

# Multicultural Greek Council at the College of William & Mary Constitution

Adopted: April 27, 2017

## **Preamble**

We, the Multicultural Greek Council, are committed to enhancing and uniting the multicultural Greek letter fraternities and sororities here at the College of William & Mary. We recognize the various cultures and ethnicities represented via our member organizations and will strive to promote this diverse presence on campus. Our goal is to foster a sense of community amongst our member organizations and the entire Greek system while making a positive difference within the campus and surrounding community.

## **Article I – Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Multicultural Greek Council at the College of William & Mary and will hereafter be referred to as the MGC.

## **Article II - Purpose**

- Section I. To encourage collaboration among the council and those affiliated with the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Panhellenic Association, and the Interfraternity Council.
- Section II. To serve as a liaison between the member organizations and the College.
- Section III. Ensuring that the goals and purposes of member organizations relate with the educational and academic mission of the College.
- Section IV. To promote the ideals of diversity, scholarship, and service through education, awareness, and social related programs.
- Section V. The scope of the MGC shall be to program, legislate, administer, and advise.

## **Article III – Membership and Representation**

- Section I There shall be two classes of membership:
  - 1.1 Full membership: national organizations that have achieved Full Member status as outlined in Section II.
  - 1.2 Associate Membership: Social Greek organizations or Colonies that have not achieved National status but have completed the stipulations as outlined in Section III.

## Section II Eligibility for Membership

- 2.1 Any social Greek letter organization desiring to form a colony/chapter at the College of William & Mary must comply with the following preliminary expansion requirements:
- 2.2 Organization(s) must submit a letter of interest in expansion to the MGC Advisor. This letter should come from a national or regional representative for the organization.
- 2.3 The MGC Advisor will review the letter of interest and invite organization to campus for a meeting/presentation on the following information:
  - 2.3.1 Proof that organization is nationally recognized
  - 2.3.2 The national Fraternity/Sorority structure
  - 2.3.3 Resources that will be devoted to a new colony/chapter
  - 2.3.4 Financial plan to ensure solvency of colony/chapter
  - 2.3.5 Academic requirements to ensure satisfactory scholastic standards and achievement
  - 2.3.6 Availability of alumni and national support
  - 2.3.7 Commitment to being a diverse student organization
  - 2.3.8 Projected timeline of the organization chartering or moving from colony to chapter.
  - 2.3.9 Title IX exemption
    - 2.3.9.1 All fraternities and sororities associated with the Multicultural Greek Council at the College of William & Mary will follow the guidelines set forth by the College regarding a Title IX exemption.
  - 2.3.10 Evidence that organization has or can obtain adequate insurance, meeting the requirements of the College, and indemnifying the College of William & Mary, its agents, officers, and employees.
  - 2.3.11 Any other requirements of the College.
- 2.4 After the meeting/presentation, the MGC Advisor, in conjunction with the Office of Student Leadership Development, will further discuss if the organization meets the needs of the campus. If an organization is approved, a letter of invitation is sent to the organization's national or regional representative.
- 2.5 Once an organization has been invited to campus, the Office of Student

Leadership Development will begin working with the fraternity/sorority to prepare for colonization/chartering. The following information details the procedures necessary for an organization to be recognized as a functioning chapter/colony:

- 2.5.1 Organizations must complete the Recognized Student Organization process.
- 2.5.2 Submit a copy of the organization's national and/or chapter/colony constitution and by-laws to the MGC Advisor and the Office of Student Leadership Development..
- 2.5.3 Submit copies of the organization's national and/or chapter/colony insurance documents.
- 2.5.4 Organizations must have a minimum of five (5) undergraduate member and membership in the organization must be limited to the undergraduate students of the immediate College of William & Mary (W&M) community; e.g. W&M students who have paid their Student Activity Fee. Only W&M students may be given voting privileges.
- 2.5.5 Organizations must have a chapter/colony advisor (this can be a local advisor or someone appointed through headquarters but must be specifically assigned this chapter/colony to work with). W&M faculty, administration, staff, alumni, and graduate Fraternity and Sorority members may participate in the organization's activities and serve in an advisory capacity.

