**Chapter Constitution**

**and By-Laws**

**CONSTITUTION**

**Of Chi Chapter, Beta Sigma Psi**

**PREAMBLE**

We the undersigned, all of whom are students at The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, have this day associated ourselves together for the purpose of forming a fraternity of Lutheran male students and for such purpose we hereby unite in and adopt the following constitution wherein we certify as follows, such as:

**ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of this organization is Chi Chapter of Beta Sigma Psi.

**ARTICLE II: OBJECTS AND PURPOSES**

Section 1. The objective of this society shall be to promote a fraternity of Lutheran students upon the campus of The Ohio State University, which shall recognize that the life rooted with Christ in God is a goal of human existence, and which therefore, shall foster, encourage, and inspire activities and relationships which shall promote this end. Such activities and relationships are:

A. Those which shall assist in the development of faithful and energetic Christian leaders within the Lutheran Church who have religious interest such as: private and group study; attendance and active participation in Lutheran student organization and cooperation with the pastoral advisor.

B. Those which shall assist in the development of highly respected, well adjusted, informed, socially acceptable gentlemen, such as: a well-ordered home environment, insuring wholesome surroundings; attainment of high scholastic standing through good habits of study and industry; and emphasis on a sterling code of moral and ethical values.

C. Those which stress on the teaching and need for good manners; fostering of cooperation through athletic competition, instilling the ideals of selflessness through group living, and those which promote the development of social skills.

**ARTICLE III: ORGANIZATION**

Section 1. The government of Chi Chapter shall be vested in all elected and appointed officers as prescribed in the By-Laws and any other officers as they may be needed.

Section 2. All officers shall be elected by secret ballot except those appointed by the president. These officers shall serve until their successors are installed. Any active member shall be eligible for any office in this fraternity as prescribed in the By-Laws, provided that he meets University qualifications.

**ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. The membership categories of the Chi Chapter of Beta Sigma Psi are:

A. Associate Members - individuals who have not been initiated into active membership.

B. Active Members - duly initiated members of the Fraternity who attend active chapter meetings, vote and are eligible to hold an office in the active chapter.

C. Alumni - members who do not attend active chapter meetings on a regular basis, do not vote, do not pay active chapter dues, and are not eligible to hold active chapter office.

D. Honorary Members - persons selected as “honorary” as defined in Article IV, Section 4 of this Constitution.

Section 2. Prospective members shall be elected to associate membership by a vote of at least *three-fourths* of the active members, a quorum being present (see By-Laws for definition of a Quorum).

Section 3. Any associate member may become an active member of this after having fulfilled the following requirements:

A. He shall have complied in all respects with the regulations of The Ohio State University concerning activation.

B. He shall have completed New Member Education

C. He shall have been elected into active membership by a *three-fourths* vote of the active members, a quorum being present.

D. He shall abide by the objectives of this society.

E. He shall have paid National and local activation fee as prescribed in the By-Laws.

F. He shall have signed the Standards Document and Honor Code

G. He shall have been an associate member for at least 30 days.

If a new member has completed at least 3 semesters as an associate member and has at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA, he may present his case to the exec board in order to obtain approval to present his case for activation at a house meeting. He shall have been elected into active membership by a three-fourths vote of the active members at both meetings, a quorum being present.

Section 4. Any male Lutheran layman or pastor, who has reached twenty-one years of age and is not a student, who has distinguished himself in his chosen field, or who has extraordinarily aided this society may be elected to honorary membership upon a *three-fourths* vote of the active chapter, a quorum being present. No initiation is required, however the chapter shall provide for the purchase of a badge or ring. This member shall have all the privileges of chapter and national membership, except that he shall not vote or hold office in any active chapter.

Section 5. Any member may be expelled from this society and relieved of his badge by a *three-fourths* vote of this active chapter, a quorum being present except that such action shall be subject to approval of the National Council.

Section 6. All active members of Chi Chapter will be required to own a badge or ring of this Fraternity.

Section 7. Active membership shall cease as of the date of a member’s severance with The Ohio State University or upon his own choosing.

Section 8. Associate members may be dissociated by a vote of at least *one-fourth* of the active chapter, a quorum being present.

Section 9. Membership and participation are free from discrimination based on age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, in accordance with The Ohio State University’s Non-Discrimination Policy.

**BY-LAWS**

**ARTICLE 1: GENERAL**

Section 1. The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

A. The duties of the President shall be to preside at the regular meetings for the chapter, to call board meetings, to make reports to the board and members as he may deem necessary, to call special chapter meetings, and to perform such other duties as are required of his office. Only active members are eligible for this office.

B. The First Vice President shall be advisor to the associates and shall assume the duties of the president in case of disability, absence, or resignation. Only active members are eligible for this office.

