

Epsilon Eta – Chapel Hill

Alpha Chapter Constitution and Bylaws

Article I – *Name*

The official name shall be Epsilon Eta, Environmental Honors Fraternity, Alpha Chapter at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, hereafter referred to as Epsilon Eta.

Article II - *Purpose*

The purpose of Epsilon Eta is to foster a conscious awareness of the intrinsic relationship between people and their environment through *academics*, the *community*, and *service*. In addition, Epsilon Eta seeks to create a networking environment that enables members to utilize the fraternity's resources as they pursue their post-graduate plans.

Article III – *Insignia*

Section 1. The official emblem of the fraternity shall be a shield-shaped key upon which are engraved a three-pronged geometric knot entwined around an Oak tree.

Section 2. The coat of arms shall be that officially adopted by the Charter and Alpha classes of Epsilon Eta.

Section 3. The pattern copies of the key and coat of arms kept by Epsilon Eta shall be the official design.

Section 4. The colors of Epsilon Eta shall be Kelly green, sky blue, and navy blue.

Article IV – *Membership*

Section 1. The membership shall be divided into six classes: regular, associate, graduate, honorary, alumna/alumnus, and corporate. Epsilon Eta is a non-discriminating organization that does not consider age, race, color, creed, sex, national origin, or sexual preference.

Section 2. Regular members:

- a. Shall have and maintain a 3.0 minimum cumulative GPA and be in good academic standing with the university.
- b. Shall have completed at least 1 semester of a four-year curriculum or its equivalent.

- c. Shall have declared a major or minor in one of the following areas:
 - City and Regional Planning
 - Ecology
 - Environmental Studies (B.A.)
 - Environmental Science (B.S.)
 - Environmental Health Science (B.S.P.H.)
 - Geography (B.A.)
 - Geology (BS: Earth Systems, Traditional, or Environmental)
 - International and Area Studies (B.A. Ecology track only)
 - Marine Sciences
 - Public Policy (B.A.)
- d. Only regular members may hold the constitutionally specified chapter offices, vote during chapter meetings, or represent the chapter.
- e. Applications will be reviewed each fall semester by an admissions consisting of Epsilon Eta regular members and the faculty advisory board. Applications may also be accepted for nomination for the spring semester if such a motion is passed by a majority vote of current regular members.
- f. Acceptance will be determined by academics, demonstration of dedication and leadership in the environmental community, references provided, an essay and an optional interview.
- g. Regular members are required to participate in one fraternity service project per semester, as well as log 10 hours of community service.
- h. Regular members are required to attend every chapter meeting. If a member misses more than two chapter meetings per semester, they are subject to review for probation by the judicial board.

Section 3. Associate members shall be those undergraduates whose interests include environmental issues in some way but who are ineligible for regular membership. Associate members may participate in all Epsilon Eta activities except those specifically reserved to regular members by this constitution

Section 4. Graduate members shall be either graduate students currently enrolled in an environmental discipline at UNC-Chapel Hill or faculty members actively serving in a department listed in Section 2c.

Section 5. Students who graduated from UNC – Chapel Hill before Epsilon Eta began accepting members in the fall of 2006 and who graduated with a major or

minor listed in Section 2b may become Alumni members. Regular members who become inactive may also become Alumni members.

Section 6. Honorary members may be elected by Epsilon Eta in recognition of significant accomplishment in their field, or of outstanding service to the chapter.

Section 7. Corporate members shall be corporations, institutions or other organizations that support undergraduate education in the biological sciences. A corporation may be elected annually to membership by a majority of the regular members of Epsilon Eta. Corporate fraternity members will have their name printed in the brochure and on the website for the full year from the date of their contribution. The corporate member will also receive a certificate of participation in the endeavors of the fraternity for display.

Section 8. Regular, graduate and honorary members may wear the official insignia and shall remain members for life unless removed under the provisions of Section 10. Associate members are affiliated with the local chapter and may not wear the official insignia. Unless they qualify for regular membership, this affiliation shall terminate automatically when they cease to be undergraduate students.

Section 9. Members shall be nominated to the various categories by a committee that includes both regular members and faculty. Election shall be by at least a majority vote of the regular members present at a regular meeting.

Section 10. A regular member of a chapter may be removed from chapter membership only for cause by a majority vote of the entire voting membership.

Article V – *Officers*

Section 1. The officers of the Epsilon Eta shall be the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Webmaster, and Historian. Up to two people can be elected for the positions of Webmaster and Historian. All current officers and the last two Presidents shall constitute the executive board.

Section 2. The President shall be the chief executive and administrative officer, leading all activities of Epsilon Eta. The President shall preside over chapter meetings and shall ensure that all officers perform their respective duties.

Section 3. In the event of absence, death, resignation, disqualification or removal from office of the President, the Vice President shall assume the duties of the President.

Section 4. The Vice-President shall assist the President on such duties that may be requested by the President. The Vice-President will also oversee the activities of the Publicity committee.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting dues and managing all financial matters. The Treasurer shall keep records of all financial transactions and provide reports to the members as requested. The Treasurer will also oversee the activities of the Fundraising committee.

