

PI KAPPA DELTA

The Art of Persuasion, Beautiful and Just

Pi Kappa Delta Constitution

Article I – Name

100 - The name of this forensic honorary shall be "Pi Kappa Delta," the initial letters of the Greek phrase Peitho Kale Dikaia, signifying "the art of persuasion, beautiful and just." The name shall be written thus: ΠΚΔon all insignia.

Article II – Purpose and Organization

200 - Pi Kappa Delta is an honorary consisting of educators, students and alumni committed to encouraging the education of articulate citizens through a three part focus: the commitment to and promotion of ethical, humane and inclusive communication and educational practices; the commitment to and promotion of professional development of forensics educators; and the commitment to and promotion of comprehensive forensics programming.

201 - Pi Kappa Delta is committed to assuring equal opportunity to all persons, regardless of race, color, religious creed, national origin, physical ability status, age, economic status, gender, sex or sexual orientation. Pi Kappa Delta is opposed to all forms of discrimination and seeks to establish a tolerant atmosphere in which every individual is accorded respect. Mindful of the importance of First Amendment freedoms, Pi Kappa Delta reminds its members of their ethical obligations to audience members and encourages members to refrain from disrespectful or derogatory speech. As an organization dedicated to fostering the development of functional leadership skills, Pi Kappa Delta encourages the participation of individuals from traditionally under-represented groups. Pi Kappa Delta is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

202 – Pi Kappa Delta shall consist of four divisions: the chapter, the province, the caucus, and the national organization, whose nature and activities are set out in Articles III through VI.

203 – Pi Kappa Delta members shall be divided into six orders: the order of active undergraduates, the order of active alumni, the order of instruction, the order of affiliation, the order of attainment, and the order of honorary membership whose qualifications and activities are set out in Article VII.

204 – The order of active undergraduates shall include ten degrees of membership the standards for which are set out in Article VIII.

Article III – The Chapter

300 – There shall be three types of chapters, the undergraduate chapter, the alumni chapter and the national general chapter whose nature and activities are set out in the following subsections.

301 – An Undergraduate Chapter shall be composed of five or more members meeting the qualifications specified in Article VII.

301.1 – The undergraduate chapter shall exist for three purposes: to support forensics in all its forms and contexts; to nurture citizenship through competition, service and scholarship, and to promote the art of persuasion, beautiful and just.

301.2 – The undergraduate chapter shall have full charge of all its activities within the limits of this constitution and the rules and regulations of the National Organization.

301.21 – The undergraduate chapter is not synonymous with an existing college or university forensics program. The undergraduate chapter shall establish and maintain a regular set of activities beyond participating in competitive forensics tournaments which may include but not be limited to civic events aimed at engaging great public understanding and appreciation for forensics such as public debates and speech events; and service activities aimed at the strengthening the forensics community, the college or university community, and the community at large.

301.3 – An undergraduate chapter may be established at any accredited college or university provided the chapter meets the conditions specified in Section 310.

301.31 - Only one Undergraduate Pi Kappa Delta Chapter shall be chartered and recognized on each eligible accredited college or university campus. Colleges or Universities with multiple campus locations may, however, petition the National Council for an official exception to this policy.

301.32 - In the event that an Undergraduate or Alumni Chapter is no longer in good standing, or is in inactive status, any group of five Pi Kappa Delta members in good standing may petition the National Council to have the respective Charter transferred to a new Chapter Sponsor. Upon such a transfer, the new Chapter Sponsor shall assume all rights and responsibilities associated with the Chapter.

301.4 – An Undergraduate Chapter is considered to be in good standing if it pays its annual dues and enrolls new members each year. If a Chapter does not meet these criteria for three consecutive years it will be listed as an inactive Chapter. Inactive Chapters may not participate in Pi Kappa Delta sponsored events. To regain good standing the Chapter must pay the current year's dues, initiate new members, and pay a reactivation fee

301.5 - The membership of June 30th shall be considered as the membership for the current year. Each Chapter shall report on its membership, ~~civic~~ events and service activities as requested by the National Organization.

301.6 - Each Undergraduate Chapter shall elect a President at least once each year and may elect other officers as the Chapter desires, such as: Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Reporter or Corresponding Secretary or Historian.

