

**THE CONSTITUTION OF  
BETA UPSILON CHI  
FRATERNITY**



**Brothers Under Christ**

PRINTED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
BETA UPSILON CHI FRATERNITY: BROTHERS UNDER CHRIST

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# The Constitution of Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity

## **ARTICLE 1: Name**

1. The name Beta Upsilon Chi is synonymous with the name Brothers Under Christ. The fraternity may be referred to, in short, as “BYX.”

## **ARTICLE 2: Purpose and Activities**

2. The Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity was founded and exists for the purpose of establishing brotherhood and unity among college men, based upon the common bond of Jesus Christ.
3. The Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity is a lifelong brotherhood of committed christian men seeking the bonds of brotherhood and unity in Christ through the avenue of a social fraternity on a college campus.
4. The Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity establishes this brotherhood and unity through a variety of activities, including, but not limited to, the following:—
  - a. Cell groups (accountability/life sharing)
  - b. Brotherhood activities
  - c. Social events (Island Party, date parties, open parties, mixers, formals, etc.)
  - d. Campus engagement (University competitions, greek events, student organization fairs, etc.)
  - e. Service projects
  - f. Philanthropic events

All activities of Brothers Under Christ should be designed to further the purpose of the fraternity set forth in Section 2.

## **ARTICLE 3: Chapter Officers and Officers’ Duties**

5. The executive officers of each chapter shall be:—
  - a. President;
  - b. Vice-president; (IVP and EVP optional)
  - c. Treasurer;
  - d. Pledge captain, or pledge trainer;
  - e. Recruitment Coordinator (optional)
  - f. Chaplain; and
  - g. Secretary.

6. Each officer's term shall begin on January 1 following their election and end following the completion of finals in the fall semester at his respective university, unless granted an exception by the national president.
7. No fraternity member shall, unless granted an exception by the national president, serve more than two terms as an officer
8. No fraternity member shall, unless granted an exception by the national president, hold more than one office at a time; or hold the same office more than once.
9. The president, in addition to fulfilling the expectations of his office detailed in the document, "Roles and Duties of the President," shall:—
  - a. Execute the provisions of this constitution;
  - b. Conduct meetings; and
  - c. Appoint representation for the fraternity, when needed.
10. The vice-president shall
  - a. Perform the President's functions as interim President in his absence;
  - b. Assist the President in his duties;
  - c. Prepare, organize, and supervise parties and other social functions;
  - d. Oversee the appointment of all chairs and coordinators including the following: Island Party, Social, Greek Relations, Intramural, Open Parties, Dad's Day, etc.
  - e. Prepare, organize, supervise, and delegate responsibilities for Island Party.
11. The treasurer shall:—
  - a. Maintain responsibility for Fraternity funds;
  - b. Create a projected budget before each semester and submit the same to the designated leadership consultant.
  - c. Maintain the funds and accounts of the Fraternity, including:
    - i. fraternity BillHighway checking and savings accounts;
    - ii. BillHighway Checks & Prepaid cards; and
    - iii. Be responsible for account coding all prepaid transactions monthly.
  - d. Assist the Secretary with Fraternity shirts and other paraphernalia;
  - e. Maintain any and all Fraternity equipment
12. The pledge captain, whose office may also be referred to as pledge trainer or new member educator, shall:—
  - a. Execute the provisions of this constitution pertaining to pledgeship/new member education;

- b. Organize and conduct weekly new member/pledge education meetings
- c. Coordinate all rush events;
- d. Coordinate the chapter's big and little brother program;
- e. Coordinate with the chaplain to prepare, organize, supervise, and delegate responsibilities for initiation;
- f. Appoint assistant pledge trainers, who may also be referred to as assistant new member trainers; and
- g. Send a tentative calendar of rush and pledge events to the designated leadership consultant before each semester.

13. The secretary shall:—

- a. Take, keep, and record minutes of all fraternity meetings, including, but not limited to, weekly chapter meetings and officer meetings;
- b. Take, keep, and record the attendance of the fraternity, including but not limited to weekly chapter meetings, cell group meetings, officer meetings, and retreats;
- c. Contact absentees about missed meetings, notifying them how many meetings remain before they will no longer be in good standing, as defined in Section 55;
- d. Maintain and transmit to his successor-in-office the records of the fraternity;
- e. Organize and supervise fraternity shirts and other paraphernalia;
- f. Send one digital copy of all paraphernalia, including but not limited to t-shirts, hats, stickers, and other items, to designated leadership consultant; and
- g. Conduct administrative tasks on behalf of the officer corps and the fraternity.
- h. Oversee all internal and external communication for the chapter (emails, social media, GroupMe, alumni and parent relations, etc.)
- i. Maintain chapter cumulative GPA standards of 2.70 or higher: or that meets or exceeds the all men's GPA with the host institution.

14. The chaplain shall:—

- a. Coordinate and facilitate the spiritual components of chapter meeting
- b. Schedule speakers for the chapter
- c. Coordinate, monitor, and oversee the health of the chapter's cell groups
- d. Train and oversee cell group leaders
- e. Organize and implement a prayer committee (optional).

