

# Southern University and A & M College

## National Pan Hellenic Council (NPHC) Constitution



## *“Divine 9”*



## Foreword

We, the students of Southern University and representatives of each of the Greek-letter organizations, do bind ourselves into a National Pan Hellenic Council. The organizations of the National Pan Hellenic Council, Inc. (NPHC) are committed to nurturing the ideals of sisterhood and fraternalism in an atmosphere in an atmosphere of responsibility and respect. We are also committed to upholding the dignity and self respect of all persons seeking membership therein.

Therefore, we, as students and member of the National Pan Hellenic Council, seek to stimulate thinking and higher cultural and scholastic standing among ourselves and those desiring to be a part of us. What we think and feel, our ambitions and achievements, our pleasures and problems have been combined into one program for the improvement of our individual groups, our alma mater, and our race and for all humanity.

## NPHC History

The National Pan-Hellenic Council, Incorporated (NPHC) is currently composed of nine (9) International Greek letter Sororities and Fraternities: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. NPHC promotes interaction through forums, meetings and other mediums for the exchange of information and engages in cooperative programming and initiatives through various activities and functions.

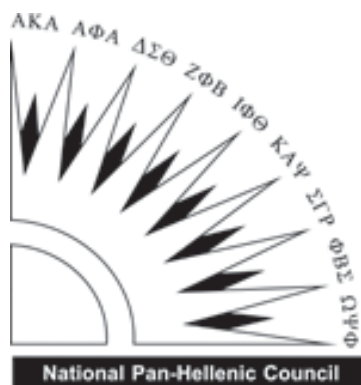
On May 10, 1930, on the campus of Howard University, in Washington DC, the National Pan-Hellenic Council was formed as a permanent organization with the following charter members: Omega Psi Phi and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternities, and Alpha Kappa Alpha, Delta Sigma Theta and Zeta Phi Beta Sororities. In 1931, Alpha Phi Alpha and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternities joined the Council. Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority joined in 1937 and Iota Phi Theta Fraternity completed the list of member organizations in 1997.

The stated purpose and mission of the organization in 1930 was "Unanimity of thought and action as far as possible in the conduct of Greek letter collegiate fraternities and sororities, and to consider problems of mutual interest to its member organizations." Early in 1937, the organization was incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois and became known as "The National Pan-Hellenic Council, Incorporated."

## NPHC Colors & Logo

Black and White are the official colors of the NPHC

The official NPHC symbols is:



# **Constitution of the Southern University National Pan Hellenic Council**

## **PREAMBLE**

We, the representatives of the various Greek-letter organizations, being fully cognizant of the responsibility that is ours by virtue of our Greek-letter relations at Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, do hereby bind ourselves together to coordinate efforts in upholding the standards of our respective organizations and of Southern University. In pursuance of these standards and ideals, we pledge ourselves to adhere to the highest principles of scholarship, honesty and conduct. We realize that the whole is greater than any of its parts; therefore we seek to work for the benefit of the whole group.

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the NPHC shall be to foster cooperative actions of its member in dealing with matters of mutual concern. To this end, the NPHC promotes the well-being of its affiliate fraternities and sororities, facilitates the establishment and development of local councils of the NPHC and provides leadership training for its constituents.

## **BASIC ASSUMPTIONS**

In light of the above philosophy, the Council seeks to formulate its program upon the following basic assumptions:

1. All Greek-letter organizations shall cooperate as long as the program of the Council is not contrary to the national programs of the organization.
2. That this organization shall form an integral part of the Southern University and that as an organization shall at all times serve to promote the welfare of Southern University.
3. The Pan Hellenic Council shall have the support of the administration of Southern University.
4. The Greek –letter organizations as well as the faculty have sensed the need for a Pan Hellenic Council to actively engage in the formulation and promotion of a sound program
5. The organization shall be governed by the principles of democracy, not democracy in terms of majority, but the care of the minority so that the minority will not have to fight unsuccessfully for what is actually right. Democracy based not on consensus only, but on consensus with intelligent discussion.
6. That rule, regulations, penalties, etc., shall be applied equally in cases involving all organizations. At no time should any organization expect exceptions to be made.
7. The Constitution shall be the supreme rule.

## **ARTICLE I THE COUNCIL**

### **Section1: NAME**

The name of this organization shall be The Southern University National Pan Hellenic Council

### **Section 2: PURPOSES**

1. To bring about more unity and cooperation among the various Greek-letter organizations at Southern University.
2. To coordinate programs, regulate practices and procedures with reference to social and civic activities.
3. To encourage the achievement and maintenance of high standards of scholarship.

4. To formulate a program whereby the Pan Hellenic Council may serve as a nucleus for constructive activities from which the University and Baton Rouge community benefit.

## **ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP**

The Membership of the Pan Hellenic Council shall be composed of the representatives from the various non-professional, non-honorary, undergraduate Greek-letter organizations (affiliated with the National Pan Hellenic Council).

### **Section 1: ORGANIZATIONAL UNITS**

It is compulsory that Greek-letter organizations with active undergraduate chapters on the campus be members of the Pan Hellenic Council. The following fraternities and sororities shall be the members:

Beta Psi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.  
Beta Sigma Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.  
Alpha Tau Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
Alpha Sigma Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Sorority, Inc.  
Beta Alpha Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.  
Beta Sigma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.  
Beta Alpha Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.  
Rho Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.  
Alpha Eta Chapter of Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.

### **Section 1a**

An alphabetical list of the name and student number of all members of each fraternity and sorority must be filed with the secretary of the Pan Hellenic Council by the end of the fourth week of each semester.

### **Section 1b**

The names of initiates must be submitted to the Pan Hellenic Council within one (1) week of initiation.

### **Section 1c**

In order for a fraternity or sorority to be recognized as an active member by the Pan Hellenic Council, the CHAPTER must maintain a minimum cumulative grad point average of 2.5 each semester and have a Southern University Faculty/Staff advisor. The minimum GPA for prospective initiates for any chapter (organization) of the Southern University Pan Hellenic Council is 2.5/4.0 scale (cumulative). After a student is initiated into a chapter (organization), he/she must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5/4.0 scale to remain active with the chapter (organization). If the chapter (organization) does not maintain a 2.5/4.0 scale, then the chapter is placed on "academic probation" by the chapter advisor and is rendered inactive by the Southern University Pan Hellenic Council. Verification of individual and chapter academic averages is conducted by the chapter advisor thru the University Registrar's Office.

## **Section 2: COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

Each organized chapter of the Greek-letter fraternities and sororities in good standing with its national organization shall be represented by two members selected by the chapter.

## **Section 3: FACULTY/STAFF ADVISOR**

There shall be at least one faculty/staff member on the council to serve as faculty advisor. This person shall be elected in accordance with University policies concerning the selection of student organization advisors. This person will represent the respective organization on the Pan Hellenic Advisory Council.

## **ARTICLE III OFFICERS**

### **Section 1: ELECTIONS**

The following officers shall be elected at the first regular meeting of the current council for the year: Vice President, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, business manager, treasurer, parliamentarian, and chaplain.

The Vice President is to be selected by the organization which holds the presidency the following year.

## **Section 2: DUTIES**

The duties of the Council officers shall be as follows:

### **Section 2a**

The President shall be the chief executive officer and shall:

1. Preside at all meetings.
2. See to the enforcement of the objectives, provisions, and purposes of the constitution.
3. Appoint committees.

### **Section 2b**

The Vice President shall:

1. Preside in the absence of the President.
2. Prepare for the presidency by becoming involved in the Council's program.
3. Carryout such other duties as may be assigned by the President.

### **Section 2c**

The Recording Secretary shall:

1. Record for permanent record, an account of the proceedings of all meetings which shall be at all times available to and the property of the council.
2. File the records with the Pan Hellenic Council advisor at the end of the school year.
3. Record all money paid and received by the Council.

### **Section 2d**

The Corresponding Secretary shall:

1. Act in the absence of the Recording Secretary.
2. Inform the Council of all correspondence addressed to the council.

### **Section 2e**

The Treasurer shall:

1. Keep an account of all receipts and disbursements and be prepared to present a report of all financial transactions.

### **Section 2f**

The Parliamentarian shall:

1. Maintain order.
2. Enforce Robert's Rules of Order.
3. Serve as the official mediator for the meeting.

### **Section 2g**

The Business Manager shall:

1. Secure facilities and other necessities needed for activities and meetings.
2. Be responsible for publicity.

### **Section 2h**

The Chaplain shall:

1. Serve as official devotion leader whenever the Council has a function.
2. Chair committees for annual worship service.

## **Section 3: TERM OF OFFICE**

The term of office shall be one (1) academic school year.

### **Section 3a**

The Offices of President and Vice President shall rotate yearly in such a manner that each active organization shall have been represented in office before there can be a repetition. Henceforth, the sequence is as follows:

Beta Psi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.  
Beta Sigma Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.  
Alpha Tau Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
Alpha Sigma Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Sorority, Inc.  
Beta Alpha Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.  
Beta Sigma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.  
Beta Alpha Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.  
Rho Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.  
Alpha Eta Chapter of Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.

### **Section 3b**

The Vice President shall become President the following year.

## **ARTICLE IV VACANCIES AND REMOVALS**

### **Section 1: PRESIDENTIAL VACANCY**

If for some reason, the President of the Council becomes inactive with the Council, his/her respective organization shall be responsible for replacing him/her.

### **Section 1a**

The Vice President shall be the acting presiding President until the President is replaced.

### **Section 1b**

If the President of the Council is a member of a Greek organization that becomes inactive, the Vice President shall become President for that year; finishing the remainder of that year and then hold the office for their assigned year and then the sequence continues.

### **Section 2: OTHER OFFICERS**

These positions shall be filled by a majority vote at the next meeting after the office becomes vacant.

## **ARTICLE V FINANCES**

### **Section 1: TREASURY**

The Council shall maintain account in the University's Comptroller's Office.

### **Section 2: BUDGET**

The Council shall set up a budget each year and require each member organization to contribute its share budget to the budget, in the form of dues.

### **Section 3: FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Treasure shall be able to give a complete financial report at any time the council requests it.

### **Section 4: SIGNATURES ON DEPARTMENTAL INVOICES OR PURCHASE REQUISITIONS**

Departmental Invoices or Purchase Requisitions written for the council shall be required to have two signatures: the Advisor and the Treasure or President

### **Section 5: RECEIPTS**

The Chairperson of all committees shall have available receipts from all money spent and shall give this report when requested to do so.

#### **Section 6: CONTRACTS**

All contracts proposed to the Council with vendors, agencies, or individuals, must be approved by the Advisor and by the Director of Student Programs. If deemed necessary, the opinion of the Vice Chancellor for Administration may be secured for counseling on legality, prices and services to be rendered.

### **ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

The constitution may be amended by a two-third (2/3) affirmative vote of the members, present and voting, providing the proposed amendment is submitted fifteen (15) days before the meeting at which it is to be voted upon.