301.7 - Each Undergraduate Chapter shall have a faculty/staff sponsor who shall be recognized as the sponsor by the college or university where the Undergraduate Chapter is chartered. Refusal to appoint a faculty/staff sponsor shall be grounds for possible action resulting in the Chapter being placed on inactive status.

301.8 - The President or faculty/staff sponsor of the Undergraduate Chapter shall be the responsible head of the undergraduate organization as far as its relation with the National Organization is concerned and he or she shall be responsible for the fulfillment of the requirements of the constitution and the regulations of the National Organization.

301.9 - Each Undergraduate Chapter shall provide itself with a constitution, shall meet regularly, shall initiate new members at least annually using the obligation and ceremony provided by the National Organization, shall report new members and changes in standing of members to the Chief Operating Officer and shall collect annually membership fees and other assessments of the National Organization promptly and forward them to the Chief Operating Officer. All treasurers who are sending money for fees or keys must designate the person or persons for whom the money is being sent.

301.10 – Each Undergraduate Chapter shall have one vote at the National Convention.

302 – An Alumni Chapter shall be composed of five or more members who have previously been undergraduate members of Pi Kappa Delta.

302.1 – The Alumni chapter shall exist for four purposes: to support forensics in all its forms and contexts; to nurture citizenship through competition, service and scholarship, to promote the art of persuasion, beautiful and just and to support the activities of the undergraduate chapter.

302.2 – The Alumni chapter shall have full charge of all its activities within the limits of this constitution and the rules and regulations of the National Organization.

302.3 - Each Alumni chapter shall provide itself with a constitution, shall meet at least once a year, shall report changes in membership to the Chief Operating Officer, and shall send an annual report to the Chief Operating Officer.

302.4 - An Alumni chapter shall not be required to have a faculty sponsor.

302.5 - Alumni chapters shall be exempt from fines, fees, and assessments of Province and National Organizations, except for the original charter fees. However, an Alumni chapter shall

be empowered to levy a membership fee on itself. Nothing in this paragraph shall preclude voluntary financial support of the organization.

302.6 - An Alumni chapter shall have one vote at Province and National Conventions, if a member in good standing is present.

303 – The National General chapter shall be composed of members who have met the qualifications and joined the organization and who are not associated with an existing Undergraduate chapter.

303.1 – The National General chapter shall exist for three purposes: to practice and support forensics in all its forms and contexts; to nurture citizenship through competition, service and scholarship, and to promote the art of persuasion, beautiful and just.

303.2 – The National General chapter shall have voting privileges at National Conventions. The National General chapter shall have one vote for every twenty-five members in good standing, if a member in good standing is present.

303.21 – Members of the National General chapter attending the national convention shall meet prior to the first business meeting and select their voting representative(s) by a majority vote of those members present.

303.3 – Members of the National General chapter shall be exempt from fines, fees and assessments of Province and the National Organization, except for the original membership fee. Nothing in this paragraph shall preclude voluntary financial support of the organization.

310 – Charter and Standards Process

310.1 – Requirements for Receiving a Charter

310.11 – Undergraduate chapters may be established at colleges or universities with existing membership in other forensics organizations provided such establishment is in concordance with the applicant's college or university rules.

310.12 – Alumni chapters may be established outside of a recognized and accredited college or university.

310.13 – Charters will only be granted to institutions meeting the standards of Section 201 on access and non-discrimination.

310.2 – Undergraduate and Alumni chapters must be chartered using the process specified in this section.

310.21 – The application for a charter must be made in writing on the official form. The application shall include the names of all qualified student members and the name of the chapter sponsor and the sponsor's official college or university title.

310.22 – The National Council shall be responsible for approving charter applications in a timely manner and the presumption shall be that a charter shall be approved provided the applicant meets the requirements set out elsewhere in this section unless there is good and sufficient reason not to do so.

310.23 – Upon approval of the charter application, the applicant shall remit the charter fee; current chapter dues; and membership fees for new members when those persons join.

310.24 – Upon approval of the charter, the National Council shall assign the chapter to a province. Any chapter may petition the National Council for transfer to another Province, but no such transfer shall be without approval of the Governors of both Provinces affected.

310.3 – Conditions for revocation of charter. The Charter and Standards committee may recommend to the National Convention that a charter be revoked under such circumstances when a chapter engages in such activities violating the provisions of this constitution. When the National Convention is not in session the National Council will consider the revocation recommendation and may revoke the chapter with a two-thirds affirmative vote of the National Council members.