#### **ARTICLE 4: Elections**

15. A fraternity member may serve as an officer only if he is an active member in good standing (as defined in Section 55) at the time of elections, unless granted an exception by the national president.
16. No fraternity member may seek the office of president except those who have been active members in good standing (as defined in section 55) for at least one full year (one active semester plus current semester) prior to the date of the election in which he is seeking office.
17. No person, unless granted an exception by the national president, shall be eligible to be nominated or elected to any future Office if he, after having been elected to any office:—
  - a. Cannot fulfill his duties as an officer; and/or
  - b. Resigns from his position as an officer.
18. Elections shall be announced to the members throughout the fall semester.
19. Elections shall be held between the middle and end of the fall semester, unless granted an exception by the national president.
20. Nominations and self-nominations for officer positions may be made by any active member in good standing (as defined in section 55) and reported to the current officers, but every person nominated may only accept one nomination for the one specific office he feels called to pursue.
21. Every member nominated to run for an office must meet with that office's current holder as soon as possible after the member has been nominated.
22. Every candidate must submit in writing 1-2 weeks prior to the date of the election, the following to the current officers:—
  - a. A paragraph of at least three and not more than five goals he wishes to accomplish during his term in the office he seeks; and
  - b. A brief explanation of his calling to pursue this office in the Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity.
23. The current officers shall read each candidate's submission and then transmit the presidential candidate letters to the designated leadership consultant before being allowed to speak to the members of the fraternity, as provided in Section 24 below.

24. At the chapter meeting prior to the chapter meeting in which the election shall be held, candidates shall be allowed time to state their purpose for running for office to the members of the fraternity.
25. The week prior to officer elections shall be devoted to prayer for all the candidates.
26. Elections shall be conducted:—
  - a. By secret ballot;
  - b. Impartially, fairly, and democratically;
  - c. So that the entire body of active members in good standing, as defined in section 55, may participate; and
  - d. Without any endorsements or recommendations of any kind, including from any body of representatives or from any leadership.
27. In addition to the candidates nominated for each office, each ballot shall also contain a line item designated, “None of the Above,” as an alternate choice to the candidates nominated for each position.
28. No person shall be elected to hold office in the Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity unless he receives greater than 50% of the votes of the active members in good standing, as defined in Section 55.
29. If no candidate receives greater than 50% of the votes of the active members in good standing, as defined in section 55, then the two candidates who received the most votes shall be placed in a run-off election.
30. In the case of a run-off election, no person shall be elected to hold office unless he receives greater than 50% of the votes of the active members in good standing, as defined in Section 55.
31. In the case of a run-off election, if neither candidate receives greater than 50% of the votes of the active members, then the current incumbent officer for that office shall remain in that office until all of the incoming officers-elect choose one of the candidates for the disputed office unanimously.
32. New officers’ terms begin on January 1 following their election.
33. Until the beginning of their term, new officers serve as apprentices to those currently holding their offices.

34. During the period of their apprenticeship, new officers shall create and submit a preliminary calendar of events and activities to the current officers and designated leadership consultant, who shall offer suggestions and advice.
35. Until the newly-elected officers take their office on January 1, the incumbent officers shall assist the officers-elect in every reasonable way.

#### **ARTICLE 5: Membership Qualifications and Types**

36. An applicant for membership in the Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity must:
  - a. Be a college student in the representative area; and
  - b. Express a desire to develop his relationship with Jesus Christ and others.
  - c. Must not be a member of another social fraternity.
37. There are four types of membership in Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity:—
  - a. Pledge/new member
  - b. Active member;
  - c. Inactive member, and
  - d. Alumni member.

#### **ARTICLE 6: Applicants for Membership**

38. Every applicant for Membership in the Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity must appear before an interview committee, in order to determine:—
  - a. The applicant's willingness to adhere to the Beta Upsilon Chi doctrinal statement;
  - b. The applicant's willingness to adhere to the purpose of Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity.
  - c. The applicant's willingness to adhere to the Beta Upsilon Chi honor code; and
  - d. Whether the applicant is a member of another social fraternal organization.
  - e. Whether the applicant has met the minimum GPA requirements.
39. Every interview committee shall be comprised of:—
  - a. At least three elected officers; or
  - b. At least three active members in good standing who are either:—
    - i. An elected officer;
    - ii. An appointed officer; or
    - iii. A committee coordinator or chair.
40. The purpose of each interview committee is to get to know the individual interested in joining BYX and to assess his willingness to adhere to the purpose of the fraternity.



41. In order for an applicant for membership to be admitted to pledge/new membership, all of the elected officers of the fraternity must agree to the applicant's admission. In case of dispute or unanimous rejection of an applicant's admission into rush, counsel must be sought by the designated leadership consultant prior to a final decision.
42. The overall membership of the fraternity shall not more than double in any one year, unless otherwise approved by the national president.

