THE BYLAWS OF THE MULTICULTURAL GREEK COUNCIL at Rochester Institute of Technology

Established Fall 2015

*Last Revised Spring 2019*
TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREAMBLE

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ARTICLE I - Name, Goals, and Purposes, Definition, and Jurisdiction

ARTICLE II - Structure of the Multicultural Greek Council

ARTICLE III - Executive Board

ARTICLE IV - Election Procedures

ARTICLE V - Membership Provisions

ARTICLE VI - Communication with other Fraternity/Sorority governing councils

ARTICLE VII - Faculty Advisor
PREAMBLE

We, the Multicultural Greek Organizations, have joined together to form this council known as the Multicultural Greek Council at the Rochester Institute of Technology in order to better meet our individual and joint needs and voice our desires to the community. By establishing this council we, the members of this council, will educate and serve the campus and the multicultural community through cooperation, communication, and participation. Furthermore, we will strive to develop unity and provide support for Member Organizations. As part of the Multicultural Greek Council, we hereby agree to abide by the following Multicultural Greek Council Constitution and its bylaws.

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

1. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
2. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
3. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
4. Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
5. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
7. Chi Upsilon Sigma Sorority, Inc.
8. Lambda Phi Epsilon Fraternity, Inc.
9. Lambda Upsilon Lambda Fraternity, Inc.
10. Lambda Alpha Upsilon Fraternity, Inc.
11. Sigma Lambda Upsilon Sorority, Inc.
12. Lambda Pi Chi Sorority, Inc.
13. Omega Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
14. Sigma Psi Zeta Sorority, Inc.
Article 1: Name, Goals and Purposes, Definition, and Jurisdiction

Section 1: Name

This council shall be named the Multicultural Greek Council (hereafter referred to as the MGC), established January 26th, 2015.

Section 2: Goals and Purpose

A. To provide the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) community at large with information on member organizations.
B. Unify and organize groups that seek to promote diversity and cohesion on campus and in the community.
C. Serve as a liaison between the university authorities and member organizations in matters of common interest.
D. Act as a judicial body for violation of the Rochester Institute of Technology Student Conduct Code and MGC Bylaws.
E. To Govern, monitor, and coordinate member organizations so as to provide a means through which the organizations will employ a united and constructive approach to Greek Campus Life.
F. To encourage academic achievement among its member organizations.
G. To coordinate semester activities and programs involving the local as well as university community.
H. To provide a forum for discussion of general concerns, issues, and topics that affect member organizations.
I. Act in accordance with NALFO, NPHC, and NAPA Unanimous Agreements, policies and best practices.

Section 3: Definition

The definition of “multiculturalism” as it is used in this document refers to the council’s representative member organizations. Our mission statement is to be understood in the spirit that:

A. All racial and ethnic identities are inherently culturally rich and should be supported, maintained, valued, and respected. Difference is not a hindrance.
**Section 4: University Jurisdiction**

The MGC is under the jurisdiction and advisement of the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life (OFSL). It is held accountable to the RIT Students Rights and Responsibilities and therefore shall adhere to all rules and regulations thereof.

**Article II: Structure of the Multicultural Greek Council**

**Section 1: Representatives, Provisions, and Positions**

A. Chapter Presidents of recognized organizations are required to attend MGC General Body Meetings as their chapter’s representative unless an alternative delegate is named.

B. The MGC leadership will consist of elected positions from the membership: President, Vice President of Communications, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Public Relations, Vice President of Programming.

**Section 2: Meetings and Gatherings**

A. The Executive Board will meet on a bi-weekly basis.

B. The MGC will meet on a bi-weekly.

C. These meetings will be governed by Roberts Rule.

D. In order for an MGC meeting to conduct business, at least 50% of the member organizations must be in attendance, unless previously stated that they can not attend or will be late. This does not apply to emergency meetings.

E. If an organization cannot attend a meeting, notification must be sent 48 hours prior to the meeting to the Vice President of Communications.

