

# **Epsilon Eta**

## ***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 awareness of the intrinsic relationship between people and their environment through *academics*, the *community*, and *service*. Epsilon Eta seeks to create a networking environment that enables members to utilize the fraternity's resources to enhance their actions as stewards of the environment.

### 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 three classes: regular, associate, and alumni. 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 be enrolled as a full-time student at the respective university.
- b. Shall have and maintain a 3.0 minimum cumulative GPA and be in good academic standing with the university.

- c. Shall have completed at least 1 semester of a four-year curriculum or its equivalent.
- c. Only regular members may hold the constitutionally specified chapter offices, vote during chapter meetings, or represent the chapter.
- d. Applications will be reviewed each semester by an admissions consisting of Epsilon Eta regular members with recommendations taken into consideration by the faculty advisory board.
- e. Acceptance will be determined by academics, demonstration of dedication and leadership in the environmental community, provided references and consequential application strength, and observed potential in the Epsilon Eta community via rush events.
- f. Regular members are required to participate in one fraternity service project per semester, as well as log 10 hours of environmentally-related community service.
- g. Regular members are required to attend 80% of the chapter meetings. If a member misses more than 20% of the chapter meetings per semester, they are subject to review for probation by the officers.

*Section 3.* Associate members shall be those undergraduates whose interests include environmental issues in some way but who are ineligible for regular membership due to a decline in their GPA or inability to meet service hour requirements. Associate members may participate in all Epsilon Eta activities except those specifically reserved to regular members by this constitution.

*Section 4.* Alumni members may be associated with Epsilon Eta indefinitely and are required to give a non-collegiate email to be reached after graduating from the undergraduate program.

*Section 5.* Regular and alumni 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 as they cannot represent Epsilon Eta. Unless they qualify for regular membership, this affiliation shall terminate automatically when they cease to be undergraduate students.

*Section 6.* Membership of each brother shall be reviewed every semester by a committee made up of the fraternity's elected officers. Academic standing and service hour expectations must be met to maintain membership. Otherwise the member must withdraw or become an associate member until the criterion is met.

*Section 7.* 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, Public Relations Chair, Social Chair, and Service Chair. 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. The President is in charge of fraternity logistics and establishing relationships with other campus groups, advisors etc.

*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 other chairs. The Vice-President shall also focus on fraternity expansion to other universities and organize group-wide programs like Green Certifications, Speakers, etc. Upon significant expansion of the Epsilon Eta Fraternity nationwide, further expansion will default to the national executive board.

*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.

*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 alumni, and attendance at chapter meetings and events. The Secretary shall send out a weekly email after each meeting to describe what was discussed within the fraternity, complete with necessary polls, links, updates and events information.

*Section 7.* The Public Relations Chair shall keep the Epsilon Eta webpage updated including an active calendar for events and service. The Public Relations Chair shall also be in charge of documenting fraternity events and socials for historical purposes. The chair also will oversee event logistics and publicity as well as compile the Annual Report to Alpha Chapter alumni.

- a. The Annual Report shall consist of high-level achievements, total service hours produced in the academic year by the chapter, average

cumulative GPA of regular members, and portraits of the Alpha Chapter graduating class with their academic achievements and long-term plans for impact.

*Section 8.* The Social Chair's primary responsibility is to provide events designed to enhance the social bonds within the chapter. The Social Chair is responsible for coordinating events to interface with other campus groups, biannual member retreats, as well as alumni and advisor events.

*Section 9.* The Service Chair is responsible for maintaining relationships with all volunteer coordinators and curating frequent opportunities for members. The Service Chair shall notify the Public Relations Chair when service opportunities arise so that the fraternity calendar can always be up-to-date. The Service Chair shall log all members' hours during the semester and notify those members who are below 10 hours before the semester concludes.

*Section 10.* 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 and assist with new member selection after Rush concludes.

#### Article VI – *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.

*Section 5.* Elections shall proceed with votes being cast for positions in the following order President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Public Relations Chair, Social Chair, and Service Chair.

*Section 6.* In the case of a tie, a runoff shall be held between the tied candidates. Votes for a run-off shall be cast by regular members. If a

member loses one vote, they can run for any position that has not premiered in the meeting yet.

*Section 7.* In the case of resignation, voting for a replacement officer must commence immediately. Only regular members may run and vote.

#### Article VII – *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 VIII – *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 IX – *Chapter Meetings*

Chapter meetings shall be held once per week at a constant time decided upon by the President.

#### Article X – *Quorum*

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

#### Article XI – *Amendments*

Amendments to this constitution may be proposed by 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 Board for review. The Executive Board shall submit the amendment at the next chapter meeting. Amendments shall be ratified by  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of the regular members.

#### Article XII – *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 XIII – *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.