#### **ARTICLE 7: Pledge Membership**

43. No person shall be a pledge/new member of Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity except those who:—
  - a. Have met the qualifications for membership enumerated in section 36;
  - b. Have been admitted to pledge/new membership of Beta Upsilon Chi by unanimous vote of the elected officers of the fraternity; and
  - c. Have three or fewer unexcused absences per semester.
  - d. Have successfully met the GPA requirement for membership in fraternity life at their respective university or have established a minimum high school GPA of 2.50 for those new members who have yet to establish a collegiate GPA.
44. The purpose of pledge membership is:—
  - a. To build spiritual, social, and intellectual unity among all of the members of the fraternity, through means like those listed in Section 3, above;
  - b. To build Christ-like character in the pledge/new members;
  - c. To enable the pledge/new members to earn proper respect for Beta Upsilon Chi fraternity and that for which the fraternity stands;
  - d. To help pledge members become acquainted with active members and vice versa; and
  - e. To develop pledge members' commitment to the fraternity.
45. The program of pledge membership shall be carried out, supervised, and directed by the pledge captain and shall last no longer than twelve weeks. Beta Upsilon Chi supports open recruitment of any male student who desires the vision and meets the requirements of membership of the fraternity..
46. The pledge captain/new member educator may appoint such assistant pledge captains/new member trainers as is necessary to carry out the program of pledgship/new membership education.
47. Assistant pledge captains/new member trainers shall:—
  - a. Be active members in good standing, as defined in Section 55;
  - b. Not be considered elected officers of the fraternity;

- c. Be subject to the elected officers' eligibility requirements; and
  - d. Shall carry out such duties as the pledge captain/new member educator may direct.
48. The program of pledge/new membership shall include:—
- a. Exercises developing pledge/new members':—
    - i. Spiritual discipline;
    - ii. Social discipline; and
    - iii. Intellectual discipline;
  - b. Group projects; and
  - c. The big and little brother program, as follows:—
    - i. Each pledge/new member shall be assigned an active member to be his big brother;
    - ii. The big brother will help the pledge brother know the fraternity better and provide guidance, friendship, and accountability;
    - iii. Every member shall retain one big brother throughout membership in Beta Upsilon Chi; and
    - iv. The pledge member and active member are collectively responsible for ensuring that they meet together according to the schedule assigned by the pledge captain/new member educator.
49. Pledge/new membership shall be a positive experience, without any degradation, humiliation, or harm to the pledge/new member; hazing of any kind is strictly prohibited. Any active member who witnesses hazing is expected to report said activity to the national staff. Any member who reports a hazing incident involving alcohol or drug abuse will be protected as outlined in Section 101.
50. All responsibilities given to pledge/new members in the course of their pledge/new membership shall be designed to achieve a specific, positive purpose in accordance with sections 2 and 44.
51. The pledge captain/new member educator shall, with the assistance of the other elected officers and the assistant pledge captains/new member trainers, ensure that all active members adhere and conform to Sections 49 and 50.
52. Pledge/new membership shall last for one semester and shall conclude with initiation into active membership.

53. At the conclusion of pledge/new membership, and prior to initiation, every pledge/new member must:—
- a. Be able to recite the purpose and identity statement of the fraternity
  - b. Be able to recite the founding scripture of the fraternity (Psalm 133:1) c. Memorize and be able to sing the Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity song;
  - c. Memorize the history of Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity;
  - d. Memorize the history of the pledge member's chapter;
  - e. Know and explain the significance of the fraternity colors (Purple and White);
  - f. Know and explain the significance and symbolism of the fraternity crest;
  - g. Have attended pledge/new members' retreat, unless granted an exception by a majority vote of the elected officers of the fraternity,
  - h. Earn a score of 100% on the Beta Upsilon Chi pledge/new membership test, which may be retaken at a time scheduled by the pledge captain/new member educator; and
  - i. Have set up and completed a designated minimum number of interviews with members and fellow pledges/new members.

#### **ARTICLE 8: Active Membership**

54. No person shall be an active member of Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity except those pledge/new members who:—
- a. Have successfully completed the program of pledge/new membership as outlined by the chapter officers and approved by the national staff;
  - b. Are able to successfully perform each task listed in Section 53;
  - c. Have been formally initiated as members of Beta Upsilon Chi according to the initiation ceremony of the fraternity;
  - d. Maintain membership only in Beta Upsilon Chi and no other social fraternity organization, and
  - e. Have three or fewer unexcused absences per semester.
55. No active member shall be in good standing with the fraternity unless he has met the following obligations and requirements of membership:—
- a. Required attendance and participation at:—
    - i. All formal chapter events, including, but not limited to, retreats and Initiation;
    - ii. Cell group meetings
    - iii. Weekly chapter meetings
    - iv. At least 3 formal rush events and 3 initiation week events;
  - b. Paid dues in full and on time;
  - c. Has three or fewer unexcused absences;
  - d. Fulfills a minimum of one service project per semester;