### Section III Associate Membership

- 3.1 In the event that there is a social Greek letter organization that is recognized by the Office of Student Leadership Development and is working toward meeting the criteria necessary for recognition by the MultiCultural Greek Council (i.e. national recognition, incorporation, etc.), they will be eligible for associate member status.
- 3.2 When an organization is granted associate member status, they will be allowed to participate in all council activities and programs.
- 3.3 Associate members will also be subject to roster/grade checks to ensure satisfactory scholastic achievement.
- 3.4 Associate Members will not be given funding by the council, will not be allowed to hold executive office, and will not be allowed to vote within the

council.

- 3.5 All matters disciplinary in nature will be handled directly through the Student Organization Center and Student Rights and Responsibilities.
- 3.6 Associate members are given two (2) years to complete necessary requirements for full recognition by the Fraternity/Sorority life staff and the Multicultural Greek Council.

Section VI: The MGC affirms its commitment to conducting its activities in accordance with W&M's Policy on Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation. Membership in this organization shall be open to all without regard to irrelevant personal factors. Irrelevant personal factors include (without limitation) race or color, citizenship, national origin or ethnicity, ancestry, religion or creed, political affiliation or belief, age, sex or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, physical or mental disability, marital status, pregnancy status, parental status, height, weight, military service, veteran status, caretaker status, or family medical or genetic information.

#### **Article IV – Officers**

Section I: The Executive Board

- 1.1 The Executive Board will execute all policies and all other activities as deemed by the voting council and the MGC Constitution.
- 1.2 Elected Officers: The elected officers of the council shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- 1.3 All MGC Executive Board officers must be a full-time College of William & Mary student and maintain a semester and cumulative GPA of a 2.5 while in office.
- 1.4 All MGC Executive Board Officers must be in good standing with their chapter/colony. (i.e. active member, financial, etc.)
- 1.5 Every member organization must be represented on the MGC executive board.
- 1.6 The position of president may not be held by the same chapter/colony two (2) years in a row.

Section II: The President shall be the Chief Executive of the council. It shall be the duty of the president to:

- A. Preside over all executive and general council meetings.

- B. Be the official representative of the MGC at William & Mary.
- C. Serve as liaison between the MGC, NPHC, IFC and Panhellenic Councils, and attend weekly Council president's meetings.
- D. The President shall have no vote in the Legislative Body with the exception of a tied vote within the Legislative Body.
- E. Prepare, in cooperation with the Treasurer and Advisor, applications for Student Assembly funding.
- F. Meet weekly with the MGC Advisor.

Section III: The Vice-President shall:

- A. Assume all duties in absence of the President.
- B. Serve as the Chairperson for the Judicial Board
- C. Implement all Greek programs within MGC.

Section IV: The Secretary shall:

- A. Keep minutes of all meetings, and distribute them via email.
- B. Distribute all internal administrative material.
- C. Send correspondence on behalf of the MGC Council.
- D. Meet bi-weekly with joint council PR team.

Section V: The Treasurer shall:

- A. Be responsible for the general supervision of the finances of the MGC.
- B. Be responsible for the preparation of the annual budget and following its approval by the MGC Council, for providing a copy for each MGC member chapters/colonies.
- C. Receive all payments due to the MGC, collect all dues and give receipts.
- D. Be responsible for the prompt payment of all bills of the MGC.
- E. Have the authority to sign MGC checks with the advisor.
- F. Maintain up-to-date financial records; give a quarterly financial report at executive meetings of the MGC Council and an annual report at the close of his/her term of office.

## **Article V - Elections**

Section I: The elected officers of the Council shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and any other position deemed necessary for the upcoming academic year (approved by a majority of the current executive board).

1.1 No single individual shall be permitted to concurrently hold the same

elected office listed above.

1.2 New offices may be elected into action by the executive board if they deem it necessary or if there are more organizations than positions.

1.2.1 These offices may be elected in with emergency elections, determined by the executive board, if the election period has passed.

Section II: Nominations will be held at the General body meeting in March.

2.1 All candidates must have a 2.5 cumulative GPA in order to run for a position on the Executive Board.

2.2 The Fraternity/Sorority Life Staff will check grades of newly elected officers prior to the Installation in April.

Section III: The elections will be held at the last General Body meeting in April.

