IFC Judicial Committee Composition

A. The IFC Judicial Committee shall be composed of one IFC Justice from each Member Fraternity, chosen by that Member Fraternity, and shall be chaired by the IFC Chief Justice of Standards

### Section 3 - IFC Justice Eligibility

In order to serve as the IFC Justice for a Member Fraternity on the IFC Judicial Committee, an individual must meet the following requirements:

- A. Be an Active Member or New Member, in good standing, of an IFC Member Fraternity
- B. Maintain a 2.0 semesterly GPA.
- C. Be devoted to the general ideals and principles of fraternity life and conduct himself in a professional manner consistent with the Mission and Purpose of the IFC, as defined within this Constitution
- D. Have a working knowledge of the IFC Constitution and Bylaws, Wittenberg University policies, NIC Standards, and FIPG risk management policies
- E. Not be a current member of the IFC Executive Committee
- F. Must complete formal judicial policies and procedures training prior to serving on an IFC Judicial Board hearing

### Section 4 - Term of Office of IFC Justices

The term of office for IFC Justices shall be until their graduation, resignation, or replacement under the procedures determined by each Member Fraternity; or upon his election to serve on the IFC Executive Board or as his Member Fraternity's IFC Representative or Alternate Representative for the IFC General Body.

#### Section 5 - IFC Judicial Policy

The Judicial Committee shall perform all duties and be subject to all regulations contained within the IFC Judicial Policy in the Bylaws.

#### Section 6 - IFC Judicial Board Hearing Justice Selection

The IFC Chief Justice of Standards will select a Judicial Committee justice representing each fraternity, as predetermined by an alphabetical rotation of the Member Fraternities, to hear a case. In the event the IFC Judicial Committee rotation for service on a Judicial Board hearing falls upon an IFC Justice whose Member Fraternity is involved in the alleged violation, the rotation will skip to the next Member Fraternity in the alphabetical rotation.

#### Section 7 - IFC Judicial Board Hearing Attendance

All IFC Judicial Board hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the following requirements:

- A. All IFC Justices assigned to an IFC Judicial Board hearing shall be present in order to conduct business on behalf of the IFC Judicial Committee.
- B. Each IFC Justice assigned to an IFC Judicial Board hearing is required to attend the hearing. Failure of an IFC Justice to attend an IFC Judicial Board hearing for which he was assigned shall result in his Member Fraternity being referred to the IFC Chief Justice of Standards for potential judicial review.

#### Section 8 - IFC Judicial Board Hearing Voting Policies

All IFC Judicial Board hearings shall operate utilizing the following voting policies:

- A. Each IFC Justice serving on an IFC Judicial Board hearing shall have one vote.
- B. A majority vote shall govern all actions of an IFC Judicial Board.

## **Article VI Procedures**

#### Section 1 – Election of Officers

- A. Elections shall be held no later than the fourth week of November.
- B. Applications will be available at least three weeks before elections. The application deadline will be two weeks after they are made available.
- C. Candidates may be asked to interview when turning in their application.
- D. Elections will be held in a slating process, wherein each eligible chapter that submits a candidate by the application deadline is assured one seat on the IFC Executive Council, and all other positions are left open for any member candidate.

1. If a chapter does not submit a candidate by the application deadline, that chapter may not hold a seat on IFC Executive Board until the next regular election.

E. The slating committee will interview all officer candidates.

1. All outgoing IFC Executive Officers not running for a position in the election will sit on the slating committee.
2. Each chapter eligible to hold a position on the Executive Board will name a slating delegate from their chapter. Slating delegates will participate in interviews and the slating session alongside eligible Executive Officers. A slating delegate may not sit on or be a candidate for IFC Executive Board.
3. The IFC Advisor will be present at candidate interviews and slating discussions, and may participate in these discussions at his or her discretion.

F. The slate for executive officer positions will be formed at a scheduled slating session. The slating committee will discuss preferred candidates for each position. This will require the slating committee to consider each candidate in relation to how they are expected to perform based on slating discussion and interviews, and how they are expected to function in relation to other candidates under consideration.

