



# CONSTITUTION of the DELTA ZETA SORORITY

2021



CONSTITUTION

*of the*

DELTA ZETA SORORITY

Originally presented by  
ELIZABETH COULTER STEPHENSON  
Alpha  
and adopted at the 1908  
National Convention

2021

Confidential Property of the Delta Zeta Sorority

# THESE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

-of-

The Sorority

Witnesseth, That we, the undersigned, All of whom are citizens of the State of Ohio, desiring to form a corporation, not for profit, under the general corporation laws of said State, so hereby certify:

FIRST. The name of said corporation shall be Delta Zeta Sorority.

SECOND. Said corporation shall be located, and its principal business transacted at Miami University, Oxford in Butler County, Ohio.

THIRD. The purpose for which said corporation is formed is as follows:

To build up the character and cultivate the truest and deepest friendship among its members. To stimulate one another in the pursuit of knowledge and the attainment of a high standard of morality; to inculcate elevated sentiments and noble principles and to afford each other every possible assistance and to incite all to the attainment of a memorable fame. Grateful to God for His bountiful gifts, rich blessings and tender mercies – do hereby associate ourselves together, under the laws of Ohio – for the incorporation of secret societies.

In Witness, Whereof, We have hereunto set our hands, this twenty-fourth day of October, A.D. 1902.

ALFA LLOYD  
MARY COLLINS  
ANNA LOUISE KEEN  
JULIA LAWRENCE BISHOP  
MABELLE M. MINTON  
ANNE DIAL SIMMONS

The State of Ohio, County of Butler, ss.:

On this 28 day of October, A.D. 1902, personally appeared before me the undersigned, a Notary Public within and for said county, the above names Alfa Lloyd, Mary Collins, Anna Louise Keen, Julia L. Bishop, Mabelle M. Minton, and Anne Dial Simmons, who each severally acknowledged the signing of the foregoing articles of incorporation to be her free act and deed, for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

Witness my hand and official seal on the day and year last aforesaid.

O. B. FINCH  
Notary Public County of Butler

The State of Ohio, County of Butler, ss.:

I, John L. Hoffman, Jr., Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, within and for the county aforesaid, do hereby certify that O. B. Finch, whose name is subscribed to the foregoing acknowledgment as a Notary Public, was at the date thereof a Notary Public, in and for said county, duly commissioned and qualified, and authorized as such to take said acknowledgement; and further, that I am well acquainted with his handwriting, and believe that the signature to said acknowledgement is genuine.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court, at Hamilton, this 28 day of October, A.D. 1902.

JOHN L. HOFFMAN, JR.  
Clerk

I, Louis C. Laylin, Secretary of State, of the State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing is an exemplified copy, carefully compared by me with the original record now in my official custody as Secretary of State, and found to be true and correct, of the Articles of Incorporation of Delta Zeta Sorority, filed in this office on the 7th day of November, A.D. 1902, and recorded in Volume 92, Page 54, of the Records of Incorporation.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my official seal at Columbus, the 7th day of November, A.D. 1902.

LOUIS C. LAYLIN  
Secretary of State

## CONSTITUTION

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### PREAMBLE

To implement the Articles of Incorporation signed on October twenty-fourth, nineteen hundred and two by our Founders, we therefore, as members of the Delta Zeta Sorority, desiring to unite more closely in the bonds of sincere friendship, recognizing it as a basis of union and for the advancement of its purpose, do hereby ordain and establish these laws for its government. This Constitution shall serve as the regulations required of not for profit corporations by Ohio law.

Any amendment to the Articles of Incorporation as specified by the Founders of the Delta Zeta Sorority shall require a seven-eighths vote of the National Convention.

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### ARTICLE I

#### NAME

The name of this Sorority shall be Delta Zeta.

### ARTICLE II

#### PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of this Sorority shall be to unite its members in the bonds of sincere and lasting friendship, to stimulate one another in the pursuit of knowledge, to promote the moral and social culture of its members, and to develop plans for guidance and unity in action; objects worthy of the highest aim and purpose of associated effort.

Section 2. The purpose of this Sorority shall be advanced through the National Convention, the National Council and the college and alumnae chapters.

## ARTICLE III

### MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. **Eligibility.** Membership in Delta Zeta may be obtained only by initiation into a college chapter and is open only to women who are matriculated students, former students and faculty of colleges and universities of recognized standing; or by the consent of the National Council upon presentation of equivalent qualifications.

Section 2. **Admission.** Admission into Delta Zeta shall be by vote of the members in good standing in the chapter in which the candidate is proposed for membership or by approval of the National Council.

Section 3. **Qualifications.** All members of Delta Zeta shall be chosen solely for moral, social and intellectual worth. Discrimination in any fashion for any reason other than limiting membership to women is strictly prohibited and is not to be tolerated. Membership shall not be denied because of race, religion, national origin, disability status, sexual orientation, or for any reason inconsistent with applicable law. It shall be the duty of each member to exemplify in her daily conduct the noble principles of this Sorority, to promote the welfare of the whole by every means consistent with a high sense of honor, to obey its laws, to avoid all conduct which may be criticized among acquaintances or be offensive to her fellow members and to exert herself to promote and maintain harmony and prosperity of the Sorority.