- e. Has settled all financial debts with the local chapter, including, but not limited to, t-shirt and paraphernalia orders;
  - f. Follows and adheres to the Beta Upsilon Chi honor code
  - g. Upholds and adheres to the Beta Upsilon Chi doctrinal statement
  - h. Fulfills his university's requirements for active participation in a fraternity, including, but not limited to, grade point average requirements.
56. An active member may be assigned inactive status by the current elected officers of the fraternity when he:—
- a. No longer wishes to be held accountable to the obligations and requirements of active membership, as outlined in Section 55, and makes his wishes known in writing to the elected officers of the fraternity; or
  - b. Has failed to meet the obligations and requirements of active membership, as outlined in Section 55.
57. Any member assigned inactive status under Section 56 for any reason will:—
- a. Forfeit all rights of active membership, including:—
    - i. Attendance at weekly chapter meetings;
    - ii. Attendance at cell groups;
    - iii. Attendance at closed (members-only) social events; and
    - iv. All voting privileges;
  - b. Forfeit any and all chapter dues previously paid, provided that if the member has not paid chapter dues or debts in full by the time he moves to inactive status, he will be held accountable for paying any and all remaining debts before he may return to active membership;
  - c. Be removed from the local chapter's internal communication platforms for active members;
  - d. Be restricted from accessing members-only or login features of the local chapter's website; and
  - e. Be prohibited from publicly associating himself with the fraternity by claiming or appearing to claim active membership, whether in online profiles or other public venues, such as newspaper articles or professional resumes.

58. Any member assigned inactive status may return to active membership:—
- a. Only at the beginning of each academic semester, by the **third** weekly chapter meeting of that semester;
  - b. Only after meeting with the current elected officers of the fraternity to discuss returning to the chapter as an active member;
  - c. Only if, as provided in Section 57(b), he pays any and all outstanding debts owed to the chapter; and
  - d. Only if the current elected officers of the fraternity approves his return to active membership.
59. A member may only remain assigned to inactive status for two consecutive semesters, or three overall. After that time, if he does not return to active membership, his membership in BYX will be revoked and only reactivated through the pledge process.

#### **ARTICLE 9: Alumni and Early Alumni Membership**

60. No person shall be an alumni member of Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity except those active members who:—
- a. Either:—
    - i. Graduate from their university; or
    - ii. Qualify for early alumni status, as provided below; and
  - b. At the time of their graduation or qualification for early alumni status, have good standing with the fraternity as provided in Section 55 above.
61. The rights, duties and obligations of alumni members are as follows:—
- a. No chapter dues are required;
  - b. Encouraged to support the Beta Upsilon Chi Alumni Association both prayerfully and financially;
  - c. Participation with the chapter in any official university-related events, such as intramurals, shall be governed by the unique set of rules held by his university for alumni members of fraternities;
  - d. He may, upon notice to and receipt of permission from the current elected officers of the fraternity, attend a weekly chapter meetings;
  - e. He will not be allowed to hold elected office or appointed an position;
  - f. He may attend special local chapter events, such as retreats, but only by invitation of the elected officers of the fraternity;
  - g. He may not vote in the local chapter;
  - h. He will be removed from the active member internal communication platforms, unless he receives permission from the current elected officers of the fraternity to remain included; and

- i. He will be expected to continue to hold a good witness for, and be supportive of, the high goals and expectations of Beta Upsilon Chi, particularly with regard to its honor code.
62. Any active member in good standing who voluntarily chooses to disassociate himself from the chapter, no longer desiring to be held accountable to the obligations and requirements of active membership, may apply to the current elected officers of the fraternity for early alumni status.
63. To consider an application for early alumni status by an active member in good standing, the officers of the fraternity must determine:—
  - a. Whether this member is an active member in good standing, under Section 55 above;
  - b. Whether this member has senior standing: defined as one year or less of school remaining before graduation;
  - c. Has this member successfully fulfilled the obligations and requirements of active membership, as provided in Section 55, for two full and consecutive semesters, excluding (not counting) the semester he pledged the fraternity;
  - d. Examining this member's active participation with the chapter, does it appear that this member will continue to be a good witness and supportive of the high goals and expectations of the fraternity, or, in other words, is it probable that this member will continue to uphold the honor code?
64. If the officers of the fraternity determine that the active member in question has successfully met the qualifications for early alumni status provided in Section 63, they may vote to grant him early alumni status.
65. Once chapter officers have granted early alumni status, that move is permanent; no alumni member may return to active membership.
66. The rights, duties and obligations of early alumni members are as follows:—
  - a. No chapter dues are required;
  - b. Encouraged to support the Beta Upsilon Chi Alumni Association both prayerfully and financially;
  - c. He will not be allowed to participate in intramurals or any other formal chapter activities (chapter meetings, cell groups, etc) in an official capacity;
  - d. He will not be allowed to hold an elected office or an appointed position;
  - e. He may not vote in the local chapter;
  - f. He may attend special events, such as homecoming, but only by invitation of the current elected officers of the fraternity;
  - g. He will be removed from the chapter's internal communication platforms and placed

on the alumni communication list.

- h. He will be expected to continue to hold a good witness for, and be supportive of, the high goals and expectations of Beta Upsilon Chi, particularly with regard to its honor code.