1. The slating committee will produce a slate which identifies its optimal choice for each executive position from amongst the candidates.
2. Candidates that are tentatively slated should be contacted during the slating session to confirm that they are willing to perform the position they have been slated for.
3. The final decision for what slate is to be presented to chapters shall be based upon a consensus amongst the slating committee. What constitutes a consensus is to be defined and agreed upon by each slating committee prior to discussion.

G. The slate of proposed IFC executive officers for the next council will be made available by the current IFC Executive Board, and presented to the delegates at an IFC Delegates meeting. The IFC Advisor will be present at this meeting.

H. The IFC Delegates will take the slate back to their respective chapters to vote on the slate. Chapters will have one week from the time the slate is released to vote individually.

I. At the next IFC general body meeting after the slate has been released, chapter delegates will vote on the slate. Delegates must vote as their chapters did.

- 1.a.1. When voting for the Interfraternity Council slate, a ballot system will be used. There must be a 2/3 vote by the delegate chapters to pass the slate. If the slate passes, those officers will be installed upon the next Executive Board term, pending Article I subsection 3.
- 1.a.2. In the event the slate does not pass, there will not be a re-slating. Positions will be filled via individual officer elections from amongst the previously submitted candidates at the next IFC meeting.
- 1.a.3. If a minority of chapters do not approve the slate, those chapter delegates will be required to identify the factors contributing to their vote. They may propose alternative

candidates to run against officer seats which those chapters contest, which IFC may consider for individual officer elections with a majority vote of delegates.

- J. When individual officer elections are required, candidates who previously applied may speak at the following general body meeting to be voted upon by the delegates.
  - 1.a.i.1. Individual officer elections will be run via a majority (51%) anonymous ballot. A hand vote may occur with a delegate motion and majority delegate vote.
  - 1.a.i.2. If no candidate receives a majority of votes in a given officer election, there will be a run-off vote in which the lowest vote winner will be eliminated, and the remaining candidates will be voted upon again. This will continue until one candidate obtains a majority.
  - 1.a.i.3. If individual officer elections are required, they shall occur in the following order:
    - 1.a.i.1.a.a. President
    - 1.a.i.1.a.b. Chief Justice of Standards
    - 1.a.i.1.a.c. Vice President of Recruitment
    - 1.a.i.1.a.d. Vice President of Records and Finance
    - 1.a.i.1.a.e. Vice President of Philanthropy and Project Development
    - 1.a.i.1.a.f. Vice President of Scholarship
    - 1.a.i.1.a.g. Vice President of Member Development
    - 1.a.i.1.a.h. Vice President of Public Relations

K. Executive officer terms will last from the end of January to the next end of January, approximately one year

L. In the case of an officer resignation or termination, the President will name a date for a special election. Candidates must be given two weeks to apply, after which the procedures for electing the new officer will follow Section 1, Subsection J.

M. All newly elected officers must meet the eligibility requirements of Article VI, Section 2

#### Section 2 – Officer Eligibility

1.a.A. Each officer must be a full-time student at Wittenberg University

1.a.B. Each officer must be active and in good standing with their chapter

1.a.C. No chapter president may also serve as the IFC President, IFC Vice President of Recruitment, or IFC Chief Justice of Standards

1.a.D. Each officer must be a voting member of their chapter one full semester before being elected onto the IFC Executive Council

1.a.E. The IFC President must have one full year of prior experience with IFC including one of the following:

1.a.i.1.1. Chapter President

1.a.i.1.2. IFC delegate or executive officer

1.a.i.1.3. If no candidates have met either of the first two standards, a candidate with experience on a chapter executive committee will be accepted



- 1.a.F. No officer may hold more than one IFC executive office at the same time
- 1.a.G. Neither the voting delegate, alternative delegate, or IFC Judicial Committee Justice of a chapter may hold an IFC Executive Office
- 1.a.H. Each officer must have attained and maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.6