Section 4. **Obligations.** All members of Delta Zeta shall meet the conduct, financial, and academic standards as adopted by the National Convention and defined by National Council.

Section 5. **Records.** Membership in Delta Zeta shall include all persons recognized as such on the books and records of the Sorority and such persons as shall become members under the provisions of this *Constitution*.

Membership in Delta Zeta shall be for life unless terminated for cause by action of the National Council.

## ARTICLE IV

### GOVERNMENT

Section 1. The supreme legislative authority of the Delta Zeta Sorority is vested in the National Convention.

Section 2. **Executive Authority.** The executive authority is vested in the National Council with all the power over the affairs of the Sorority in the interim between conventions, except the modification of any convention action and the amendment of the *Constitution*. Delta Zeta Sorority intends to reserve to itself the fullest discretion allowed by applicable law to govern all of its affairs as a private organization.

Section 3. **Geographic Division.** For purposes of systematic organization, this Sorority shall be organized as follows:

a. **Areas.** The National Council shall establish and name areas consisting of any number of countries and states or portions thereof to form convenient units of alumnae association.

b. **Regions.** The National Council shall establish and name regions, consisting of countries and states or portions thereof to form convenient units of collegiate association.

## ARTICLE V

### NATIONAL CONVENTION

Section 1. The National Convention shall meet biennially at a time and place specified by the National Council except during a period of national emergency or because of circumstances beyond its control when it may be postponed by a seven-eighths vote of the National Council.

Section 2. The National Convention shall have the power to enact laws in accordance with this *Constitution* for the government of the Sorority and to make amendments thereto; to designate the



location of the executive office known as National Headquarters; to transact business necessary to the development of the Sorority; to formulate policies; to elect the officers and members of the National Council; to provide for the creation, administration and audit of all funds of the Sorority; and to cause to have published and distributed records of its proceedings.

Section 3. **Members.** The members of the National Convention shall be: one delegate and the College Chapter Director from each college chapter in good standing; one delegate from each alumnae chapter in good standing; Regional Collegiate Directors; Area Alumnae Directors; the chairmen of standing and designated special committees; the National Council; and former members of National Council. Each member is entitled to one vote in Convention regardless of dual classification.

Section 4. **Credentials.** All members of National Convention shall present credentials before receiving a seat and vote at Convention.

Section 5. **Quorum.** A quorum shall consist of two-thirds of the voting members of the Convention.

Section 6. **Officers.** The officers of the National Convention shall be the officers of the National Council.

Section 7. **Rules.** Rules of procedure for the Convention shall be adopted at the first business meeting.

## ARTICLE VI

### NATIONAL OFFICERS' ELECTION

Section 1. **Officers.** The national officers elected at each National Convention shall be a President and five (5) Vice Presidents.

Section 2. **Qualifications.** The elected officers of the National Council shall be college graduates. They shall be chosen from among the alumnae members of wide sorority, professional and volunteer experiences or service to Delta Zeta and other organizations; and shall be members in good standing. No member shall hold concurrently more than one elective office; no member shall be elected to National Council until she has been a member of Delta Zeta for two years; and

no member shall be elected to the presidency who has not previously held a National elective office.

No salaried employee member of the Delta Zeta Sorority shall be eligible for an elected or appointed office in the Sorority. No former employee member of the Delta Zeta Sorority shall be eligible for an elected or appointed office until after she has been unemployed by the Sorority for at least one year.

Section 3. **Nomination.** In January before Convention, the members of National Council, former National Council members, Regional Collegiate Directors, Area Alumnae Directors, College Chapter Directors, National Standing Committee Chairmen and all college and alumnae chapters shall be canvassed by the Executive Director for names of persons to be considered as candidates for election at Convention. These names shall be sent to both the chairman of the Nominating Committee and the National Constitution Chairman and shall be postmarked by February 10, unless otherwise determined by National Council.

Section 4. **Nominating Committee.** The Nominating Committee shall consist of a chairman who shall be a Past National Officer appointed by National Council at least six months prior to the next Convention. In the event the chairman is unable to serve once the meeting has been established, an alternate shall be appointed by National Council. Eight members shall be chosen at random by the National Council at an open forum at least six months prior to the National Convention. The delegates shall be divided into six groups as follows:

1. Regional Collegiate Directors
2. Area Alumnae Directors
3. National Standing Committee Chairmen
4. College Chapter Directors (2)
5. College Chapters (2)
6. Alumnae Chapters

These groups shall select by random drawing one representative, excepting group four, which shall select two individuals and group five, which shall select two chapters. Each region may submit one representative from College Chapter Directors and one from the

College Chapters. The members selected at Convention to the Nominating Committee from group five, designated College Chapters, and group six, designated Alumnae Chapters, shall be selected as a chapter representative and not as an individual. First and second alternates for each group shall be selected by random drawing at the same time. In the event the member or the alternates are unable to serve, the National Council shall appoint a person to serve from the members of their respective groups.