3.1 All candidates shall be required to give a speech, not exceeding fifteen (15) minutes, detailing their reasons for seeking office and their qualifications.

3.2 The mode of elections shall be by blind ballot. The nominee receiving the majority ballot shall be declared elected.

3.3 A simple majority is all needed in order to secure the position. In case of a tie, a run-off shall be held between the candidates.

3.4 In the case of three consecutive ties reached by the membership, the outgoing Executive Board will determine a winner by simple majority.

3.5 Newly elected officers will officially take over office at the last meeting of the Spring semester.

Section IV: In the event that an executive position is not filled during elections, an announcement will be made at a general meeting of the vacancy. Qualified applicants will have one week to turn in a letter of interest and have their eligibility, including GPA, certified.

4.1 If no eligible candidates come forward, the vacancy shall be appointed by the MGC President with approval of the Executive Officers.

4.2 In the event that a member of the Executive Board steps down, for any reason, or is removed from their position for the inability to fulfill their duties as stated in article six of this document, the process to replace that position will be by secession. The remaining members of the Executive Board will have the opportunity to move up to the position above them, if

he/she chooses to do so, until all positions are filled. If all of the positions are not full after everyone has moved up, then it will be the job of the president to appoint someone to fill the vacant position(s).

Section V: Removal of Officers

5.1: Any member of the Multicultural Greek Council shall be able to initiate removal of an officer from the Executive Board on the grounds of either of the following: dereliction of duties and mismanagement of funds.

5.2 The removal of an officer shall proceed as follows:

5.2.1 An MGC member desiring to initiate the removal of an officer shall notify the MGC President (or if the officer in question is the President, the member shall notify the MGC Vice President) by submitting a written statement including intent to substantiate grounds for the removal of the officer in question.

5.2.2 The notified officer (i.e. President or Vice President) shall contact the officer in question to inform them of the charges and the pending removal proceedings.

5.2.3 The process for removal will take place at the following General Body meeting. However, the President (or Vice President only if President is officer in question) reserves the right to call an emergency meeting for the removal proceedings.

5.2.4 During the removal process, a member of the Executive Board shall read the submitted written statement and the officer in question will have 15 minutes to speak in his or her defense.

5.2.5 The President/Vice President will be allowed to ask any questions regarding the information presented and all questions will be directed to the officer in question only.

5.2.6 Removal shall occur by a two thirds (2/3) majority vote, with each member organization having one vote. Only in this circumstance may all Executive Board members vote.

5.2.7 If the officer in question is removed, the position shall be filled according to the procedure for filling a vacancy outlined in article five section 4.2

5.2.8 Any and all procedures will be carried out by secret ballot and counted by the MGC President (Vice President) and overseen by the Office of Student Leadership Development MGC Advisor.

## **Article VI - Meetings**

- Section I: Each organization shall have one (1) member to attend all General Body meetings. This member can not be a member already serving on the executive board for the Multicultural Greek Council unless circumstances dictate it.
- 1.1 Each organization shall have representation at all Executive Board meetings. If an organization does not have a member elected to the Board, there should be a Member-at-Large designated to represent the organization in all Executive Board meetings. The member-at-large will be able to vote on behalf of the organization.
  - 1.2 Each general body member in attendance counts as one vote in any election unless otherwise stated.
  - 1.3 The executive board will determine the meeting time at the beginning of each semester. The MGC President can call an emergency meeting if deemed necessary.
  - 1.4 The MGC executive board reserves the right to cancel any upcoming meetings with at least five (5) hours advance notice to all attending members.
  - 1.5 All meetings will follow Robert's Rules of Order
- Section II Organizations that miss the General Body or Executive Board meetings Will be summoned with the following actions:
- 2.1 Missing of first meeting - warning
  - 2.2 Missing of second meeting - \$10 per member, paid to the treasurer by the next General Body meeting.
  - 2.3 Missing of third meeting- Reimbursement of chapter/colony allocations by Executive Board, paid to the treasurer by next General Body meeting, and lose voting privileges for the semester
- Section III The Secretary will take attendance at the beginning of each meeting. Any organization that is 15 minutes late will be marked as absent.
- Section IV Any organization needing to leave early needs to tell the President prior to the meeting.
- Section V Dress attire for all meetings shall be business casual. (No shorts, gym



clothes, jeans, T-shirts, flip-flops, etc.) If proper attire is not worn, members will not be allowed entrance to the meeting.