#### **ARTICLE 10: Chapter Meetings, Cell Groups, and Attendance**

67. In every academic year, the fraternity shall, at a minimum:—

- a. Conduct a weekly chapter meeting, as provided in this constitution, once per week throughout the school year;
- b. Carry on a program of cell groups that meet weekly, as provided in this constitution;
- c. Organize cell group leader meetings at least once a month;
- d. Ensure cell group leader training within the first two weeks of the semester;
- e. Conduct cell group evaluations within the last two weeks of the semester;
- f. Conduct two full Beta Upsilon Chi retreats, one per semester, preferably within the first half of the semester;
- g. Conduct at least 5 rush events between prospective members and active members;
- h. Conduct one pledge retreat for each semester there is a pledge class, within fourteen days of completion of interviews; and
- i. Conduct at least two service projects, one per semester;

68. In every weekly chapter meeting of this fraternity, there shall be:—

- a. Sharing of scripture (founding verse, verses during devotional or teaching, departing verses for weekly cell group meeting);
- b. A prayer to open and close chapter meeting;
- c. A proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ, whether through active member testimony, a devotional word, or Bible study;
- d. At least half (50%) the meeting devoted to fellowship, through cell groups, testimony, sharing, praise and worship, or other similar activities;
- e. At least 3 fraternity traditions: secret handshake/phrase, founding verse, and fraternity song, and at least 1 unique chapter tradition; and
- f. The Beta Upsilon Chi fraternity song, to close the meeting.

69. All weekly chapter meetings are closed to persons who are not currently active members, except that once per semester, those contemplating rushing the chapter and membership may attend a special, open chapter meeting.

70. Every pledge member and active member must and shall participate in a weekly group of at least 4 and not more than 6 members called a cell group.

71. Each meeting of each cell group shall include, but is not limited, to the following:—
- a. Accountability;
  - b. Fellowship;
  - c. Sharing meals together, life updates, scripture, etc.;
  - d. Prayer; or
  - e. Any other activity which furthers the purpose of the fraternity, as provided in Sections 2 and 3.
72. When a pledge or active member misses his third meeting in a semester, the secretary shall inform him that:
- a. An active member's fourth absence will result in suspension for the remainder of the semester, as provided in Section 56(b).
  - b. A pledge member's fourth absence will result in removal from pledgeship.
73. For the purposes of determining absences:—
- a. Any absence at a weekly chapter meeting, whether by a pledge member or by an active member, counts as one overall absence, and it is the duty of the secretary to record the same;
  - b. Any absence at a cell group meeting, whether by a pledge member or an active member, counts as one overall absence, and it is the duty of the cell group leader to report absences from his group's meetings to the secretary and chaplain;
  - c. Any absence at a retreat, whether by a pledge member or by an active member, shall count as two regular meeting absences; and
  - d. Any absence at a rush event or initiation week event by an active member, shall count as one overall absence. At a minimum, members must attend three rush events and three initiation-week events.
  - e. Absences may be excused by the officers of the fraternity in the event of:—
    - i. A scheduled test;
    - ii. A scheduled athletic event; or
    - iii. A university-excused absence
    - iv. An emergency that is approved by the chapter's officers.



## **ARTICLE 11: Social Witness of the Fraternity**

74. Beta Upsilon Chi fraternity shall not participate in any function or event, except those:
- a. That follow the guidelines set forth in this constitution;
  - b. That serve the purpose of the fraternity, as set forth in Section 2;
  - c. That build up the fraternity, the school, or the community; and
  - d. That do not include the use or sponsorship of alcohol or illegal drugs at any fraternity event including rush and recruiting activities.
75. Beta Upsilon Chi fraternity shall not plan or sponsor any parties, except those:—
- a. Whose primary purpose is fellowship;
  - b. Whose secondary purpose is outreach;
  - c. Where an active member gives a spoken testimony about what Jesus Christ has done in his life; and
  - d. Where the music played meets the following criteria:—
    - i. Content of the music doesn't promote life styles or actions contrary to the values of Beta Upsilon Chi;
    - ii. Notwithstanding this requirement, discretion may also be used to select music that glorifies God.
76. In every academic year, Beta Upsilon Chi fraternity shall:—
- a. Host three closed parties for active members, pledge members, and their dates per semester (brotherhood events, date parties, etc.);
  - b. Host two open parties for anyone per semester;
  - c. Host three mixers (or swaps) with other sororities, fraternities, or campus organizations;
  - d. One Island Party;
  - e. Host two intramural teams; and
  - f. Plan to conduct our own philanthropic event as well as encourage members to attend other philanthropic events
77. The fraternity is prohibited from having women's auxiliary groups (i.e. little sisters) within the local chapter in order to maintain the highest level of respect for all females.
78. The fraternity is encouraged to participate in university offered education programming that includes but is not limited to academic achievement, career preparation, civic engagement, leadership development, alcohol & drug prevention, hazing prevention, sexual assault prevention, and values and ethics.
79. All paraphernalia of this fraternity, including, but not limited to, hats, shirts, and stickers, must always have the words "Brothers Under Christ" present on them.