- A. **Procedure.** The Nominating Committee shall meet at a central location at least ninety days prior to Convention to consider the recommendations and to nominate at least one candidate for each elective office to be filled at Convention.

If a member of the Nominating Committee agrees to be a nominee for National Council, she shall resign from the committee, and the alternate shall succeed her.

- B. **Report.** The Nominating Committee report shall be published within thirty days after the committee meeting. For ten days following the report of the Nominating Committee, additional nominations may be added to the slate from the pool of approved recommendations provided the candidate's name is submitted electronically to the chairman within ten days of the Nominating Committee report and the nominee's consent is obtained. No nominee may be slated for more than one position. A subsequent report shall be published within twenty days of the initial report. The consent of all nominees shall be secured before their names are placed in nomination by the Nominating Committee.

**Section 5. Election of National Officers.** Election shall be by written ballot or by a voting machine or voting device. A plurality vote shall elect. The voting will take place during the first day's business meeting, and the results shall be announced at the same meeting. When there is only one candidate for each office, a Vice President recording the proceedings may be authorized in accordance to the current edition of *Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised*, to cast a vote of the assembly by acclamation (unanimous consent).

**Section 6. Installation.** The officers of the National Council shall be installed by the presiding officer of the Convention which elects them. Should such presiding officer be reelected to the National Council, the installation shall be conducted by a former national president.

Section 7. **Term.** One term shall be defined as a period of two years beginning with election at one Convention and extending until the next Convention. An individual shall serve no more than twelve consecutive years on National Council whether elected or appointed without a leave of absence of one term with the exception of the Past National President. The twelve years of the National President may be extended by two years when she is completing a second term in the same position.

Section 8. **Removal from Office.** For cause, any officer may, by a two-thirds vote of the National Council, be requested to resign, and upon her failure to resign as requested, the remaining officers shall declare such office vacant.

Section 9. **Vacancy.** A vacancy occurring in an office on National Council, including that of the President, in the interim between Conventions, shall be filled by a written ballot vote of the members of National Council. In case a vacancy occurs in the office of the President, the National Council shall give the notice of such election in accordance to established procedures.

## ARTICLE VII

### NATIONAL COUNCIL

Section 1. **Members.** The members of National Council shall be the elected officers, the appointed National Panhellenic Conference Delegate, an appointed Past National President, and such other members as may be appointed by National Council.

Section 2. **Duties.** The National Council shall have general supervision of the affairs of Delta Zeta, interpret and execute the laws of the Sorority and have the authority to sign the name of the Sorority when necessary in the performance of their respective duties.

National Council shall have specific power as follows:

- A. To appoint:
  - i. the Past National President;
  - ii. the National Panhellenic Conference Delegate;
  - iii. the Regional Collegiate Directors and the Area Alumnae Directors
  - iv. Standing and Special Committee Chairmen.
- B. To approve the appointment of:
  - i. College Chapter Directors;
  - ii. State and Global Alumnae Chairmen;
  - iii. Members of all standing and special committees.
- C. To cause to be edited and published The LAMP of Delta Zeta, the magazine of the Sorority, and all other material deemed necessary, for the proper conduct of the work of the Sorority.
- D. To grant charters for the establishment of college chapters; to recognize alumnae chapters; to withdraw the charter of, to place on probation or suspension any chapter for due cause; and to reestablish a chapter after the withdrawal of a charter.
- E. To have sole power to expel members for cause and to reinstate members.
- F. To maintain the executive office known as National Headquarters and for this purpose to execute a lease, sign deeds, purchase equipment and employ an Executive Director.
- G. To adopt standing rules of procedure for the Sorority.
- H. To present recommendations for consideration to the National Convention.
- I. Where there is flagrant substantiated violation of Delta Zeta Sorority standards and purposes, to cause the immediate withdrawal of a chapter charter.

Section 3. **Meetings.** Meetings of the National Council may be called by the President or any three officers. Notice of the time and place of any such meeting shall be sent by the Executive Director.

Section 4. **Voting.** National Council may take action without meeting, provided a majority of members give consent. In cases requiring a two-thirds, three-fourths or unanimous vote of National Council, these requirements shall be met.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **NATIONAL COUNCIL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES AND DUTIES**

#### **Section 1. Executive Committee**

- a. The Executive Committee of the National Council shall consist of the elected officers. The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the Sorority and act for National Council according to adopted policy in the interim between Council meetings.
- b. The Executive Committee shall act in cases of emergency in the interim between Council meetings, subject to ratification by National Council, where practical to do so, and shall perform such other duties as may be authorized by National Council.
- c. The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the President or upon request of three of its members. Notice of the time and place of the meeting shall be sent by the Executive Director. It shall make a complete report of each meeting to the National Council.

#### **Section 2. Finance Committee**

- a. The Finance Committee shall consist of a minimum of three members, at least one of whom shall be a member of National Council, and one of whom shall serve as Chairman, and shall have oversight of the audit of the Sorority and its affiliates and other duties as may authorized by National Council.