1. Spiritual Chair

C. The Second Vice President shall be the House Manager and in charge of the physical upkeep of the house. They shall assume the duties of President in case of disability, absence, or resignation of both the President and First Vice President, until a new President is elected. This position must be held by an active member.

D. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings and shall send a copy of these minutes to the National Office, the Regional Vice President and the local Alumni President, by the next house meeting. He shall also be in charge of all correspondence of the chapter, and shall keep the membership files up to date. In addition to duties already assigned, the Secretary shall oversee the activities of the following officers and shall hold at least monthly meetings with them to check on their progress:

1. Historian

2. Alumni Relations

E. The Treasurer shall keep accounts, deposit the organization’s funds, and make expenditures in a manner approved by the Business Office for Student Organizations. He shall keep all the money of the chapter, shall collect all bills due to the chapter and shall expend the money of the chapter in its direction. He shall send a statement of the chapter’s operations to the National Office by the 15th of the following month. In addition to duties already assigned, the Treasurer shall oversee the activities of the following officers and shall hold at least monthly meetings with them to check on their progress:

1. Philanthropy Chairman

F. The Rush Chairman shall organize rush events, visit high school seniors, and work to meet the chapter’s recruitment goals. They will lead a team of four active or associate members in executing these tasks.

G. The Risk Manager shall be in charge of enforcing chapter risk management policy.

H. The Scholarship Chairman shall aid in maintaining member academic excellence. The Scholarship Chairman shall arrange study hours for members. In addition to duties already assigned, the Scholarship Chairman shall oversee the activities of his board and shall hold at least monthly meetings with them to check their progress. The Scholarship board will be comprised of the scholarship executive and three diligent and eclectic (in terms of major) board members chosen by the scholarship chairman.

I. The Social Chairman shall arrange all social functions of the chapter. At least one member (active or associate) must hold this office.

J. The Philanthropy Chairman shall organize all philanthropy projects, which includes obtaining sponsors and gathering and dispersing moneys raised.

K. The Standards Board shall consist of three elected actives, one from each class. The Board is responsible for acting on all legitimate written complaints presented to it and shall encumber grades if punishments are not adhered to. The Standards board shall reference the Standards Procedures Document.

Section 2 The fraternity may elect or appoint any other officers necessary to carry on the duties of this fraternity.

Section 3 The local resident Lutheran Pastor and one duly elected alumnus shall act as advisors to the chapter. In addition to these advisors, the chapter shall appoint a faculty advisor who may attend active meetings, advise the officers, and act as a liaison between Chi Chapter and the Ohio State University administration.

Section 4 Elections shall be held once each year on the third week of November during the regular meeting time through an anonymous vote.

A. The following officers are elected for a one year term: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Rush Chairman, Academic Chairman, Philanthropy Chairman,

B. Nominations for offices are accomplished by personal petitioning. In the petition, the nominee expresses his desire to serve and gives his qualifications and a brief statement of his intentions. There is no limit to the number of candidates for any one office. Additional nominations for an office may be made from the floor of the election meeting; the consent to serve, if elected, shall be secured at this time also.

C. A simple majority of votes shall be necessary for election to any office.

Section 5. Vacancies which occur in any elected office shall be filled by a secret ballot election at the next regular meeting or at a special meeting called for such purpose. The elected person shall complete the term of his predecessor.

Section 6. Vacancies of appointed offices shall be filled by appointment by the President.

Section 7. Outgoing officers shall terminate and incoming officers shall assume their duties at the first meeting of the following semester. Outgoing officers must meet with incoming officers at least once before termination.

**ARTICLE II: FINANCES**

Section 1. No fees shall be required of honorary members.

Section 2. All bank deposits shall be kept in the name of Chi Chapter of Beta Sigma Psi.

**ARTICLE III: GENERAL CONDUCT OF MEETINGS**

Section 1. A quorum shall consist of two-thirds of the active

Section 2. Any and all meetings of this fraternity shall be governed by Robert’s Rules of Order, unless otherwise provided for in this constitution and by-laws.

Section 3. The chapter shall hold regularly scheduled business meetings at least bi-weekly during the academic school year.

Section 4. Special meetings of the members may be called by the President or by petition of five members.

Section 5. A member may vote by proxy or absentee ballot if he cannot attend a particular meeting. All proxies and absentee ballots must be acknowledged by the secretary before the meeting and will not count toward a quorum.

Section 6. Associate members may only vote in matters dealing with finances or officer elections.

**ARTICLE IV: COLORS, MOTTO, CREST, FLAG, BADGES, GUARD, SEAL**

The colors, motto, crest, flag, badges, guards, and seal of Chi Chapter shall be prescribed in the National Constitution and shall never be amended so as to conflict with it.

**ARTICLE V: AMENDMENTS**

This constitution and its by-laws may be amended by a *three-fourths* vote of the active chapter membership, a quorum being present.

Revised: 02/14/2020 AM