Article IV – The Province

400 – The Province shall consist of undergraduate and alumni chapters assigned to the Province by the National Organization. The chapters may or may not be in geographical proximity and an undergraduate or alumni chapter may petition to transfer to another Province as set out in Section 310.24

401 – The purpose of the Province shall be to promote the general aims of the organization and to promote the well-being of its chapter members.

402 – Organization and responsibilities of the Province.

402.1 - Each Province shall have a constitution whose provisions shall be consistent with the National Constitution.

402.2 – The Province shall elect a Governor. The Province is encouraged to elect whichever additional officers it chooses, such as a Lieutenant Governor, a Student Lieutenant Governor, a Secretary-Treasurer and a Historian. If necessary, the National President shall fill by appointment any vacant Province Governor position with the appointee to serve until the Province meeting or until a poll of the Chapters has been conducted by the Chief Operating Officer. The Province Governor shall be a faculty or staff member or an Active Alumni.

402.3 - Undergraduate students who are Province officers may serve either one or two-year terms as provided for in Province constitutions.

402.4 - Province Governors and other Province officers shall be regularly elected by the Chapters of the Province for a two-year term.

402.5 - Vacancies in Province offices other than the governor shall be filled by appointment by the Province Governor.

402.6 - The Province Governor shall have general jurisdiction over the affairs of the Province, and shall be responsible to the National Council for the progress and welfare of the Province and of the Undergraduate Chapters composing it. The Province Governor shall become, automatically, a member of the Charter and Standards Committee for the consideration of any petition coming from the Province.

Article V – The Caucuses

500 – There shall be three national caucuses: the undergraduate caucus; the alumni caucus; and order of instruction caucus.

501 – The purpose of the caucuses shall be to consider and to make proposals to strengthen the organization and promote forensics generally. While any member may propose specific legislation for consideration by the National Organization, the role of the caucus shall be to broadly consider the needs of its constituency and identify ways the organization can more fully meet those needs.

502 – The national undergraduate caucus shall consist of every undergraduate member in good standing as specified in Article VII. The national undergraduate caucus shall include members from undergraduate chapters and the national general chapter.

502.1 – The national undergraduate caucus shall have the ability to conduct business between meetings of the National Convention.

502.2 – The national undergraduate caucus shall be convened by one of the student national council members or another person selected by the National President. The caucus may select other officers as desired.

502.3 – When meeting at the National Convention, business will be conducted and decisions ratified by a majority vote of those present.

502.4 – When conducting business at times other than at the National Convention, the convenor will receive proposed items; facilitate discussion through available communication channels; and poll the members.

502.41 – A vote on a proposal must include at least ten per cent of the current individual members in good standing from to be deemed that there was a quorum present.

502.5 – Items adopted by the Caucus will be forwarded to the National Council for consideration and then submitted to the National Convention for consideration at the National Convention or through the referendum process outlined elsewhere in this constitution.

503 – The national alumni caucus shall consist of every alumni member who was previously an undergraduate member in good standing.

503.1 – An alumnus need not be a member of an existing alumni chapter to participate in this caucus.

503.2 – The national alumni caucus shall have the ability to conduct business between meetings of the National Convention.

503.3 – The national alumni caucus shall be convened by one of the national council members or another person selected by the National President. The caucus may select other officers as desired.

503.4 – When meeting at the National Convention, business will be conducted and decisions ratified by a majority vote of those present.

503.5 – When conducting business at times other than at the National Convention, the convenor will receive proposed items; facilitate discussion through available communication channels; and poll the members.

503.41 – A vote on a proposal must include at least twenty-five members to be deemed that there was a quorum present.

503.5 – Items adopted by the Caucus will be forwarded to the National Council for consideration and then submitted to the National Convention for consideration at the National Convention or through the referendum process outlined elsewhere in this constitution.

504 – The national Order of Instruction caucus shall include all members of that order who have met the membership requirements in Article VII.

504.1 – The national Order of Instruction caucus shall have the ability to conduct business between meetings of the National Convention.

504.2 – The national Order of Instruction caucus shall be convened by one of the national council members or another person selected by the National President. The caucus may select other officers as desired.

504.3 – When meeting at the National Convention, business will be conducted and decisions ratified by a majority vote of those present.

504.4 – When conducting business at times other than at the National Convention, the convenor will receive proposed items; facilitate discussion through available communication channels; and poll the members.