## **ARTICLE 12: Dues and Finances**

80. Dues shall be determined by the treasurer, with the advice and consent of the president and national staff.
81. Dues shall be as minimal as possible to pay for:—
- a. Fraternity meetings
  - b. Social events;
  - c. Philanthropic efforts
  - d. Service projects;
  - e. Retreats; and
  - f. Other such expenses.
82. A percentage of fraternity funds may be allocated for service projects and financial aid for fraternity members or people in the community; the amount of this fund shall be determined by the treasurer and approved by a majority vote of the elected officers of the fraternity.
83. The treasurer shall deal discreetly with financial problems related to dues.
84. Members shall, as far as they are able, support one another during financial conflict or hardship.
85. A semester fee, set by the national staff, shall be assessed from each active member and pledge member in order to pay expenses incurred through the operations and administration of the national fraternity.
86. Any member of the fraternity may request a detailed listing of financial expenditures from the treasurer for his chapter and from the national president for the national fraternity.

## **ARTICLE 13: General Discipline**

87. A majority of the executive officers may vote to recommend removal or suspension of any member from membership for conduct deemed to be seriously in conflict with biblical principles or fraternity purpose. Any decision to remove or suspend a member from membership must be approved by the National President. Attempts at reconciliation through encouragement or correction should be tried before any suspension or other extreme measure. The focus must ultimately be to help the brother in their relationship with Christ. If they are unwilling to receive help, then disciplinary actions will be considered.

#### **ARTICLE 14: Discipline Related to Participation**

88. If a pledge member or active member misses four meetings without excuse in any semester, he shall be suspended for the remainder of the semester, in accordance with Sections 56(b), 72, and 73.
89. If a member remains on inactive status for longer than two consecutive semesters and does not seek to return to active membership, as provided in Section 59 above, the member will be removed from the fraternity. The only way for the member to regain membership status would be through the pledgship process, according to Sections 38 through 42 above.
90. If a member remains on inactive status for three semesters overall, whether or not consecutively, the member will be removed from the Fraternity. The only way for the member to regain membership status would be through the pledgship process, according to Sections 38 through 42 above.

#### **ARTICLE 15: Discipline Related to Alcohol**

91. If an active or pledge member 21 years or older chooses to consume alcohol, that member shall choose the circumstances of such consumption wisely and responsibly.
92. As with all laws of government, Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity believes in an individual's adherence insofar as those laws are not in conflict with God's law; thus, every member must comply with the legal drinking age in the state in which he is located.
93. Any active or pledge member consuming alcohol while wearing Beta Upsilon Chi paraphernalia shall be suspended for one semester.
94. Beta Upsilon Chi does not condemn all alcohol use, but the fraternity is concerned with its witness as a whole and its perception by others on its representative campuses and in the world. Therefore, because of the need to uphold our integrity and witness of Christ, no member who repeatedly abuses alcohol will be allowed to remain in Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity.
95. The current elected officers of the fraternity must handle any violation of the alcohol policy immediately and wisely, while reporting every infraction to the designated leadership consultant. Each situation must be handled uniquely and with much prayer, but the problem must be resolved promptly.

96. At the conclusion of the spring 2021 semester, and on a provisional basis through the spring 2025 semester, each elected officer 21 years of age or older must not consume more than one alcoholic beverage per setting. If, at any time, an elected officer 21 years of age or older does consume more than one alcoholic beverage per setting, the national fraternity president, after investigation and upon confirmation, may dismiss the officer from his office or impose any other sanction he determines is reasonably necessary.
- a. **Elected Officer** is defined as any individual elected to hold, and who has taken hold of, an office of leadership in a chapter or colony of Beta Upsilon Chi.
  - b. **One Alcoholic Beverage** is equivalent to one 12.0 oz. bottle of beer, one 1.5 oz. shot of hard liquor, one 6 oz. glass of wine, and such similar beverages that are generally and reasonably considered to be one, typical drink.
  - c. **Setting** is defined as an event or course of events in which the physical characteristics, those people present, the time period, and the nature of such event or course of events are substantially unique from any other event or course of events. Any setting that is not substantially unique from another setting is a continuation of the previous setting.
97. No alcohol or drugs shall be permitted at any fraternity function, lest the purpose and integrity of the fraternity be compromised.
98. Any function that the fraternity co-sponsors or participates in is subject to the no alcohol or drugs provision of Section 96 above.
99. Each chapter of the fraternity shall outline in their by-laws which, if any, committee or appointed chair positions shall be subject to the alcohol policy regarding officers, and if the chapter by-laws do not state otherwise, all committee chairs and appointed officers shall be subject to the alcohol policy requirements provided in Section 94 above.
100. If a member assists another person in obtaining immediate and appropriate medical care related to the use or consumption of alcohol, drugs, or to another medical emergency, then that member, as well as those who are assisted, will not be subject to individual disciplinary action with respect to the incident. This is the case even if the member who is assisting was a contributing factor to that emergency. An individual may benefit from this policy more than once, though repeated use of the policy may receive stricter scrutiny.

## **ARTICLE 16: Resignation of an Officer in Good Standing**

101. Notify the president of the chapter and discuss the situation that presents the conflict that challenges the officer's ability to fulfill his role. Following this discussion, the president should notify the chapter's leadership consultant. If the officer desiring to resign is the chapter president, he should call the chapter's leadership consultant immediately to discuss.
  - a. If it is determined that the best interest of the fraternity and officer is for him to resign, the leadership consultant will request that the resigning officer submit a formal letter of resignation to his local chapter officers and to the national staff that includes the
    - i. effective date
    - ii. reason for resignation
    - iii. recommendation for replacement
    - iv. requested status of membership
  - b. The president (or in the case that the president is resigning, the vice-president), will assemble the remaining officer corps to inform them of the decision and letter of resignation.. The chapter president and national staff may either accept the resignation or decide that there needs to be an additional meeting with the officer corps and the resigning officer.
  - c. Following the officer meeting, the officers will allow the resigning officer to submit a resignation letter to the chapter that will be made available following the approval of the acting president and the national staff.
  