- b. The Finance Committee shall assure the presentation to National Council of a balanced budget for adoption by the National Convention.

Section 3. **Volunteer Management Committee.** The Volunteer Resource Committee shall consist of a minimum of three members, at least one of whom shall be a member of National Council, and one of whom shall serve as Chairman and shall have oversight of volunteer accountability in accordance to the procedures adopted by National Council.

Section 4. **Field Activities Committee.** The Field Activities Committee shall consist of minimum of three members, at least one of whom shall be a member of National Council, and one of who shall serve as Chairman and shall consider special chapter concerns in accordance to the procedures adopted by National Council.

Section 5. **Extension Committee.** The Extension Committee shall consist of a minimum of three members, at least one of whom shall be a member of National Council, and one of whom shall serve as Chairman and shall have oversight of all activities concerning the establishment or reestablishment of college chapters in accordance to the procedures adopted by National Council.

## ARTICLE IX

### COMMITTEES

Section 1. **Standing Committees.** The following standing committees shall be established by National Council:

Academics	New Member Education
Awards	Panhellenic
Chapter Finance	Public Relations
Constitution	Recruitment
Government Relations	Ritual
History	Standards

Section 2. **Appointment.** The chairmen of standing committees shall be appointed for a two-year term by National Council and the committee members shall be approved by the National President. All vacancies in the chairmanships shall be filled by National Council.

Section 3. **Special Committees.** Other committees, as authorized by the National Convention or National Council, shall be appointed by the National President and approved by National Council.

## ARTICLE X

### AREA ALUMNAE DIRECTOR AND DUTIES

Section 1. **Appointment.** The Area Alumnae Director shall be appointed for a two-year term by National Council. All vacancies in the Area Alumnae Director position shall be filled by National Council.

Section 2. **Duties.** It shall be the duty of the Area Alumnae Director to develop a network of alumnae within the area, to stimulate and encourage alumnae to respond to volunteer opportunities and to promote alumnae group organization. She shall appoint, with the approval of the National Council, State and Global Alumnae Chairmen for her area in accordance to the procedures established by National Council. The Area Alumnae Director shall promote positive public relations, cultivate a membership network in support of Delta Zeta's mission and goals within her area.

## ARTICLE XI

### REGIONAL COLLEGIATE DIRECTOR AND DUTIES

Section 1. **Appointment.** The Regional Collegiate Director shall be appointed for a two-year term by National Council. All vacancies in the Regional Collegiate Director position shall be filled by the National Council.

Section 2. **Duties.** It shall be the duty of the Regional Collegiate Director to assist the College Chapter Directors in her region to promote and maintain a high standard of achievement in all phases of the Sorority program. She shall be in continuous communication with the College Chapter Directors in her region. She shall appoint annually all College Chapter Directors in accordance to the procedures established by National Council. She shall perform such other duties as may be designated.



## ARTICLE XII

### COLLEGE CHAPTER DIRECTOR AND DUTIES

The College Chapter Director shall be appointed annually by the Regional Collegiate Director or official chapter visitor, subject to the approval of the National Council. A College Chapter Director shall appoint an advisory board of alumnae to assist her with the college chapter. She shall work with the Regional Collegiate Director to aid the college chapter to maintain high achievement in all phases of the sorority program.

### COLLEGE CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD

- a. **Membership.** An Executive Board shall include the Chapter President, Vice President of Membership, Vice President of New Member Education, Vice President of Programs, Vice President of Philanthropy, Vice President of Administration, Vice President of Finance and a non-voting College Chapter Director. In her absence, the College Chapter Director may appoint a representative from the advisory board as her proxy. Additional members may be added depending on size and housing of the chapter.
- b. **Duties of the Executive Board.** The Executive Board shall act for the chapter between meetings; recommend chapter policies and necessary action; consider qualifications for chapter awards; and act in accordance with procedures adopted by National Council to hold the chapter accountable in following campus, National Sorority and chapter rules, policies and standards.

## ARTICLE XIII

### COLLEGE CHAPTER – ESTABLISHMENT

Section 1. **Extension.** Each extension possibility shall be approved by the National Council before any official contact is made. A chartering chapter of Delta Zeta may be established at any college or university qualified to confer the bachelor's degree and which is accredited by the regional accrediting authority and when the potential for fulfilling all requirements for chartering exist.

Section 2. **Name.** Chapters shall be named in order of acceptance into the Sorority by letters of the Greek alphabet. National Council may omit certain combinations when it is appropriate. If a chapter becomes inactive or if its charter is withdrawn, its name and place on the chapter roll shall remain intact, except when transferring the charter to another college is advisable. In this case, the name of the transferred chapter shall be granted to the new chapter.

Section 3. **Charter.** A charter may be granted and presented by the National Council only when all the necessary requirements have been fulfilled. Each charter shall be signed by the National President and attested by the seal of the Sorority.

Section 4. **Charter Withdrawn.** A charter may be withdrawn by a unanimous vote of the members of National Council if the campus conditions or the conduct of a chapter is prejudicial to the policies and existence of Delta Zeta. National Council shall notify in writing the College Chapter Director, the Regional Collegiate Director, the President of the Chapter, the President of the House Corporation and the Area Alumnae Director of the reasons and terms for the withdrawal and the procedure for reestablishment.

Section 5. **Reestablishment.** A chapter which has become inactive or whose charter has been withdrawn may be reestablished by a two-thirds vote of National Council when all necessary qualifications have been fulfilled for establishing a new chapter.

## ARTICLE XIV

### COLLEGE CHAPTER – POWER AND DUTIES

Section 1. **Initiation.** The college chapter is the basic unit of the organization and shall have the exclusive right of initiating members into Delta Zeta in accordance with the rules and ritual of the Sorority except as provided for in Article VII, Section 2 that the National Council shall have the power (a) to initiate members at installation and Convention or (b) to delegate to qualified alumnae the responsibility of initiating members at special initiations approved by the Executive Board.

Section 2. **Jurisdiction.** The college chapter shall conduct the work of the Sorority. It shall make and enforce such bylaws and standing rules for its own government as are not inconsistent with those herein prescribed and which have been approved by the College Chapter Director and the National Constitution Chairman. The college chapter shall have jurisdiction and disciplinary powers as herein prescribed over all members of the Sorority matriculated in the college or university and affiliated with the chapter.

The chapter shall instruct its members on the principal policies of Delta Zeta, shall send the President of the chapter as the official delegate to the National Convention and make such reports as shall be required.

If a chapter should become inactive or have its charter officially withdrawn, its charter shall be returned to National Headquarters. Management of all assets, properties and records shall revert to National Headquarters.

Section 3. **Officers and Committee Chairmen.** Each college chapter shall elect a President, a Vice President of Membership, a Vice President of New Member Education, a Vice President of Programs, a Vice President of Philanthropy, a Vice President of Administration, a Vice President of Finance, a Historian/Chaplain, a Panhellenic Delegate, and the chairmen of all standing committees in accordance to the procedures established by National Council.

All officers elected or appointed shall meet the requirements for good standing.

Section 4.

a. **Term of Office.** All officers shall serve for a period of twelve months

or until their successors are elected and installed.

b. **Vacancy of Office.** A vacancy occurring in any office including that

of the President shall be filled by nomination and general election at the first regular meeting thereafter. If a vacancy occurs while the school is not in regular session or when time does not permit for elections, an appointment may be made by the College Chapter Director in consultation with the Executive Board or any designated national representative. For cause, any officer or

requested to resign. If she fails to resign as requested, the College Chapter Director shall declare such office vacant, and shall report such action to the Regional Collegiate Director.

## ARTICLE XV

### ALUMNAE CHAPTERS

Section 1. **Purpose.** The purpose of an alumnae chapter shall be to unite members of Delta Zeta in a given geographical area or virtually in order to assist the college chapters and to foster friendship, ideals and the general interest of Delta Zeta.

Section 2. **Establishment.** Recognition of an alumnae chapter may be made upon request of any group of alumnae who provide a contact alumna, a complete roster and make an annual per member dues payment to the Sorority as established by the National Convention. The request shall come through the Area Alumnae Director. Upon an affirmative vote of the majority of the National Council, recognition shall be granted.

An alumnae chapter shall be named for the city, town or district in which it is located. A virtual alumnae chapter may be named by the requesting chapter provided the name has not been previously selected and is in keeping with guidelines.

Section 3. **Membership.** An initiated member of Delta Zeta in good standing who has assumed alumna status, graduated or who has withdrawn from college shall be eligible for membership in the alumnae chapter of her choice.

Section 4. **Power and Duties.** Each alumnae chapter shall have the following power and duties: to accept initiated members in good standing into the alumnae chapter; may adopt bylaws and shall conduct its affairs in a manner consistent with the standards and purposes of Delta Zeta Sorority; to elect an official delegate to the National Convention; to make such reports as are required or requested; and to levy and collect fees for chapter use.

Section 5. **National Awards and National Convention Voting Criteria.** Alumnae chapters desiring a vote at National Convention shall meet the following criteria each year of the biennium:

- a. Provide a contact person by the designated deadline.
- b. Provide a complete roster of all members.
- c. Make a minimum specified annual per member dues payment to the Sorority.
- d. Meet all requirements of Good Standing.

Section 6. **Withdrawal.** Recognition of an alumnae chapter may be withdrawn for cause and its rights suspended.

## ARTICLE XVI

Chapter associations shall unite collegiate and alumnae members of a college chapter for the purpose of establishing close communication and advancing the best interests of the chapter and Delta Zeta. Each member initiated into the Sorority automatically becomes a member of her own chapter association.

## ARTICLE XVII

### FINANCE

Section 1. **Funds.** The National Council shall administer all funds of the Sorority based on the budget adopted at Convention.