### Section 3 – Meetings

1.a.A. Meetings shall be held at a regularly scheduled time and location designated by the IFC President at the start of each semester

1.a.B. The IFC President and Chief Justice of Standards may call special meetings when he deems necessary

1.a.C. All meetings will be run by the IFC President, and in his absence, in descending order of Article IV, Section 1 in the case of successive officer absences

1.a.D. All meetings shall be conducted according to Roberts Rules of Order

- 1. Should any aspect of this constitution, its by-laws, or policies conflict with Roberts Rules of Order, the IFC Constitution, By-Laws, and policies shall take precedence

1.a.E. Any delegate or executive officer that will not be present at any regularly scheduled, or specifically scheduled, meeting shall notify the IFC President or Secretary at least 24 hours in advance, or they shall be counted as absent

1.a.F. A mandatory quorum of 2/3 of the voting delegates must be reached for the IFC to conduct regular business

1.a.G. Attendance by at least one delegate per chapter is mandatory at every meeting, otherwise resulting in a \$15 fine per chapter, per meeting, that has no voting delegate present

1.a.H. Attendance by executive officers is mandatory, allowing only two unexcused absences per semester before a \$15 fine is administered to the officer, and the impeachment process begins

- 1. In the event of a questionable number of excused absences the IFC President or Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life will meet with the Chief Justice of Standards to determine the necessary ramifications I.

Attendance and voice is open to any member of the fraternity community, but only official voting delegates may vote on matters of the IFC

### Section 4 – Impeachment, Resignation, and Removal Procedures

1.a.A. Any officer of the Council may be impeached by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the member chapters in favor of impeachment

1.a.B. Grounds for impeachment may include the following:

1.a.i.1.1. Failure to abide by this constitution

1.a.i.1.2. Failure to abide by the Council By-Laws

1.a.i.1.3. Failure to abide by the directives of the Council

1.a.i.1.4. Repeated failure to attend Council meetings or to fulfill the responsibilities of office

1.a.i.1.5. Exhibiting gross misconduct violating the integrity of the Council.

C. Immediate Removal

1. Any officer may be immediately removed from office, without question, if their standing comes into conflict with the Officer Eligibility stated in Article VI, Section 2 which pertains to officer eligibility. If the individual in question falls outside of the confines of Article VI, Section 2, they are entitled to a hearing to further determine eligibility.

D. Any officer on the IFC Executive Council reserves the right to nominate another officer for impeachment by submitting a formal, written complaint to the IFC President to be brought before the IFC for voting purposes

1. In the instance of the IFC President's nomination for impeachment, the formal written complaint may be submitted to the Chief Justice of Standards

E. Any officer on the IFC Executive Council reserves the right to resign from his position upon a 1-week notification to the IFC President prior to resignation F. Nominations to fill an impeached, resigned, or removed office shall be accepted at the meeting during which the impeachment or resignation occurs G. The election to fill the vacant office shall begin at the next regular meeting of the Council

1. In the event that an IFC Executive member seat becomes vacant, leaving one chapter without representation on the council, then that chapter forfeits their representation and has an equal opportunity to run in the election to replace the vacancy

H. Installation shall immediately follow the election with the term of office being the time remaining in the term of the vacated office

1. Should the removed officer fail or refuse to transition the incoming replacement officer, installation and transitioning shall be the responsibility of the IFC President

## **Article VII Amendments and Ratification**

### **Section 1 – Amendments**

A. The constitution may be amended by following the procedures prescribed for changing the By-Laws with the exception that it takes a three-fourths (3/4) vote to delete, modify, or add any amendment into the constitution

1. A two week period of review for any modification or amendment will be provided to the member chapters in order for a house vote and consensus to be met before the IFC delegates meet to vote.

### **Section 2 – Ratification**

A. This constitution will be considered effective when ratified by three-fourths (3/4) vote of the chapter delegates whose chapters are in good standing