504.41 – A vote on a proposal must include at least twenty-five members to be deemed that there was a quorum present.

504.5 – Items adopted by the Caucus will be forwarded to the National Council for consideration and then submitted to the National Convention for consideration at the National Convention or through the referendum process outlined elsewhere in this constitution.

Article VI – The National Organization

600 - The National Organization shall be a federation of the local chapters of Pi Kappa Delta. It shall hold supreme executive, legislative, and judicial power, and shall be the source of all authority in this forensic honorary, except as otherwise specifically provided in this constitution. It shall not be a secret organization. The National Organization shall be composed of the National Convention, the National Council, the National Student Caucus, the National Alumni Caucus, the Standing Committees, and the National General Chapter

601 – The National Convention

601.1 - In the National Convention shall be vested the supreme powers given to the National Organization. The actions, rules and regulations of the National Convention shall be binding upon the National Council, all Local Chapters, Province Organizations, or other subordinate organizations within Pi Kappa Delta. It shall elect the National Officers and may delegate to them such of its powers as it shall deem necessary or expedient. It shall have power to lay assessments upon the Undergraduate Chapters apportioned equally upon individuals or Chapter members of the organization. It shall have power to expel any individual member upon just cause, or upon flagrant violation of the provision of this constitution or of the obligation given at the time of admission into Pi Kappa Delta. It shall have the power of chartering Local Chapters upon petition. It shall have the power to vote expenditures from the national treasury.

601.2 - The National Convention shall assemble at the call of the National President at a time and place chosen by the National Council, the Council being guided in its choice by vote of the preceding National Convention and after consideration of any site-specific diversity-related concerns.

601.3 - Each Undergraduate Chapter and each Alumni Chapter shall be entitled to one voting representative in the National Convention. The National General Chapter when its membership comprises ten or more, shall be entitled to one voting delegate for each twenty five members in good standing at the National Convention. Members of the National Council shall each be entitled to a vote in the National Convention.

601.4 - A quorum of the National Convention shall consist of delegates, either undergraduate or alumni, from at least twenty percent of the undergraduate chapters.

602 – The Officers of the National Organization

602.1 – The National Council shall have the responsibility for managing the activities of the National Organization in accordance with the provisions of this constitution. They shall be members of Pi Kappa Delta. They shall be either elected or selected in accordance with the election provisions set out in another section.

602.11 - The National Council shall act for the National Convention when the latter is not in session and shall be responsible to the National Convention when acting upon instructions obtained from the Undergraduate Chapters by referendum. The National Council may call a referendum on its own initiative or at the request of three Undergraduate Chapters. The National Council shall have power to vote expenditures from the national treasury to pay legitimate bills incurred by action of the National Convention.

602.12 - The National Council shall have the power to place on probation, place on inactive status, or revoke the charter of any Chapter for the flagrant violation of the constitution, or failure to carry out the duties imposed on any Chapter, undergraduate or alumni, by this constitution.

602.2 - The National Council shall be comprised of the National President, the President-Elect, and the seven general council members. These include: immediate Past-President, the Historian, the Editor of the *Forensic*, the Community College Representative, the Graduate Student Representative, the Undergraduate Student Representative at Large, and the Local Host Student Representative; each of whom shall be a voting member. Past Presidents of this forensic honorary shall be honorary non-voting members of the National Council.

602.21 - To be eligible to be elected to the National Council, a person must be a member of the Order of Instruction or an Active Alumni. A member of the Order of Instruction must be, at the time of election, actively associated with a school having a Pi Kappa Delta Chapter. The Community College Representative must additionally be directly connected to an active community college chapter.

602.22 - To be eligible to be elected to the National Council as a Student Representative, a member must be at the time of election a member in good standing of an Undergraduate Chapter for the two undergraduate student representative positions or of an Alumni or Honorary membership for the Graduate Student Representative of Pi Kappa Delta.

603 – The Duties of the Members of the National Council

603.1 – The President shall be responsible for directing the activities of the National Council; presiding over the National Convention; representing the organization to outside constituencies;

and appointing members of standing committees; ad hoc committees; and filling vacancies in National Council and Province Governor positions as specified set out in the Constitution.

603.2 – The Immediate Past President shall be the liaison with the Alumni caucus; shall be the Program Planner for the National Communication Association Convention; and perform other duties as directed by the President.

603.3 – The President-Elect shall perform, in the absence of the President, any duties of that office; shall chair the National Convention Site Selection Committee; shall have responsibility for overseeing the selection and awarding of standing awards; and perform other duties as directed by the President.

603.31 - The President-Elect, upon completion of the term of office, shall succeed to the office of the President of the organization.

603.4 - The Chief Operating Officer (COO) shall keep the minutes of the National Council and the National Convention. The COO shall collect the charter fees, membership fees, initiation fees, and all other assessments and maintain the national treasury. The COO shall keep a complete record of the finances, supplies, and other property of the organizations. He or she shall give bond, and the accounts shall be audited each August. The National Council shall provide funds to defray the expenses of clerical work for the COO.

603.41 - The Chief Operating Officer (COO) shall also oversee and coordinate fundraising and be responsible for identifying and coordinating efforts at nurturing relationships. The COO will serve as Grants Manager: identify new grant sources and coordinate grant application and reporting activities. The COO shall prepare an annual report appropriate for fundraising and other uses. The COO oversee maintenance of the web page and other communication strategies with the support of the National Council as well as publish the *Key* and investigate advertising potential. The COO shall assist with the coordination of logistics for meetings of the National Council. The COO shall plan and implement Skype or other virtual meetings as needed while working with the President and National Council.

603.42 - The COO will report to and be an ex officio member of the National Council. The President and Council will set priorities and assist with the activities of the COO in management and fundraising as appropriate.

603.43 - The COO shall receive and annual stipend as determined by the National Council and be provided with appropriate support for travel, clerical expenses and the like. The COO's term shall be four years as specified in section 604.23.

603.5 - The Historian shall be archivist and recorder of the history.

603.6 - The Editor of *The Forensic* shall have direct charge of publication of *The Forensic*, subject to the general supervision of the National Council. The editor will be provided a stipend of an amount and at a time set by the National Council. The Editor, with the approval of the National Council, shall appoint an Associate Editor or Editors. The duties of the Associate Editor or Editors shall be such as assigned by the Editor

603.7 – The at-large members of the National Council shall serve as liaisons with the Provinces and Caucuses and perform other duties as directed by the President.

604 – The Process of Election and Selection for Members of the National Council

President of Pi Kappa Delta in writing of the person's desires to be excluded from the nomination.

604.12 - Election shall be by a majority vote of those Chapters voting for candidates included on the ballot at the National Convention.

604.13 - The President shall not be eligible for re-election

604.2 - Officers other than the President-Elect will be chosen using the following procedures.

604.21 - The elective officers of the Order of Instruction or Active Alumni other than the President-Elect, and one student National Council member will be chosen at a later meeting of the National Convention in the following manner: for elective officers of the Order of Instruction or Active Alumni the Nominating Committee will submit as candidates the names of five or more persons, at least three of whom have not previously served on the National Council. Other nominations may be made from the floor. If only five persons are nominated, each Chapter will vote on a preferential ballot for the five candidates. If more than five persons are nominated, each Chapter will vote for five members in preferential order, ranking all others sixth. The three candidates with the highest ranking will be deemed elected to the National Council. For the student National Council member, the Nominating Committee will submit as candidates the names of three or more persons. Other nominations may be made from the floor. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will be elected. Officers will assume their duties on the first day of June following their election, and will serve for two years or until their successors are elected.

604.22 - The Student Representatives shall be elected in the following manner: the Undergraduate Chapter which is to be host to the National Convention shall elect, not later than the first of May two years prior to the convention, a Student Representative to serve on the National Council. Results of the above election shall be reported promptly to the National President by the Province Governor of the host Province. The second student and the Graduate Student representative shall be elected using the same process outlined in section 354.1.

604.23 - The Chief Operating Officer shall be nominated by the National Council and approved by the National Convention and shall serve a term of four years and shall be eligible for an additional term of four years. A third term of two years is possible upon the unanimous recommendation of the National Council and a two-thirds vote of the National Convention. The term of office of the Chief Operating Officer shall begin August 1 of the year of election.

604.24 - The Editor of *The Forensic* shall be nominated by the National Council, approved by the National Convention, and shall serve a term of four years and may be re-nominated and approved for an additional term. The term of the Editor shall begin August 1 of the year of election.

604.25 - The Historian shall be nominated by the National Council, approved by the National Convention, and shall serve a term of ten years. The term of the Historian shall begin on August 1 of the year of election.

605 - Vacancies arising in the National Council shall be filled in the following manner: a vacancy in the office of the President shall be filled by the President-Elect for the remainder of the term. Should the office of President-Elect become vacant, the President within one month after the vacancy occurs shall appoint one of the remaining National Council members of the Order of Instruction or Active Alumni to this office subject to the approval of the National Council. Other vacancies on the National Council shall be filled within one month after the vacancy occurs by appointment of the National President, subject to the approval of the National Council.

610 – The Standing Committees

610.01 - The Chairperson of the following standing committees shall be appointed by the National President, with preference given to governors of the provinces, and approved by majority vote of the National Council if the appointee is not a member of the Council: Charter and Standards Committee, Committee on Public Relations, Committee on Convention Arrangements and Program, Constitution Revision Committee, Alumni Relations, Professional Development and Support, Institutional Research, and Endowment Committees.

610.1 - Charter and Standards Committee. It shall be the function of this committee to assist potential chapters in obtaining a charter and monitoring the health of existing chapters. It shall also be the function of this committee to devise standards for evaluating the activities of the individual Chapters and to make recommendations to the National Council or National Convention for strengthening weak Chapters. This committee may recommend possible revocation of charters in the event a chapter is in substantial violation of the provisions of this constitution using the process set out in section 310.3.

610.2 - Committee on Convention Arrangements and Program. It shall be the function of this committee to have complete charge, subject to the supervision of the National Council, of all matters pertaining to forensic events offered at tournaments sponsored by the National Organization. The chairperson, with the approval of the National President, shall appoint such additional members of the committee as are necessary to manage the tournaments sponsored by the National Organization. It shall be the function of this committee to make all local arrangements for the National Convention.

610.3 - Constitution Revision Committee. It shall be the function of this committee to study the National Constitution and make such recommendations to the National Council and the National Convention as will keep the provisions of the National Constitution abreast of developments in the forensic activity and the functions of Pi Kappa Delta. It shall receive, consider and report on all suggestions and proposed amendments received from the membership of the organization.

610.4 – Professional Development and Support Committee. It shall be the function of this committee to promote the professional development of forensics educators by providing support such as, but not limited to: continuing education, financial grants, research support grants, mentoring support; summer research and teaching seminars; and workshops.

610.5 – Institutional Research Committee. It shall be the function of this committee to solicit, collect, review, coordinate and disseminate appropriate member demographic information and program assessment data. The committee shall also have the responsibility of approving all research activities that are undertaken in conjunction with officially sponsored Pi Kappa Delta activities, and will formulate and periodically disseminate approved criteria concerning the ethical use of human subjects in Pi Kappa Delta research. The committee shall also be responsible for conducting regular outcome assessment activities.

610.6 – Endowment Committee. It shall be the function of this committee to enhance the financial endowment of the honorary through appropriate fundraising activities. The Committee, with the consent of the National Council, may employ a professional fundraiser for accomplishing this task.

610.7 - Practices and Procedures Committee. It shall be the function of this committee to uphold Pi Kappa Delta's Statement on Discrimination. The Compliance Officer appointed by the President of Pi Kappa Delta and approved by the National Council will chair this committee. This committee will be responsible for investigating charges of discrimination and recommending appropriate action, if necessary, to the National Council. This committee must maintain the confidentiality of all involved to the maximum extent possible in order to conduct a fair and thorough investigation. This committee should routinely evaluate the Statement on Discrimination and the procedures in order to make recommendations of change if the the committee deems them necessary.

611 – Ad Hoc Committees and Other Functions

611.1 - The National President shall appoint the chairperson, committee members and other officers and positions called for in subsequent subparagraphs, and all such appointments shall be made as soon as practical, with confirmation by appointee within one month of that appointment. The National President shall have power to fill any vacancies caused by death or resignation. The President shall also have authority to make replacements at any time because of the failure of the appointee to fulfill their duties. Further, nothing in this paragraph shall preclude the National President from appointing special committees, and consultants to aid in promoting the good of the honorary.

611.2 - The National President shall appoint a parliamentarian to assist at the business sessions of the National Convention and to serve as adviser on constitutional questions to the National Organization. The person so appointed shall be one of the voting members of the Constitution Revision Committee.

