**Lafayette College IFC Constitution and Bylaws**

**ARTICLE I: Name**

This organization shall be known as the Lafayette College Interfraternity Council (IFC).

**ARTICLE II: Purpose**

The purpose of the IFC is to provide and maintain a college environment that fosters unity, representation, communication, and governance amongst the six fraternities of Lafayette College: Chi Phi, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Delta Tau Delta, Delta Upsilon, Phi Kappa Psi, and Zeta Psi.

**ARTICLE III: Function**

Section I: The function of this organization shall primarily focus on, but is not limited to:

● Foster and strengthen communication and relations between members of the Greek community and the administration, faculty, and non-Greek organizations

● Ensure cooperation between the individual fraternities

● Provide services and develop policies to ensure the strength, credibility, and livelihood of the fraternity system

● Promote fraternity life by encouraging the importance of ethics, values, ritual, and brotherhood

● Provide a discussion forum for member chapters to voice issues of concern with the six IFC Executive Board members, and the Associate Director of Fraternity & Sorority Life.

● Organize educational programming for the member chapters

● Encourage member chapters to achieve academic excellence, especially by upholding a commitment to the new member Grade Point Average of at least 2.5

● Govern the six member chapters through the IFC Executive Board

● Maintain accountability to the chapters, administration, inter/national headquarters, the community, new members, and alumni.

Section II: The IFC and its member fraternities will adhere to the policies set forth in the Lafayette College Student Handbook, guidelines set forth by the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC), and Pennsylvania State laws and regulations.

**ARTICLE IV: Membership and Voting Rights**

Section I: Any fraternity at Lafayette College that has been in existence at Lafayette College and is recognized by the College’s Board of Trustees is eligible for membership in the IFC. A five-sixths vote of the IFC council is necessary for admission or re-admission into the IFC, where one of the concurring votes belongs to the President of the IFC.

Section II: The IFC shall be comprised of an executive board of six members that shall be elected by the prior IFC and a single full-time member to represent as a delegate from each fraternity who does not belong to the IFC Executive Board.

Section III: Each fraternity shall be entitled to one vote regardless of the number of members they have on IFC. All votes must pass with a Two/Thirds majority, where one of the concurring votes belongs to the President of the IFC.

Section IV: The Executive Board shall not be entitled to any votes but can resolve any Executive Board disagreements in any way they feel appropriate. This is included but not limited to: a) Consultation with the Associate Director for Fraternity & Sorority Life, b) Brought to individual chapters where 1 (one) appropriate member from each chapter is able to vote on an unresolved issue, c) The vote is deferred to both Executive Board members and delegates.

Section V: IFC meetings shall be open to any Lafayette College student. Members and visitors may participate in discussion only if individually recognized by the IFC President. Visitors do not hold any voting rights. The IFC President shall be notified of student visitations prior to the meeting start.

Section VI: The IFC does not discriminate in chapter membership based on race, color, religion, creed, national origin, ancestry, age, physical ability, or sexual orientation.

Section VII: All IFC council members must be present for a vote to take place on the admission or readmission of a chapter into the IFC, unless a particular chapter refuses to vote.

Section VIII: Colony chapters are allowed one representative to IFC, but that delegate does not have voting rights.

Section IX: If a member of the IFC Executive Board frequently exemplifies qualities of carelessness, the Executive Board member will receive a warning, which shall be assigned at the discretion by the President of the IFC.

Section X: Carelessness of an IFC Executive Board member shall be determined by the extent to which the Officer lacks ability to attend meetings, and performance on the Council through their respective role on the IFC Executive Board.

Section XI: If a member of the IFC Executive Board receives more than one strike, they will be relieved of their duties as an Officer on the Council.

Section XII: If an Officer of the IFC is relieved of their duties, a special election will then promptly be held for the former Officer’s respective position, where any affiliated male-identifying Sophomore or Junior, who is not already part of the IFC, shall be able to become a candidate for the vacant position. If such a situation occurs, the Special Election process is outlined in Article X.

**ARTICLE V: Responsibilities of Chapter Representatives**

Section I: The one full-time chapter representatives, commonly referred to as ‘Delegates’ of IFC, are expected to attend each meeting. If a chapter representative cannot attend a meeting, they shall send an alternate member to fulfill their responsibilities. Also, a day’s notice of that full-time representative’s absence must be given to the President of the IFC to avoid penalties for absenteeism. Extenuating circumstances will be given consideration. Each member is given two excused and one unexcused absence before penalties are given and determined by the IFC Executive Board.