102. The process of filling officer vacancies shall be done in close communication with the national staff.
  - a. When there is a vacancy in an officer position, the officers are to meet and discuss this process before bringing it to the attention of the chapter. Once the officers meet, it needs to be brought to the attention of the local chapter during a chapter meeting or email approved by the national staff.
  - b. The vice president becomes the interim president until he is permanently placed in that position or another officer or active member is selected via election and/or appointment as determined by the national staff.
  
103. If the open position is any office besides the presidency, the remaining officers may decide, and upon confirmation from the national staff, to:
  - a. Fill the vacancy with an already elected officer and then accept applications and recommendations to fill the open position.
  - b. Accept applications from all members and officers in good standing and then the remaining officers strategically choose who fills the role.
  - c. The officers must come to a unanimous decision on who is to be the new officer.

- d. Upon confirmation from the national staff, the chosen individual will fulfill the role until the currently elected officers' term is finished.

#### **ARTICLE 17: Chapter By-Laws**

104. Due to the unique character and circumstances of each school at which the fraternity exists, each chapter of Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity has liberty to create by-laws to the constitution for the goal of better achieving the purpose of Beta Upsilon Chi, as provided in Section 2 of this constitution.
105. All by-laws must be in writing and approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the current elected officers of the fraternity.
106. Two copies of the proposed by-laws, with the presidents and secretary's signatures, must be sent to the national president for his approval, before they will come into force.
107. Only those by-laws which coincide with the purpose of Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity and further its mission will be approved.

#### **ARTICLE 18: Charter Application, Attainment, and Privileges**

108. The purpose of the chapter/colony charter is:—
  - a. To demonstrate that a chapter/colony has fulfilled all necessary requirements of Beta Upsilon Chi;
  - b. To demonstrate that a chapter/colony has a high level of consistency and maturity;
  - c. For the national fraternity to recognize the achievement of the chapter/colony that receives a charter;
  - d. To recognize the greater responsibility undertaken by the chapter/colony who has received the charter;
  - e. To award the chapter/colony that demonstrates a dedication to the whole of the fraternity, not just a specific part.
  - f. To denote the chapters/colonies that have demonstrated leadership within the fraternity.

109. In order to receive a charter, a chapter's/colony's expectations are the following:—
  - a. Colonies may apply for their charter two years after the founding of the colony
  - b. Colonies must receive their charter within five years from the founding of the colony
  - c. Membership ought to demonstrate growth and retention every year for the first five years
  - d. Must have no pattern of major disciplinary problems during the first five years;
  - e. Must settle outstanding financial obligations with the national staff in a timely manner; and
  - f. All officer positions should be filled every election during the first 5 years.
  
110. The fulfillment of the qualifications in Section 104 above does not guarantee a charter; only the national president, in conjunction with the national staff, may choose which colonies receive a charter.
  
111. To apply for a charter, a colony must:—
  - a. After the requirements in Section 104 above are met, request a charter application from the national president;
  - b. Complete the application with the assistance of current and former officers and members
  - c. Submit the completed application to their respective leadership consultant, who will submit it to the national president for consideration.
  - d. If the National President does not grant a charter, the colony must continue to qualify under Section 104, and may reapply annually.
  
112. All chartered chapters shall have the right:—
  - a. To receive their charter according to the chartering ceremony of this fraternity;
  - b. To serve as a mentor chapter to a potential chapter of the fraternity; and
  - c. To a representative seat on the board of directors (eligibility does not guarantee a seat, but only that the seats on the board of directors will be filled by chartered chapter alumni as there are a limited number of seats)
  
113. Any chapter/colony placed on probation is subject to the following:
  - a. The chapter/colony is considered to be on probation if they fail to meet any of the chartership requirements of Section 104 within the five years allotted;
  - b. While on probation, every probationary chapter/colony must show immediate improvement (as defined by the national fraternity president) in those areas in which they were found deficient;
  - c. While on probation, every probationary chapter/colony must continue to meet all requirements of Section 104 in which they were not found deficient;

- d. If, while on probation, a probationary chapter/colony meets the qualifications of section 104 for one year, then that chapter may reapply for a charter as in section 106 above;
- e. If, while on probation, a probationary chapter/colony fails to meet the qualifications of Section 104, then that chapter/colony may be terminated and removed from the fraternity by the national president; and
- f. The policy of reinstatement, as provided in Section 124 below, shall take effect if the chapter/colony desires reinstatement and applies, in writing, for the same to the national president.

#### **ARTICLE 19: Establishing New Colony**

- 114. A new colony of Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity may be founded on the campus of any four year college or university campus.
  