F. Emergency meetings must be announced at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time.

G. In case of an emergency meeting, all MGC rules would apply except for penalties.

**Section 3: Voting**

A. Each organization will be granted one vote if:
   a. A chapter representative is present at MGC General Body Meeting when
voting is taking place.

b. A chapter has given notice through email that they will not be present to the President and the Vice President of Communications at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

B. A chapter forfeits the right to vote if they are not present at the MGC General Body Meeting or have not given notice of their absence at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

C. At least 2/3 of member organizations must be present in order to hold a vote.

D. The MGC is governed by the principle of majority rules.

E. Method of voting will be decided at the discretion of the executive board, except for elections for MGC positions
   a. The President will tabulate the votes and publicly present voting results with all members of the MGC.

F. In the event of a tie, the President will be the deciding vote. The Assistant Director of Club Sports and Specialized Organizations can be consulted on such matters.

G. Any organization that is absent and fails to submit an official “proxy” automatically forfeits their right to vote on ANY issue discussed on the date of their absence.

Section : 3 Penalties

A. Organizations and executive board members will be awarded varying amounts of points for differing infractions (Accumulating per academic year):
   a. Two unexcused absences from general body meetings (5 points per infraction)
   b. Unexcused absences from MGC Council held events (10 points)
   c. Missing action item deadlines, reported (2 points)
   d. Missing action item deadlines, unreported (5 points)

B. Penalties for point accumulations are as follows:
   a. 25 Points - Warning
   b. 35 Points Probation for the following semester - Not in good Standing
   c. 50 Points - No Greek Finance Committee and Probation for the following semester -- Not in good Standing

C. Penalties for point accumulations for executive board members are as followed:
   a. 15 Points Warning
b. 25 Points Probationary Period for 4 weeks
c. 30 Points Impeached

Article III: Executive Board

Section 1: Elected Positions (positions are ranked in the following hierarchical order):

A. President
B. Vice President of Communications
C. Vice President of Programming
D. Vice President of Finance
E. Vice President of Public Relations

Section 2: Duties

A. President
   a. Have the overall responsibility for the operation of MGC.
   b. Acts as the official MGC liaison to the university administration and outside organizations.
      i. Meets with the MGC Graduate Assistant and Assistant Director for Club Sports and Specialized Organizations.
   c. Prepares the agenda for all MGC meetings and submit these agendas to the VP of Communications
   d. Responsible for presiding over all MGC executive board and general body meetings.
   e. Shall be familiar with all governing documents of this council.
   f. Acts as the official mediator for the MGC.
   g. Mediate any disputes or confusions that may arise.
   h. Perform all other duties as assigned.
      i. If the president is unable to perform their duties, responsibilities shall be assumed by the next ranked position as stated in Article 3, Section 1.
   j. Gives a correspondence report from the GA and OFSL office to the council and executive board
   k. Creating a meeting with all chapter presidents at least once a semester
B. Vice President of Communications
   a. Sends out meeting agendas 48 hours prior to the meetings.
   b. Takes the official minutes at every meeting and distributes copies to official delegates 48 hours after the end of each meeting.
   c. Submits copies of all meeting minutes to the Assistant Director of Club Sports and Specialized Organizations.
   d. Helps to ensure effective communication between the E-board and the other members of the MGC.
   e. Takes attendance at all MGC meetings and events. Uses this attendance to track scoring for penalties.
   f. Responsible for giving out a report of penalties at Executive Board meetings and contact chapter presidents who are at risk of receiving penalties.
   g. Keeps an up to date file of the minutes of all meetings for a minimum of five years.
   h. Shall be familiar with all governing documents of this council.
   i. Responsible for coordinating and updating a contact list with names, phone numbers, and email of all MGC officers, OFSL staff, and chapter presidents.
   j. Attends all MGC executive board and general body meetings.
   k. Perform all other duties as assigned.

C. Vice President of Finance
   a. Oversees all financial transactions made by or on behalf of the MGC.
   b. Prepares the annual budget.
   c. Responsible for maintaining a financial ledger.
   d. Oversees that the executive board is financially certified through the Tiger Suite.
   e. Signs off on all Expense Approval Forms.
   f. Must set a personal meeting with council president and provide a financial report. This report must be signed and dated by the President and shared at the Executive Board Meeting and an end of the semester financial report.
   g. Submits a copy of the semester financial report to Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
h. Shall be familiar with all governing documents of this council.
i. Attends all MGC executive board and general body meetings.
j. Perform all other duties as assigned.

D. Vice President of Public Relations
   a. Handles matters pertaining to the advertisement and marketing of MGC brand and events.
      i. Including developing advertisements and flyers
   b. Responsible for managing the MGC website and all social media pages.
      i. Social media pages should be updated at least bi-weekly.
   c. Works on developing the MGC image through internal and external work.
   d. Work closely with the executive board to make sure news media is informed of all favorable publicity about the MGC and it’s member organizations.
   e. Manages an MGC calendar with events of MGC organizations, OFSL programs, document archives and events/special periods for the Collegiate Panhellenic Council and the Interfraternity Council for Panhellenic Association and the IFC.
   f. Shall be familiar with all governing documents of this council.
   g. Attends all MGC executive board and general body meetings.
h. Perform all other duties as assigned.

E. Vice President of Programming
   a. Seeks out community service opportunities for MGC and member organizations. Shall open these opportunities up to IFC and Panhellenic.
   b. Set up a monthly community service opportunity for the MGC Council, these opportunities will not be mandatory for chapters
   c. Is directly responsible for the planning and execution of any programming done on behalf of MGC.
      i. Responsible for reserving space through EMS for these events.
      ii. Responsible for requesting interpreters.
   d. Responsible for coordinating in conjunction with representatives from IFC and Panhellenic, Greek community-wide events each academic year.
   e. Responsible for creating a committee for programming events, and is responsible of leading the group, and reporting to the Executive Board on
progress.
f. Shall be familiar with all governing documents of this council.
g. Attends all MGC executive board and general body meetings.
h. Perform all other duties as assigned.

Section 3 : Terms of Office

A. Officers are elected at the end of each spring semester.
B. Officers shall serve the council for one calendar year; entering office the first day of May.
C. Officers may only serve for two consecutive terms in the same office of the executive board.

Section 4 : Selection of Officers

A. Nominations for new officers will be held during the first week of April.
B. Officers for the coming year are to be elected at the General Body meeting following nominations in April (voting takes place).
C. All candidates must be active members of a recognized member organization in good standing, as verified by OFSL.
D. Chapter must be in good standing.
E. Candidates must have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 as verified by OFSL
F. No more than two member from each fraternity or sorority can hold an executive board position.
G. Newly elected officers will be transitioned into their positions by the existing executive board members at a special transitional meeting.

Section 6 : Succession

A. In case of officer impeachment or resignation during the term of office, the position will be filled by a nomination of the individuals and self nomination at the following MGC General Body meeting.
B. In the span of time between aforementioned impeachment and election, the duties of the impeached officer will be disbursed amongst the executive board.

Section 7 : Impeachment Procedures
A. All elected officers may be subject to impeachment on the grounds of violating any principles or procedures consistent with the MGC constitution and its bylaws as stated in Article 2, Section 3
B. Any active member and/or organization may bring an officer up for impeachment charges with due cause. The alleged violations must be presented in writing to the President. If the impeachment charges are about the president, it must be brought up to the MGC Graduate Advisor
C. All chapter presidents and representatives will be notified, in writing, of the alleged charges.
D. All accusations as well as the date and time of the impeachment hearing will be communicated to the accused officer by the executive board.
E. The MGC will convene to formally hear the accusations and rebuttal. The MGC Graduate Advisor or The Assistant Director of Club Sports and Specialized Organizations may be asked to serve as the mediator if necessary.
F. The decision of the MGC is final and can include the following:
   a. Removal from office (2/3 vote required)
   b. Referral to Student Conduct if necessary

**Article IV : Election Procedures**

**Section 1 : Nominations**

A. Nominations will occur per Robert’s Rules of Order.
B. Each nomination must be seconded by another member of the council.
C. Accepted nominations must be emailed to president no later than seven (7) days after notice of nomination.
D. Each interested candidate must give a presentation to the MGC after accepting nomination and prior to election. Time for presentation should not exceed five minutes.

**Section 2 : Presentation**

A. Presiding officers should read the duties and responsibilities of each office to candidates before their presentation.
B. MGC members may ask candidates questions relevant to the council position of interest.
C. Candidates who are in study aboard or on Co-op may have the opportunity to submit a statement of intent

**Article V : Membership Provisions**

**Section 1 : Criteria for Active Membership**

A. All undergraduate, culturally based, chartered fraternities and sororities recognized by the Rochester Institute of Technology.

B. Definition of a national member organization: A Greek Letter organization that has a working national governing body that has been in existence for at least 5 years. Valid national membership organizations is preferred and include the following: National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations (NALFO) and National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC), National APIDA Panhellenic Association (NAPA).

C. Member organizations are responsible for three community service projects per semester (a total of six per academic year). At least one of these must serve the local Rochester community. Official documentation of each community service event, including the name of the organization, contact information and description of the event must be provided to OFSL.

D. Member Organizations are required to attend 80% of all MGC general body meetings and events.

E. Each member organization must maintain recognition as defined by the RIT and OFSL Guidelines.

F. Member organizations must adhere to the rules, regulations, and stipulations contained in the MGC Constitution and Bylaws.

**Section 2 : Probationary Status**

A. Violation of any section of this constitution by any member organization shall warrant placing that organization on probationary status for one semester according to the penalty system stated in Article 2 Section 3.

   a. If after that semester the member organization in question has not improved, the President of the MGC will speak with the Assistant Director of Club Sports and Specialized Organizations and initiate proceedings for dismissal of the group from the council.
b. All procedures will be submitted to the member organization in writing and the council will make the final decision on the matter only after seeking consultation from the Assistant Director of Club Sports and Specialized Organizations and the MGC Graduate Assistant.

B. A fraternity or sorority that is not a member of the MGC and is seeking recognition by the MGC shall maintain associate member status for two full, consecutive semesters.

C. VP of Communication must notify chapter presidents of the probationary status

Section 3 : Criteria for Probationary Status

A. Definition of a member organization:
   a. A Greek Letter organization that has a working national governing body that has been in existence for at least 5 years. Valid national membership organizations is preferred and include the following: National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations (NALFO), National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) and National APIDA Panhellenic Association (NAPA)
   b. Organizations must attend all meetings during probationary status.
   c. Organizations on probation have no voting rights.
   d. Must submit an end of semester status report and conduct a presentation before the MGC.
   e. Organizations will be considered for membership in consultation with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life once the above criteria have been met successfully.
   f. Each organization must maintain recognition as defined by RIT
   g. Organizations must adhere to the rules, regulations, and stipulations of the MGC constitution.
   h. Once the organization is accepted into the MGC; all rules, regulations, fines and duties as an active member apply.
   i. Should a member organization be placed under probation, a letter is sent to the chapter President, Assistant Director of Club Sports and Specialized Organizations and the Faculty Advisor of the organization informing them that they are on probation, detailing their restrictions and privileges.

Section 4 : Penalties for organizations that do not follow proper procedures for recognition at RIT
A. The Multicultural Greek Council reserves the right to deny membership to those organizations who fail to follow proper procedures for recognition under the MGC constitution.

Article VI: Communications with other Fraternity/Sorority governing councils

A. In an effort to maintain open communications and a positive relationship with other fraternities and sororities, the MGC will:
   a. Pro-actively seek to maintain an open channel of communication with other Fraternity and Sorority governing councils.
   b. Send one representative from each organization of the MGC to major events sponsored by other councils. The MGC will seek in its existence, other means of positive communication with other councils. (Not to be penalized under MGC penalties)

Article VII: Faculty Advisor

The advisor is the Assistant Director of Club Sports and Specialized Organizations or someone designated by the Assistant Director. This must be determined at the beginning of every academic year.

Concluding Statement

These bylaws, as written, shall govern the operations of the Multicultural Greek Council and must be updated and revised as needed.