Section II: Chapter representatives shall take notes at the meetings and relay the information to their respective chapters. They shall use the Council meetings to voice their chapter’s concerns and to promote individual chapter events and interests.

Section III: Chapter representatives are expected to help organize, promote, and carry out events that the IFC decides to host or sponsor. These events may include but are not limited to recruitment events, philanthropy events, and other Greek-sponsored activities.

**ARTICLE VI: Executive Council**

Section I: The Executive Council shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President of Operations, Vice President of Public Relations, Vice President of Membership and Recruitment, Vice President of Scholarship, Vice President of Accountability, and Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. These positions shall be decided through elections, as outlined in Article X.

Section II: The Executive Council shall meet at the least bi-weekly, at a time and place set by the President. The agenda for the next meeting shall be made by the IFC President, along with the input of the other six Executive Board members, at this time. All Executive Council members are required to attend each meeting. The Advisor to Fraternities and Sororities will also attend each meeting, acting not only as an advisor but as a representative of the College.

Section III: Should an Executive officer be absent for an extended period of time or leave office permanently, the next position in line would assume those responsibilities for the time needed. If deemed necessary by the Executive Council that a new member is needed to carry out all functions of the Executive Council, they may appoint someone new through elections, as outlined in Article X.

**ARTICLE VII: Responsibilities of Executive Officers**

Section I: The President is the primary person in charge of IFC. The President shall preside over all meetings and ensures the council follows the by-laws and constitution. He shall be the liaison between the IFC and all other organizations at Lafayette. The President shall work in conjunction with the administration, faculty, and the Panhellenic Council to coordinate affairs between the IFC and extraneous campus organizations. He shall coordinate and guide all officers in their efforts to improve the FSL Community. The President is also responsible for serving on the Recognition Committee for new FSL Interest Groups. Furthermore, the President acts as the primary officer for the IFC Judicial Board. He shall familiarize himself with F.I.P.G. policies, so that he may answer other fraternity’s questions about registered parties, etc. In the case that a fraternity is cited for a conduct, recruitment, or scholarship violation, and that fraternity would like to discuss the matter, the President will sit down with the IFC Executive Board, and the fraternity will be subject to a conduct meeting.

Section II: The Vice President of Operations is second in line. He shall collect all new member dues for the IFC, as dictated by Article XIV. He shall maintain a strict accounting of the money in the organization’s account and shall pay all bills outstanding against this account. His duties shall also include the planning of an annual budget. In addition to this, he shall record chapter attendance at each meeting. He shall take minutes at each meeting and distribute them to each member of the Council by the following meeting.

Section III: Vice President of Membership and Recruitment: As the Recruitment executive, he is in charge of all fraternity preview events in the Spring and Fall semesters. This person will also be the primary contact for the non-Greek affiliated students will question about recruiting. The Vice President will also coordinate the Recruitment Appeal process every semester. This Vice President will also oversee scholarship amongst all the fraternities to make sure the chapters are upholding IFC’s academic standards. This may include working with individual chapters Scholarship chairs.

Section IV: The Vice President of Public Relations. He shall promote all IFC sponsored events in a positive manner. To do so, he shall work with the College newspaper, members of the College radio station, as well as with local media when necessary. He shall also act as a liaison between the IFC and other student run organizations in an effort to establish effective communication with campus leaders. Furthermore, the Vice President shall serve the purpose of promoting positive aspects of fraternity life to independent students on campus. He will also act as the IFC representative for coordinating Greek Week and organizing philanthropy and service programs for IFC.

Section V: The Vice President of Scholarship shall oversee the fraternities’ academic programs. They shall make sure all fraternity chapters maintain an acceptable GPA. If a fraternity is to extend a bid to a potential new member who had to appeal for GPA related reasons, that chapter’s scholarship chair shall meet with the VP of Scholarship to ensure that these members can improve during the Greek experience. They shall coordinate with chapters to develop programs to improve the academic opportunities for fraternities.

Section VI: The Vice President of Accountability shall ensure that fraternities maintain good standing, both with Lafayette College’s administration, as well as the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life in their academic initiatives.

**ARTICLE VIII: Council Meetings**

Section I: Weekly meetings of the IFC shall be held as seen fit by the President. The President shall decide the time and place of these meetings at the beginning of each semester.

Section II: Special meetings may be called by the President at any time.

Section III: If there is a dispute in a meeting about issues not contained in this constitution the President will ask the council to vote on the issue in the respective meeting the issue occurs in. For a motion to pass, a two-thirds majority vote is required.

Section IV: A member representative may ask to table an argument until the next meeting, if he deems it necessary to consult his fraternity in order to make a proper vote. However, the President may refuse this request, if he deems it necessary for an immediate vote to take place.

Section V: No quorum is necessary for a common meeting vote to take place (i.e. a vote that does NOT involve admission into the IFC, removal from the IFC, elections, or changes in the IFC constitution), unless the President deems the vote improper considering the attendance.

Section VI: If a member expresses concern that another member or an executive officer has acted wrongly or is not bringing enough to IFC, that member may bring a motion to the council for impeachment. The member or officer will have the right to a fair hearing in front of the council, as facilitated by the President (unless the motion is to impeach the President, in which case the Vice President of Operations will facilitate the hearing). Following the hearing, the

council will vote on the issue. A vote of two-thirds in favor of impeachment will be necessary for the member to lose his membership on the council.

Section VII: If a general member is impeached, his chapter will be asked to vote to appoint a new IFC representative. If that member held a position, a standard election will be held for that position.

**ARTICLE IX: Committees**

Section I: Committees may be established as the President sees necessary. The construction of a committee must be approved by a majority vote of the IFC. Even though the Committee Chairmen are encouraged to attend Executive Council meetings, they will not be voting members of the Executive Council.

Section II: The President of the IFC shall also chair The IFC Judicial Committee, which will hear cases involving violations of the rules established by Lafayette College and the IFC, as well as documented disputes between chapters.

**ARTICLE X: Elections**

Section I: Annual elections for Executive Council members will be held in November. All elections shall be held concurrently. At the latest, the new council will be in place by the first week of December.

Section II: The names of each person running for the IFC President must be announced at least a week before the election is to take place. If this requirement is not met, or the requirements established described below are not met, that person shall not be allowed to run for President.

Section III: A cumulative GPA of 2.85 is required of candidates for any executive Council position.

Section IV: The IFC Presidential Election will consist of the slated delegates presenting a short speech to the election committee. Candidates will give the speeches in alphabetical order of last names.

Section V: The election committee consists of the prior IFC Council. A majority vote is required to elect the President.

Section VI: To be able to participate on the election committee as an IFC Officer, the Officer must attend every interview conducted for the given role being voted on.

Section VI: A simple majority of the vote is required for a person to be elected into office.

Section VII: If a chapter representative is elected, their respective chapter does not send a third delegate. Each executive officer acts as a chapter representative with individual voting rights while also fulfilling their executive responsibilities.

Section VIII: Elections cannot take place without quorum.

Section IX: Quorum is defined as 100% of the council being present to vote.

Section X: For non-Presidential elections, the order of elections shall be Vice President of Operations, Vice President of Recruitment, Vice President of Public Relations, and lastly Vice President of Scholarship. Candidates will notify the current Vice President of Operations of their intention to run and all candidates will be arranged in alphabetical order of their last names. In this order, the candidates will give a speech regarding their qualification and intentions for the role. Following all speeches, the prior IFC shall vote and simple majority vote is needed to win the position. The greek advisor shall count the votes of a secret ballot.

**ARTICLE XI: Adoption of Amendments**

Section I: A written proposal for an amendment must be presented to the IFC one week prior to a vote for discussion. A two-thirds vote of the IFC shall be required to adopt an amendment.

Section II: A three fourths vote of the IFC shall be required to adopt this constitution. The constitution shall take effect immediately following adoption.

Section III: Two-thirds of the vote must be able to be cast if there is to be a vote on changing the IFC constitution.

**ARTICLE XII: Rituals**

Section I**:** There shall be up to four rituals conducted per semester in which new member education takes place. More specifically, rituals shall be held on Bid Day, Initiation, mid new member education, and post new member education. Please note that the ritual during new member education is strongly encouraged by the IFC, however it is not mandatory that this ritual be used during the new member education process. Requests for additional rituals must be approved by the Assistant Director of Residence Life. Rituals must be registered at least five days before the ritual will be conducted.