- 115. Permission to establish a new colony is granted by the national president. Notification of intent to expand will be given to the host institution, the university greek life, and any trade association BYX may be affiliated with. Beta Upsilon Chi supports a policy of responsible access for open expansion to new campuses.
  
- 116. The national president shall set forth certain criteria by which a colony may be established, including, but not limited to an appropriate phased-process.
  
- 117. All colonies of the Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity must uphold and adhere to the Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity constitution, and their members must uphold and adhere to the Beta Upsilon Chi honor code and the Beta Upsilon Chi doctrinal statement.
  
- 118. Any new colony established according to the procedures in Sections 109 through 112 above shall be subject to the authority of the national president.
  
- 119. After a new colony has been established according to this constitution, that colony may apply for a charter, as provided in sections 103 through 108 above, after two years from the date of their founding.
  
- 120. All new colonies must receive their charter, as provided in sections 103 through 108 above, within five years of the date of their founding



## **ARTICLE 20: Suspension, Probation, Termination of Fraternity**

121. The decisions to terminate a chapter/colony or revoke a charter are made by the national president. The national president, in collaboration with the board of directors may vote at any time to temporarily suspend a chapter/colony, place a chapter/colony on probation, or permanently terminate a chapter/colony.
122. The national president may place a chapter/colony on probation or temporarily suspend all chapter activities if the chapter/colony is:—
  - a. Not fulfilling the original intentions of Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity as laid out in the constitution.
  - b. Found to be engaging in activities that seriously violate biblical principles and/or the values of Beta Upsilon Chi.
  - c. A chapter/colony that seeks immediate and appropriate medical assistance for a person in need related to the use or consumption of alcohol, drugs, or to another medical emergency, may be eligible for mitigation of charges related to violations of organizational policies. To be eligible for this potential mitigation, the chapter will be required to meet in person or by phone with a national staff member or an alumni volunteer designated by the fraternity. A chapter may benefit from this policy more than once, though repeated use of the policy may receive stricter scrutiny.
123. If a chapter/colony is placed on probation, the national president shall notify the officers and members of that chapter/colony to inform them that they have been placed on probation.
124. The national president may terminate and remove any chapter/colony that is on probation during the period of its probation.
125. If, at the end of the predetermined probationary period, a chapter/colony on probation has failed to resolve the issues which led to its probation, then that chapter/colony may be terminated and removed by the national president.
126. If, for any reason, a chapter/colony is terminated, then the national president shall inform in writing or in person, the officers and members of the chapter/colony that has been terminated that:—
  - a. Permission to use the name “Beta Upsilon Chi,” “Brothers Under Christ,” or “BYX” or any of the colors, marks, or ceremonies associated with the fraternity is immediately withdrawn;
  - b. All fraternity property, documents and records must be immediately returned to the national staff or their agent; and
  - c. All fraternity funds and monies must be immediately remitted to the national staff or their agent.

127. A chapter/colony that has been terminated may be reinstated after two full years from the date of termination.

128. All funds and monies in possession of a terminated chapter/colony must be returned to the national fraternity.

#### **ARTICLE 21: Ceremonies of this Fraternity**

129. The national staff, in collaboration with the board of directors, shall establish the ceremonies of this fraternity, including, but not limited to, the initiation ceremony and chartering ceremony.

130. The national president may, with the advice and consent of the board of directors, authorize such other ceremonies which advance the purpose of this fraternity, as set forth in Section 2 above, and do not conflict with this constitution.

131. All ceremonies of this fraternity shall be closed to persons who are not members of Beta Upsilon Chi, unless otherwise permitted by the national president and board of directors.

#### **ARTICLE 22: National Leadership Summit**

132. The Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity Board of Directors, The Beta Upsilon Chi Foundation Board of Directors, the fraternity staff, the foundation staff, the Alumni Association Board, and elected officers of each active local chapter/colony shall convene annually at the National Leadership Summit.

#### **ARTICLE 23: Amending the Constitution**

133. This constitution may be amended by procedurally following the Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity by-laws.

#### **Non-Discrimination Clause**

134. This organization does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

## **Origin of the Beta Upsilon Chi Fraternity**

**IN THE SPRING OF 1985**, a handful of Christian men set out to establish an alternative to the present fraternal lifestyle. This group of Christian men met and planned the “BYX Island Party” to formally announce the Fraternity’s founding—the founding of Beta Upsilon Chi. It was the vision of the Founding Fathers to have a fraternity of committed Christian men, based on the unique brotherhood that a Christian atmosphere affords, for the purpose of fellowship and glorification of Jesus Christ. Through such events as parties, service projects, and evangelistic outreaches, the charter members of Beta Upsilon Chi chose to unite in fellowship and glorify Jesus Christ on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin. The Brothers press on toward the mark of the high Calling.

### **The University of Texas at Austin Charter Members**

Craig Albert

David Daniels

John Douglas

John Edson

Jeff Garrett

David Givens

Steve Hoehner

Clayton Jewett

Scott Love

Mark McGee

Tim Miller

Roger Poupart

Don Reid

Kenneth Sapp

Garland Spiller

Clayton Walther

Wendel Weaver

John Wilson