- 5.1 The attire for a meeting can only be changed by the President. In the event of a change, the President will notify attendees in advance.

### **Article VII - Finances**

- Section I: Membership dues will be \$10 per new member and \$7 per returning member annually, if the returning member count is below 4, the chapter/colony is required to pay \$25 instead of a per member assessment. Additionally, when joining the council, each new organization pays a one time \$30 joining fee.
- 1.1 Each organization will be responsible for collection of dues from their members and submitting all funds to the MGC Treasurer.
  - 1.2 Dues shall be paid to the Treasurer no later than the second General Body meeting of the semester.
  - 1.3 If a chapter/colony does not pay its dues by the third General Body meeting or make an arrangement with the treasurer, the chapter/colony will be fined an additional \$20.00 to be paid by the next meeting.
  - 1.4 An organization shall be considered inactive by the MGC at W&M, denied voting privileges, and shall cease activities on and off campus, with the exception of community service, until their dues and assessments are paid.
  - 1.5 Dues collected shall be used to fund council events and projects that will benefit all chapter/colony represented by the MGC not an individual chapter/colony.

### **Article VIII - Membership Intake and Presentation of New Members**

- Section I In order to be in accordance with the Multicultural Greek Council and its affiliate organizations is in place, The organizations must adhere to the following guidelines:
- 1.1 Any chapter/colony seeking to have intake activities must be financially active with the Multicultural Greek Council (i.e. have paid all dues for the semester/year).
  - 1.2 Prior to the beginning of any intake activities, a representative from the organization must contact the MGC Advisor. The advisor will issue a intake packet which outlines start and completion dates, member and

aspirant rights and responsibilities, grade release forms etc.

- Section II: The date for the presentation of new members shall be no more than five (5) business days after the completion of all intake activities. (i.e. after initiation) unless otherwise arranged with the MGC Advisor.
- 2.1: All members, new and current, shall refrain from using curse words or any other derogatory terms. Sexual references should not be included in any form of chanting or physical expression.
- 2.2: Any form of “dissing”, adverse comments, or disrespect directed towards any other organization, Greek or Non-Greek, will not be tolerated. Personal comments should not be made towards any individual student, faculty or staff member.
- 2.3: All members, new and current, should conduct themselves in a manner that will positively reflect the members of their organization as well as exemplify the principles, standards, and morals of their past and current members.
- 2.4: All members, new and current, are expected to adhere to W&M’s Standard of Conduct as students within the College, as well as the Multicultural Greek Council’s Code of Ethics.
- 2.5: All coming out shows must be completed by 10:00 P.M. If your organization needs to exceed this time frame, you must contact the MGC.
- 2.6: All organizations will be required to hold their membership presentations on campus.
- 2.7: Any violation of these policies will be handled by the MGC.

### **Article IX - Policy Compliance**

- Section I: The MGC will abide by all college policies including the Student Code of Conduct, the Campus Alcohol Policy, and requirements set by the Office of Student Leadership Development.
- Section II: The MGC agrees that it will not initiate, support, or encourage any events or situations that endanger the mental or physical health or safety of a student for any purpose including but not limited to initiation or admission into or affiliation with this group or organization.

### **Article X - Code of Ethics**

## **Article XI - Ratification**

Section I: This constitution will take effect immediately upon its passage by a 2/3 majority of the members of the Multicultural Greek Council.

## **Article XI - Amendments**

Section I: All proposed amendments to the MGC Constitution may be given in writing to the President.

1.1 The MGC Executive Board will provided notice of the proposed amendments at the General Body meeting in October. The constitution and bylaws may be amended by a two third (2/3) majority vote if applicable. Each chapter/colony shall count as one vote.

Section II: Once amended the MGC will file/email their updated constitution with the MGC Advisor immediately following the General Body meeting at which they were passed.