Section 6. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping and submitting all necessary minutes and records to the President. The Secretary shall also be responsible for keeping contact information of members and attendance at chapter meetings and events. The Secretary will also oversee the activities of the Service committee.

Section 7. The Executive Board shall have power to transact urgent fraternity business including replacements in its own membership if necessary. It shall serve as advisor and consultant to the chapter President. Upon nomination by the President, the Executive Board shall appoint one member who shall be directly responsible for the Executive Committee. This member shall be ex officio, a non-voting member of the Executive Committee.

Article VI – *Judicial Board*

The Judicial Board shall consist of five regular members, two of which shall be members of the executive board. The purpose of the Judicial Board is to uphold the constitution and by-laws set forth by Epsilon Eta. The Judicial Board also sets the terms of probation from Epsilon Eta. Any member who violates the constitution or bi-laws is subject to review for probation by the Judicial Board. The Judicial Board, with just cause, may also recommend expulsion of a member to the general fraternity. Members shall serve for one year, and shall be elected during general elections in the spring semester of each year.

Article VII – *Elections*

Section 1. Elections for officers and standing committee chairs shall be held each spring. Officers elected shall take office at the beginning of the following academic year. A member may hold the same office for two terms.

Section 2. Members in good standing shall be able to fill an elected position. Members running for a position must declare their candidacy, or be nominated as a candidate by another member, prior to the election. There is no limit to the number of offices for which a regular member may declare candidacy.

Section 3. The candidates are required to present their qualifications in the form of a speech at the same meeting during which elections take place.

Section 4. Votes shall be cast by regular members for all elected positions. A 2/3 quorum is required to hold elections.

Section 5. Elections shall proceed with votes being cast for positions in the following order: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Webmaster, Historian, Fundraising Chair, Service Chair, Publicity Chair, Social Chair, Judicial Board Members, Faculty Advisory Board Members.

Section 6. In the case of a tie, a runoff shall be held between the tied candidates. The tied candidates may ask to be elected as co-officers should they so chose. Votes for a run-off shall be cast by regular members.

Article VIII – *Committees*

Section 1. The fundraising committee shall be comprised of regular members including no more than two chairpersons. The committee shall be responsible for identifying funding opportunities, coordinating fundraising events and determining the fundraising responsibilities of members. Committee proceedings will be subject to review by the Executive Board. The chairperson(s) of the fundraising committee will keep a written record of committee proceedings and report to the Treasurer.

Section 2. The service committee shall be comprised of regular members including no more than two chairpersons. The committee will determine the service requirements of members, coordinate and announce service opportunities, and record the service hours of each member. Committee proceedings will be subject to review by the Executive Committee. The committee will keep a written record of committee proceedings and report to the Secretary.

Section 3. The publicity committee shall be comprised of regular members including no more than two chairpersons. The committee will publicize fraternity events and oversee the recruitment of new members. Committee proceedings will be subject to review by the Executive Committee. The committee will keep a written record of committee proceedings and report to the Secretary.

Section 4. The social committee shall be comprised of regular members including no more than two chairpersons. The committee will plan and organize fraternity events. Committee proceedings will be subject to review by the Executive Committee. The committee will keep a written record of committee proceedings and report to the Secretary.

Article IX – *Advisor(s)*

The faculty advisor(s), chosen on the basis of interest and expertise, shall serve as a consultant to the group. The organization shall use the advisor's

experience and guidance, but students shall ultimately be responsible for all decision making.

Article X – *Faculty Advisory Board*

The faculty advisory board shall consist of five faculty members (2 advisors chosen on the basis of interest and expertise). The members of the board shall serve on the admissions board as well as consultants to the group. The members of the board shall be elected for three year terms. The organization shall use the advisory board's experience and guidance, but students shall ultimately be responsible for all decision making.

Article XI – *Fees*

Annual fees shall be fifty dollars. Dues shall be paid to the Treasurer at a determined time or upon request by the Treasurer. Failure to pay dues in a timely manner shall result in a ten dollar penalty. Any member refusing to pay dues may be expelled from the society upon a majority vote of the membership.

Article XII – *Chapter Meetings*

Chapter meetings shall be held at least once per semester, and as often as determined by the President.

Article XIII – *Quorum*

A quorum of 2/3 all regular members currently studying at UNC – Chapel Hill is needed in order to vote on any matter.

Article XIV – *Amendments*

Amendments to this constitution may be proposed by the Executive Board, Judicial Board, any officer, any chapter advisor, or any regular member in good standing. Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be submitted to the President. The President must then present the proposed amendment to the Executive and Judicial Boards for review. The Executive Board shall submit the amendment at the next chapter meeting. Amendments shall be ratified by 2/3 vote of the regular members.

Article XV – *By-Laws*

The Executive Board shall, from time to time, adopt such by-laws as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this constitution. It shall be the purpose of the by-laws to state the specific procedures and practices in effect at any given time.

Article XVI – *Dissolution*

In the event of the dissolution of Epsilon Eta Environmental Honors Fraternity, the assets, if any, will be distributed to an organization that is exempt from Federal income tax as an organization described in 501 (c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code, contributions to which are deductible, or to the Federal Government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose.