



Omega Psi Sigma

Political Science & History Honor Society

Alpha Chapter Bylaws

BYLAWS OF OMEGA PSI SIGMA

CHAPTER I. Name of Chapter

The official name of this organization shall be Omega Psi Sigma, Alpha Chapter.

CHAPTER II. Purpose

The purpose of Omega Psi Sigma shall be to promote and recognize scholarly achievement, to facilitate the development of leadership skills, to encourage engagement in service activities, and to support the cultivation of fellowship among qualified students studying political science, history and other related fields at two-year colleges.

CHAPTER III. Official Colors and Logo

The OPS logo is divided into three regions occupied by images of Blind Justice (representing the law), the Washington Capitol building (representing politics), and a book (representing the study of law and politics). The three Greek letters Omega (meaning “great”), Psi (meaning “mind” or “soul”) and Sigma (meaning “wisdom”) are seen at the top of the logo in the open end of a laurel wreath (representing achievement and success) that surrounds the shield. The official colors of Omega Psi Sigma are gold and blue.

CHAPTER IV. Types of Membership

Section 1. Types of membership shall consist of Initial, Permanent, and Honorary.

A. An Initial Member must:

1. Have at least 12 units of college coursework complete
2. Have a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or better
3. Have one or more qualifying courses completed or in progress, with a 3.0 GPA or better in all qualifying courses
4. Have paid the College Service Charge and be in good standing with the Dean of Student Services
5. Submit an application and membership fee as designed by the Alpha Chapter

B. A Permanent Member must:

1. Have at least 12 units of college coursework complete
2. Have a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or better
3. Have completed at least two qualifying courses as designated by the Alpha Chapter, with a 3.0 GPA or better among all qualifying courses
4. Have paid the College Service Charge and be in good standing with the Dean of Student Services
5. Submit an application and membership fee as designed by the Alpha Chapter



C. Candidates for Honorary Membership must:

1. Have demonstrated outstanding service to the Chapter
2. Be nominated by an OPS member in good standing
3. Be selected for Honorary membership by a simple majority vote at an open Chapter meeting
4. Honorary membership shall require no payment of dues
5. Not be a current student

Section 2. Membership must be conferred solely on the basis of character and specified eligibility. Candidate eligibility is irrespective of membership in other organizations.

Section 3. Invitation for membership must be from the official chapter.

Section 4. Individual members shall have the power to adopt, amend, or repeal policies of the society, either in an individual or representative capacity.

Section 5. Transcript notation and honors regalia at the college commencement shall be reserved for permanent members only.

CHAPTER V. Revocation of Membership

Section 1. Failure to maintain membership requirements or uphold ethical standards shall result in the suspension of membership and all membership privileges.

Section 2. Suspension may last no longer than two semesters before complete Chapter membership revocation.

Section 3. A member seeking Chapter reinstatement shall be required to re-apply as a new applicant, and pay the associated dues of membership.

CHAPTER VI. Executive Board

Section 1. The Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Sigma shall have the follow Executive Officer positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Section 2. An Initial or Permanent may serve on the Executive Board.

Section 3. The duties of the President shall be as follows:

1. Preside over all business meetings
2. Appoint and establish any necessary committees
3. Vote only in case of a tie
4. Serve as an ex-officio member on all committees
5. Present business to the organization



6. Represent the organization at all times
7. Communicate regularly with the Chapter Advisor and other officers
8. Attend all Chapter meetings

Section 4. The duties of the Vice President shall be as follows:

1. Perform all duties of the President in the event of his/her absence
2. Coordinate all committees
3. Attend all Chapter meetings

Section 5. The Treasurer shall:

1. Maintain and reconcile a record of financial transactions for the Chapter
2. Prepare deposits of Chapter funds
3. Disperse funds as directed by the Chapter Advisor
4. Submit a report of finances annually and as requested by the Chapter
5. Attend all Chapter meetings

Section 6. The Secretary shall:

1. Take roll at each meeting
2. Record minutes at each meeting
3. Maintain records of all meetings
4. Maintain a file of Chapter correspondence
5. Attend all Chapter meetings

CHAPTER VII. Election of Executive Board

Section 1. Elections shall be held annually towards the end of the spring semester.

Section 2. The current Executive Board has the authority to determine when and where on campus the election will be held. OPS members must be notified of the election at least a week in advance.

Section 3. Officers shall hold office from the time of their election to the time of the next election. Officers commit themselves to holding office for approximately a year, including summer and winter intersession.

Section 4. Nominations for candidates may be made from the floor during the same meeting as the election.

Section 5. A simple majority vote of members in good standing present at the election meeting shall be sufficient to elect any officer.

Section 6. In the event that an Elected Officer resigns or is removed from office, an election shall be held to replace the officer. The current Executive Board has the authority to determine when and where on campus the election shall be held. OPS members must be notified of the election at least a week in advance. A simple majority of the votes cast by members in good



standing who are in attendance at the election will determine the new officer.

CHAPTER VIII. Appointed Board

Section 1. The President has the authority to create positions and appoint members to serve on the Appointed Board with majority approval of the Executive Board.

Section 2. Appointed positions must be distinctly different than the roles and responsibilities that are covered by the Officers of the Executive Board.

Section 3. Appointed Board positions require an area of focus. Examples of Appointed Board titles include: Director of Fundraising, Director of Event Planning, and Director of Recruitment.

Section 4. By accepting an Appointed Board position, members commit to fulfilling the duties of their positions for the entire term of appointed office. Failure to perform those duties may subject the appointed member to removal from office.

CHAPTER IX. Removal of Executive Officers and/or Appointed Board Members

Section 1. The removal of an Executive Officer or Appointed Board Member requires a declaration identifying the reasons for proposed removal. Reasons for removal include excessive absence, sub-standard performance, failure to maintain the membership requirements of OPS, or failure to uphold the ethical standards expected of honor students. Additionally, removal can also be due the creation of a hostile or unsafe working or meeting environment for other chapter members and/or the advisor.

Section 2. Should an Elected Officer and/or Appointed Board Member need to be removed from office, a simple majority vote shall suffice. The officer or board member whose position is in question shall not be allowed to vote for or against his/her own removal.

CHAPTER X. Chapter Advisor

Section 1. The Chapter Advisor shall be selected from among full or part-time faculty or full-time staff of the college and shall be a non-voting member of Alpha Chapter.

Section 1. The Chapter Advisor shall be responsible for:

1. Attending all official meetings with the officers and members of the society



2. Ensuring that a safe and productive meeting environment is maintained at all times
3. Overseeing the activities and events sponsored by the society
4. Providing advice about society matters as needed

CHAPTER XI. Meetings

Section 1. All business meetings will follow the general agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Approval of minutes from last meeting
4. Officers reports
5. Committee reports
6. Unfinished business
7. New business
8. Announcements
9. Adjournment

Section 2. Meetings may be governed by an adaptation of Robert's Rules of Order at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Section 3. Special committee meetings shall be called by the chair of the committee. Procedures at committee meetings are left to the discretion of the chair. Reports of each committee meeting shall be given to the Executive Board and attending members at the following Chapter meeting.

CHAPTER XII. Bylaw Amendments and Revision

Section 1. The Chapter bylaws may be revised or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting, provided that the proposed amendment has been presented at a previous meeting or if the proposed bylaws have been emailed out to members at least a week prior to the vote.

Omega Psi Sigma is committed to the elimination of discrimination based on gender, race, class, economic status, ethnic background, sexual orientation, age, physical ability, as well as cultural and religious background. OPS is nonpartisan and caters to students of all political views.