Section II**:** Rituals during semesters that include new member education shall not exceed 6 hours in length. During semesters in which new member education does not take place, a total of eight hours of ritual time will be allotted to each fraternity. This eight hour block of time is to

be used at the chapter’s discretion. If required, an extension of time may be petitioned on a case-by-case basis. Requests must be made to Assistant Director of Residence Life with an explanation as to why the extension is necessary.

Section III**:** Only brothers (including alumni) and family may enter or exit the house while a ritual is in progress. The one exception is a pinning ritual, in which case members outside the organization may be present (unless otherwise specified by the chapter’s inter/national organization).

Section IV**:** Under no circumstances is alcohol allowed as part of a ritual.

Section V**:** It is recommended that signs be placed on exterior doors, indicating that a ritual is in progress. Public Safety must be notified upon the conclusion of a ritual.

Section VI**:** Any violations of this policy will be handled by the Interfraternity Council Judicial Board. Violations may also be adjudicated by the College administration.

**ARTICLE XIII: Recruitment**

Section I: The recruitment of new members should be emphasized within each chapter. The IFC shall assist in general recruitment, but not play a role in individual chapter’s recruitment events. Recruitment of any class of identifying-males above their first semester of Sophomore year is acceptable, with each semester providing chapters an opportunity to initiate new members.

Section II: First year students are forbidden to enter fraternity houses until new members have been initiated. The purpose of this is to allow the fraternities to concentrate on organized sophomore recruitment and new member education.

Section III: Any unaffiliated male pledging must have at least a 2.5 cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) and not be on any level of probation higher than Level 1 to be eligible for membership in a fraternity.

Section IV: No unaffiliated males are allowed to appeal their application if possessing a cumulative GPA below 2.5. However, the IFC Executive Board must meet their application with sympathy, and provide Lafayette College based resources to assist the unaffiliated male in improving their cumulative GPA.

Section V: Bids may not be distributed before 12pm (noon) on the last Friday of the recruitment period.

Section VI: Recruitment registration will be opened in July of the Summer interim session, where a specific date is decided at the discretion of the Vice President of Recruitment, and closed at midnight on Wednesday of the first week of recruitment.

A**RTICLE XIV: Dues**

Section I: Dues shall be in the amount of $10 per IFC chapter member, and will be paid once per semester. The deadlines are December 1st and May 1st. A chapter member includes all men of the fraternity, including new members and those members who are abroad.

Section II: Chapters who have not paid by the end of the academic semester will lose their vote on IFC for the following semester, until the payment is received.

Section III: Chapters existing within the IFC who do not deliver the total amount of dues as outlined by the Vice President of Operations or they will be subject to losing their recognition as members of IFC.

Section IV: Chapters existing within the IFC, who are not able to deliver their total amount of dues as outlined by the Vice President of Operations in one payment, must meet with the IFC Executive Board to figure out a payment plan within two (2) weeks after notifications regarding dues are distributed to each chapter.

Section V: Any alteration to the individual prices of IFC dues must be brought to the council by an Officer of the IFC Executive Board and will pass with a five-sixths vote of the council.

Section VI: Colonies shall not be required to pay IFC dues.

**ARTICLE XV: Allocation of Funds**

Section I: The IFC President may approve expenditures that directly serve a purpose to benefit the council under $100, without a vote by the council.

Section II: Spending over $100 must be approved by the entire IFC Executive Board by unanimous vote. Spending votes will not be tabled until the next meeting, unless requested by a member and approved by the President.

Section III: Two-thirds of the vote must be able to be cast for a referendum to alter the existing budget. The budget is planned by the Vice President of Operations.

**ARTICLE XVI: Loss of IFC Membership**

Section I: If a chapter is subject to losing their membership, as dictated by the articles of this constitution, the chapter will have the right to a hearing in front of the IFC council, which shall be facilitated by the President.

Section II: Following the hearing, the council will adjourn and vote on the issue. All chapters will cast a vote, even the chapter having a hearing (who may have temporarily lost their vote). For a chapter to lose their membership, a three-quarter vote must pass.

Section III: All IFC council members must be present for a chapter to be voted out of the council, unless a particular chapter refuses to be involved.

Adopted 4/3/23

J.B.