National Council shall ensure an audited financial report each year. The financial report shall be supported by a detailed analysis showing income, expenses and investments, which shall be available upon request.

Affiliate organizations shall submit annually an audited financial report to the National Council.

Section 2. **The Fiscal Year.** The fiscal year shall begin July first each year and continue through June thirtieth of each succeeding year.

Section 3. **Solicitation of Funds.** No funds shall be solicited from any person in the name of the Sorority or any collegiate chapter or alumnae chapter or special purpose group, or in the name of Delta Zeta Sorority, an Ohio Corporation, without prior written approval of the Executive Committee of the National Council.

Section 4. **Expenses.** All Delta Zetas on official business may be reimbursed for the expenses incurred according to the procedure adopted by the National Council.

Section 5. **Dissolution.** In the event of the termination, liquidation or dissolution of the Sorority, all of its assets shall be distributed for educational and charitable purposes, the details of such distribution to be administered by the National Council.

## ARTICLE XVIII

### HOUSING

Section 1. In the event a college chapter for which a House Corporation was organized becomes inactive, upon request of National Council, that House Corporation shall promptly dissolve and after payment of legal House Corporation debts, transfer all remaining assets to Delta Zeta Sorority or its designee. All assets of a House Corporation are held in trust for the benefit of Delta Zeta Sorority. No member of the Sorority or of the House Corporation shall receive any property or funds of any House Corporation without the prior approval of National Council. Upon request of National Council, any members of the House Corporation shall resign their office as director, trustee, officer or member.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of every member of Delta Zeta associated with a House Corporation, organized at any time for a particular college chapter, to cause such House Corporation to comply with the *Constitution of the Delta Zeta Sorority* and to honor any financial obligations which the House Corporation may have to the Sorority.

## ARTICLE XIX

### INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE

Section 1. **Indemnification.** Delta Zeta Sorority shall indemnify any Trustee or officer or any former Trustee or officer of Delta Zeta Sorority or any person who is or has served at the request of Delta Zeta Sorority as a member, director, officer or trustee of another corporation, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against expenses, including but not limited to attorney's fees, judgment, fines and amounts paid in settlement, actually, and reasonably incurred by her by reason of the fact that she is or was such trustee, officer or director in connection with any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceedings, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative to the extent and according to the procedures and requirements set forth in the Ohio Non-Profit Compliance law. The indemnification provided herein shall not be deemed to restrict the right of Delta Zeta Sorority to indemnify employees, agents and others as permitted by such law.

Section 2. **Insurance.** Delta Zeta Sorority may purchase and maintain insurance or furnish similar protection, including but not limited to trust funds, letters of credit or self-insurance, for or on behalf of any person who is or was a trustee, officer, employee, agent or volunteer of Delta Zeta Sorority, or is or was serving at the request of Delta Zeta Sorority as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, agent or volunteer of another corporation, domestic or foreign, nonprofit or for profit, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against her and incurred by her in any such capacity, or arising out of her status as such, whether or not Delta Zeta Sorority has the obligation or power to indemnify her against such liability under this Regulation.

## ARTICLE XX

### NATIONAL AWARDS

Section 1. The following awards shall be presented at the National Convention by National Council on behalf of the members of the Sorority with the exception of the Grace Mason Lundy Award and the Florence Hood Miner Award, which are presented annually:

- a. **Achoth Award** shall be given to specially selected alumnae who have demonstrated, by long and faithful service, their continued loyalty to Delta Zeta particularly in their local communities.
- b. **The Betty Heusch Agler President's Award** shall be an outstanding achievement award to be given at each Convention to a chapter which has shown special achievement or has handled an unusual/critical situation in an exemplary manner, bringing credit to Delta Zeta Sorority in general and its chapter members individually.
- c. **Caryatides Award** consists of six statues presented to those chapters which have best envisioned and fulfilled a New Member Education Program that has brought enrichment to the new members. The first Caryatides figures were presented to Delta Zeta in 1960 by Ruth Simmering, a loyal member of Epsilon Chapter, establishing the tradition portrayed by the six maidens of the Porch of Maidens on the Acropolis of Athens, Greece.
- d. **Council Award.** This award shall be presented to a chapter or chapters for six years of high consistent achievement. A minimum of two conventions shall elapse before a chapter shall be eligible to receive this award again.
- e. **Crest Award.** This award shall be presented to outstanding college chapters that have excelled consistently in all areas of college programming.



- f. **Gertrude Houk Fariss Award** was established in her name in recognition of her many years of service to Delta Zeta as National President and as a Panhellenic leader. This traveling trophy shall be presented jointly to recognize outstanding alumnae--collegiate chapter programming and activity.
- g. **Founders Award.** Six candlesticks commemorating our six Founders shall be given to the chapter or chapters with a high record of achievement over the previous two-year period. This award or awards shall be given when merited. Eligible chapters shall be judged on membership, financial standing, cooperation, college programs, philanthropies and standing on campus.
- h. **Heritage Cup.** The Heritage Cup shall be presented to the college and/or alumnae chapter which has contributed significantly and most effectively to the Delta Zeta National Historical Museum in Oxford, Ohio.
- i. **Myrtle Graeter Hinkly Council Award**, a gift from Texas Delta Zetas, was established in tribute to her years of service, two different periods as National President and two different periods as National Treasurer. This traveling trophy shall be given to a large alumnae chapter which has excelled in all areas of alumnae work.
- j. **Grace Mason Lundy Award** was established in her name in recognition of her many years of service as a National President, Historian and in other national offices. It shall be presented to senior members of Delta Zeta who throughout their college years have given greatest evidence of loyalty, devotion and service to their chapters and to the Sorority.
- k. **Florence Hood Miner Award** is presented in her name in recognition of her service as National Vice President, Editor of The LAMP of Delta Zeta, Historian and other national offices. The award shall be given to members of Delta Zeta who in their junior year made the greatest contribution to their college, chapter and Delta Zeta through outstanding leadership on the campus, while maintaining a good academic record.

- l. **Margaret Huenefeld Pease Council Award** was established in tribute to her service as National President, Editor of The LAMP of Delta Zeta and other national offices. This traveling trophy shall be given to a small alumnae chapter which has excelled in all areas of alumnae work.
- m. **Adelaide See Loving Cup.** The Adelaide See Loving Cup shall be given to the chapter which has shown unusual improvement since the last National Convention. This improvement may be in any specific area or a combination of areas.
- n. **Genevieve Schmitt Memorial Plaque** was established by her chapter in her honor as an outstanding member and shall be given to the college chapter with the highest academic rating. This traveling award may be won by a chapter three times in succession and then retained in the chapter permanently; and in this event, a new plaque shall be made available by National Council.
- o. **Alice Huenefeld Award**, given by Margaret Huenefeld Pease in memory of her sister Alice, shall be a traveling bracelet presented at Convention to an outstanding College Chapter Director who has given long and dedicated service to her chapter.

Section 2. **The Woman of the Year Award** may be presented on Founders Day and shall be granted to an alumna member of Delta Zeta who has achieved national recognition in her chosen career which may be a profession or in volunteer service. The selection shall be made by National Council.

Section 3. **The Order of the Laurel** was established to honor those members for sorority service of exceptional merit covering a period of many years. This award shall be given by National Council only in special circumstances. The names of the recipients of the Order of the Laurel shall appear immediately beneath the names of the Founders in The LAMP of Delta Zeta and all official publications.

Section 4. **National President's Plaque.** The National President's Plaque given by the Nu Chapter in honor of Evelyn Adams Costello, a former National President, shall be placed in National Headquarters and a replica shall be presented to the college chapter of the newly elected president at the National Convention.

Section 5. **The Past National President and Past National Officer Distinguished Service Award** to honor those Past National Presidents and Past National Officers for exceptional and continuing national service for 30 years or more following their National Council term of service. The names of the recipients shall be engraved on a plaque and displayed at National Headquarters. A six-sided glass plate with the Crest engraved shall be presented during National Convention.

Section 6. **The Norma Minch Andrisek Leadership Conference** was established in her name in recognition of her service as National President and other national offices. These conferences shall be for continuing education in leadership for either individual or group training. These conferences shall be funded by the Sorority and contributions from members and friends.

Section 7. **The Carolyn B. Gullatt Symposium** was established in her name in recognition of her service as National President. The symposium shall be a forum for learning and discussion about issues significant to fraternities and sororities and shall be presented at each National Convention.

Section 7. **Special Recognition.**

- a. Special recognition is conferred on those members of Delta Zeta who have been members for twenty-five years. Any member who has come into Delta Zeta through membership in a merged national or local group is eligible for this recognition twenty-five years following her original initiation date.
- b. **The Order of the Golden Rose** is conferred upon those Delta Zetas who have been members for fifty years. Any member who has come into Delta Zeta through membership in a merged national or local group is eligible for this Order fifty years following her original initiation date.
- c. **The Order of the Pearl** is conferred upon those Delta Zetas who have been members for sixty-five years. Any member who has come into Delta Zeta through membership in a merged national or local group is eligible for this Order sixty-five years following her original initiation date.

## ARTICLE XXI

### INSIGNIA AND FOUNDERS DAY

Section 1. **Badge.** Delta Zeta recognizes only one badge of membership. It shall be the Roman lamp in gold, resting upon an Ionic column and having upon each side three wings of Mercury. The official jewelery shall be a diamond in the flame, and four pearls at the base of the lamp. The lamp shall bear the Greek letters ΔΖ in black enamel.

All Delta Zeta badges are the property of the Sorority. A badge shall be loaned to an initiated Delta Zeta for her own use during her lifetime or until she shall be officially requested to forfeit it. Any member loaning her badge to one not entitled to wear it shall forfeit it.

Section 2. **Colors.** The colors shall be rose and green.

Section 3. **Flower.** The flower shall be a rose in the hue of rose.

Section 4. **The Motto.** Dia-Karturoi Zuperon

Section 5. **Symbols.** The symbols shall be those specified by the Founders in our Ritual.

Section 6. Any changes in the Ritual, badge, symbols, colors or other insignias as specified by the Founders shall require a seven-eighths vote of the National Convention.

Section 7. **Founders Day.** The twenty-fourth of October shall be set aside and known as Founders Day, at which time every college and alumnae chapter shall arrange appropriate observance. On this day, the colors shall be worn under the badge.

Section 8. **The Coat of Arms (Crest).** The Coat of Arms shall be Vert on a pale, or a distaff gules; in dexter chief of scroll palewise in sinister base a flamed lamp, both of the second; crest on a chevron gules; an open book white and gold proper; and Delta Zeta motto at the base.

Section 9. **The Delta Zeta Banner.** The Delta Zeta Banner shall be made in accordance with the following specifications: standard American flag proportions (2x3, 3x5, 4x6) with three equal vertical panels of rose, green and rose. The emblems shall be: in the upper third of the first panel, starting from the head, is a distaff; in the middle third of a second

panel is a Roman lamp; and in the lower third of the third panel is a scroll. Satin or similar material shall be used with a gold fringe binding.

Section 10. **Seal.** The seal shall be the Delta Zeta badge in a two-inch circle, the Greek motto surrounding upper half and the “Delta Zeta Sorority” in the lower half and below the badge in circle shall be “Founded at Miami University, 1902.” The seal shall be used only to authenticate such documents as certificates of membership, charters, *Constitution*, and all official and legal papers.

#### Section 11. **Pins**

#### MEMBER

- a. **New Member.** There shall be only one new member pin, referred to as a pledge pin. This shall be of gold in diamond shape, the center black enamel and bearing a Roman lamp in gold.
- b. **Badge Guard.** The official Delta Zeta badge guard shall be the Greek letter or letters of the initiate’s college chapter in gold; plain, engraved or jeweled.
- c. **Recognition.** The approved recognition pin shall be a small gold lamp with the Greek letters ΔZ in black enamel or the staggered Greek letters ΔZ in gold or set in pearls.
- d. **Order of the Golden Rose.** The official fifty-year membership pin shall be a rose in gold, set with a pearl and with Greek letters ΔZ. Additional insignia shall be a gold rose dangle with a pearl in the center.
- e. **Order of the Pearl.** In recognition of sixty-five years of membership, an oval disc in gold with an etched rose, the rose to be set with a pearl, shall be worn as a pin or necklace.

#### NON-MEMBER RECOGNITION

- a. In acknowledgement of non-members, either family or personal relationship, the National Council may designate appropriate recognition jewelry.

- b. **Mother.** The official pin of the Sorority for mothers shall be an Ionic column in gold which may be set with four pearls at the top of the column.

Section 12. **Other Insignia.** National Officers, College Chapter Directors, National Committee Chairmen, Area Alumnae Directors, Regional Collegiate Directors, daughters, granddaughters, great-granddaughters and members of the Order of the Golden Rose and the Order of the Pearl are entitled to wear the appropriate insignia.

- a. **National Officers.** The members of the National Council shall be entitled to wear the following insignia of office: a gold dangle with a shield in the center, two green enamel vertical columns either side with a diamond in the top center for the President and a pearl for other members.
- b. **College Chapter Directors and National Committee Chairmen.** These members shall be entitled to wear the following insignia:
  - i. **College Chapter Director** – Gold or silver Delta with pierced center, Greek letters ΔZ in black enamel on the base.
  - ii. **National Committee Chairman** – Gold Delta with pierced center, Greek letters ΔZ in black enamel on the base, mounted on gold disc.
- c. **Daughter, Granddaughter or Great-Granddaughter Pendant** – The official insignia for daughter, granddaughter or great-granddaughter shall be a gold lamp set in an open gold heart in pendant form.

Section 13. **The National President's Badge.** The National President's Badge shall be presented to the newly elected National President to be worn during her term of office and to be given to her successor. The badge shall be the Roman lamp, resting upon an Ionic column and having upon each side three wings of Mercury. The jewelings shall be a diamond in the flame, four pearls at the base of the lamp and diamonds in the six wings. The lamp shall bear the Greek letters ΔZ in black enamel.

Section 14. **The National President Pendant.** The National President Pendant shall be presented to the newly elected National President to be worn during her term of office and to be given to her successor.

## ARTICLE XXII

### PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Sorority in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with National Council and with this *Constitution*.

## ARTICLE XXIII

### AMENDMENT

This *Constitution* may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any business meeting of the Convention, provided the amendment has been proposed by National Council or by a special committee so authorized, or has been sent in writing to National Council; and provided a copy of the proposed amendment has been sent to each member of Convention at least 60 days before Convention. If the amendment is not so submitted, it may be presented to the Convention by approval of a three-fourths vote of the voting delegates.

CONSTITUTION REVISIONS AND REPRINTINGS 1916, 1926, 1933, 1940, 1945, 1948, 1950, 1952, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1965, 1966, 1970, 1980, 1982, 1984, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1996, 1998, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2021

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