CONSTITUTION

Chi Delta Chapter    Effective Date: February 2, 1998
Revised: September 26, 2003

Phi Alpha Honor Society

University of Missouri-Columbia

School of Social Work
7th Floor Clark Hall
Columbia, MO 65211

Eager to promote a closer bond among students of social work and to enter into a more intimate fellowship with those dedicated to the promotion of humanitarian goals and ideals by a professional group for which specialized preparation is deemed imperative, students and faculty involved in social work education at the University of Missouri-Columbia resolve to sponsor a Chapter of Phi Alpha National Honor Society, thereby to foster high standards of training for social work and to invite into pledges of fellowship those who have attained excellence of scholarship and distinction of achievement as students of social work.

ARTICLE I
The Supreme Law

This chapter of Phi Alpha shall be related to the organization known as Phi Alpha Honor Society and to its National Council. The Constitution, membership, and program shall be consistent with the Constitution and Statutes of the national organization.

ARTICLE II
Purpose

The purposes of this chapter of Phi Alpha shall be:

Section 1. To recognize and promote scholastic achievement among students and faculty involved in the undergraduate and graduate social work program at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Section 2. To recognize, improve, and further the goals of social work in the community, state, nation, and the world.

Section 3. To stimulate interest in preparation for a career in social work.
Section 4. To encourage continued study and research at the undergraduate level, the graduate level, and in professional practice.
Section 5. To recognize those professional social workers whose service, contributions, and leadership are held in esteem.

ARTICLE III
Government

Section 1. The Supreme Body shall be the National Council as defined in the National Constitution.

Section 2. The governing body of this Chapter shall be the duly elected officers and the Executive Committee as defined in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE IV
Membership

Section 1. Any undergraduate and graduate social work students at the University of Missouri-Columbia who meets the qualifications set forth in the By-Laws shall be eligible for active membership.

Section 2. Faculty members having an official connection with the social work curriculum may be eligible for membership upon invitation of the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Membership may be granted to individuals involved in social work education or social work practice.

ARTICLE V
Insignia

Section 1. The official badge of the Society shall be the Phi Alpha Key which was approved by the National Honor Society Committee. The Key may be purchased only by members of the Society.

Section 2. Colors of the Society shall be blue and gold as established by the National Honor Society Committee.

Section 3. Certificates of membership shall be issued to all members upon receipt from the Executive Council of the National Society.

ARTICLE VI
Meetings

At minimum, the Chapter will gather for Initiation each semester. Other gatherings of the chapter may be called by the Executive Committee which may include, but not be limited to: group service projects, elections, business meetings, and others as deemed necessary and appropriate.
ARTICLE VII
Constitutional Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the Executive Committee and upon ratification by a two-thirds vote of the active Chapter membership.

Section 2. Amendments may be proposed to the Executive Committee by any active member of the Chapter.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT

Membership shall be available to all eligible persons without regard to religion, sex, status as disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era, age, gender, color, race, creed, ethnic or national origin, political or sexual orientation, or disability.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The Chi Delta Chapter of Phi Alpha Honor Society will comply with all federal, state, and local laws, as well as all University policies.
BY-LAWS

CHAPTER I
Officers of the Executive Committee

Section 1. The officers of the organization shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer to be elected by a majority vote of the active Chapter membership.

Section 2. The President shall preside at all gatherings of the chapter; appoint such committees as may be provided for by the Chapter Constitution or By-Laws or by vote of the Chapter; call special meetings of the Chapter; be responsible for all Chapter reports; and promote the welfare of Society and the Chapter.

Section 3. The Vice-President shall perform all duties of the President in latter's absence or disability; perform the duties of ritual chair at initiation ceremonies; and any other duties assigned by the President.

Section 4. The duties of Treasurer shall be as follows:
   a. To forward to the Treasurer of the Executive Council the following:
      1). The national initiation fee for each student and faculty initiate prior to his/her acceptance into membership.
      2). A report certified by the faculty advisor covering the chapter year not later than June 30. The report is to include a financial statement, and a list detailing the dates of the meetings held during the year.
   b. Fulfill such additional duties as may be required by the Executive Committee or by the Chapter Constitution, the By-Laws, Resolutions, or vote of the Chapter membership.

Section 5. The duties of the Secretary shall be as follows:
   a. To record the minutes of Chapter events, gatherings, and Executive Committee meetings; and perform any needed correspondence duties.
   b. Fulfill such additional duties as may be required by the Executive Committee or by the Chapter Constitution, the By-Laws, Resolutions, or vote of the Chapter membership.

Section 6. A full-time faculty member in the undergraduate or graduate social work program shall serve as the faculty advisor.

Section 7. Any officer may be expelled from office for reasons of academic or personal conduct unbecoming of a student of social work by the following process:
   a. A three-fourths vote of the Chapter
   b. After a thorough investigation by the remaining members of the Executive Committee
c. The officer so charged has been granted an impartial hearing before the remaining members of the Executive Committee.

Dismissal from the Social Work program or College/University is cause for automatic recommendation for expulsion.

CHAPTER II
Organization and Procedures

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chair of the standing committees, and the faculty advisor.

Section 2. The Chapter shall meet in official sessions at least once each term for the academic year.

Section 3. Standing Committees may be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Special Committees may be appointed by the President.

Section 5. The Chapter year shall begin on July 1 and end June 30.

Section 6. The Chapter shall maintain adequate and accurate records of its membership, activities, and finances. Such records shall be kept in such a way as to serve as a permanent and historical record.

Section 7. Qualified persons may be inducted into membership anytime of the year.

Section 8. Election of officers will be held between April 1 and April 30 of each year.

*In the event of an opening on the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint an active member to the position for the interim.

CHAPTER III
Membership

Section 1. An undergraduate is eligible for active membership after achieving the following National minimum requirements and meeting local Chapter requirements:
   a. Declared social work as a major
   b. Achieved junior status
   c. Completed 9 semester hours or 12 quarter hours of required social work courses
   d. Achieved an overall grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
   e. Achieved a 3.5 grade point average in required social work courses
Section 2. A graduate student is eligible for active membership after achieving:
   a. A minimum of one term of course work
   b. Must be a full time student*
   c. A grade point average of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale
*On December 16, 2002, the Chapter voted in favor of a By-Laws Amendment allowing part-time students to be invited to membership after completion of the 1st year of coursework.

Section 3. Responsibilities of members for active status include:
   a. Attend 75% of all chapter events and gatherings as called by the Executive Committee
      1. Graduate students in block placement are exempt
   b. Completion of 15 hours a semester of community service
      1. New initiates are required to complete 8 hours of community service during their first semester only

Section 4. A faculty member may be granted membership by invitation of the Executive Committee and approval of Chapter membership. Only one faculty member per year may be granted membership.

Section 5. The Executive Committee, with the approval of the membership, may grant Honorary Membership to a maximum of one individual per year who has made outstanding contributions to the field of social work. Honorary members shall not be assessed membership dues.

Section 6. The method of granting membership shall be in accordance with procedures established by the local Chapter.

Section 7. Any member may be expelled from membership for reasons of academic or personal conduct unbecoming of a student of social work by the following process:
   d. A three-fourths vote of the Chapter
   e. After a thorough investigation by the Executive Committee
   f. The member so charged has been granted an impartial hearing before the Executive Committee

Dismissal from the Social Work program or College/University is cause for automatic recommendation for expulsion.

CHAPTER IV

Dues

Section 1. The initiation fee shall be of sufficient amount to include the following:
   a. The initiation fee required by the National Society ($8.00)
   b. The initiation fee required by the local chapter ($32.00), which covers medals, special events, and other assessments voted by the chapter with a two-thirds vote of active membership.
Section 2. Special fees, assessments, fines, and penalties may be levied by the Executive Committee and a two-thirds vote of the active membership.

CHAPTER V
Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the Executive Committee and upon ratification by a two-thirds vote of the active membership.