611.3 - The National President shall appoint one member of the National Council to serve as a Coordinator of Province Governors.

611.4 - The National President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of at least three members to make such nominations as are required by the National Constitution to be filled by election at the National Convention.

611.5 - The National President, after consultation with the Chairperson of the Convention Arrangements and Program Committee, shall appoint a Convention Officer who shall serve on that committee. The Convention Officer shall be the chief liaison for the local arrangements of the National Convention.

611.6 - When making contracts and agreements and transacting other legal business, the National President with the approval of the National Council, may retain an attorney to act as legal adviser.

Article VII – Orders of Membership

700 – There shall be six membership orders: active undergraduate, alumni, instruction, affiliate, attainment and honorary.

701 – The purpose of the membership orders is to recognize the qualifications and activities of members of the organization in the context of the mission to: practice and support forensics in all its forms and contexts; to nurtuer citizenship through community service and scholarship; and to promote the art of persuasion, beautiful and just.

702 – Qualification for membership in an order.

702.1 - Eligibility for Active Undergraduate membership shall be determined as follows. Membership will be open to individuals in good standing at their academic institution and who participate and show proficiency in competitive or non-competitive communication events or activities which support the aims of the organization.

702.11 – For membership in an undergraduate chapter, individual chapters may define the appropriate level of participation and grade-point average.

702.12 - Members of the Order of Active Undergraduate who join Pi Kappa Delta prior to their arrival on a college or university campus are automatically enrolled in the National General chapter.

702.13 – A member may transfer from the National General chapter to a chartered undergraduate chapter conditional upon acceptance by the Chapter. In the event that their request for membership is rejected by the Chapter, they shall remain members of the National General chapter, and shall retain all rights and privileges of membership.

702.2 – Eligibility for Order of Instruction membership shall be determined as follows: Membership will be open to faculty/staff members instructing Communication , coaching forensic activities at a recognized college or sponsoring and/or assisting with activities which support the aims of the organization carried out by undergraduate student members

702.3 – Eligibility for Alumni membership shall be determined as follows: Membership shall be open to any previous Active Undergraduate member who has graduated from a college or university or left the college or university and is no longer an active participant in forensics-related activities.

702.4 – Eligibility for Affiliate membership shall be determined as follows: Membership shall be open to any person wishing to support or actively participate in the activities of the organization and who is not otherwise connected with an existing undergraduate or alumni chapter.

702.5 – Eligibility for Honorary memberships shall be determined as follows: Honorary membership shall be through nomination by an undergraduate chapter in good standing and is limited to one Honorary membership per academic year.

703 - The membership application process is as follows:

703.1 - Each candidate for membership in an undergraduate chapter shall make application electronically, or in writing on the official form. The Undergraduate Chapter after a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members in good standing shall recommend the applicant for membership. The application shall then be forwarded to the Chief Operating Officer with a statement of its acceptance by the Undergraduate Chapter together with the initiation fee. The Chief Operating Officer shall issue the membership card. After completing the initiation ritual, the applicant shall be given the standing for which he or she is eligible as a regular member. A membership certificate will be issued upon request at cost.

703.2 – Each candidate for membership in the National General Chapter shall make application electronically, or in writing on the official form. Upon receipt of a complete application and initiation fee the application will be reviewed by the Chief Operating Officer or the Chair of the Charter and Standards Committee and with their consent be deemed approved. The Chief Operating Officer shall issue the membership card. The applicant will be given the standing for which he or she is eligible as a regular member. A membership certificate will be issued upon request at cost.

703.3 – Each candidate for membership as an Affiliate member shall make application electronically, or in writing on the official form. Upon receipt of a complete application and initiation fee the applicant will be deemed approved.

704 – Membership dues shall be set by the National Convention. There shall be no dues for Order of Attainment or Honorary memberships.

704.1 – Membership in the orders of active undergraduate, alumni, Attainment and Honorary membership shall be life-time memberships.

704.2 – Affiliate membership shall be for one-year and is renewable.

705 - All students and faculty/staff who transfer from recognized institutions may receive full credit for their previous forensic work toward eligibility for membership, or advancement in orders and degrees.

706 - Members of other forensic organizations may become members of Pi Kappa Delta and members of Pi Kappa Delta are free to join other forensic organizations.

Article VIII – Degrees of Membership

800 – There shall be ten degrees of membership for persons in the categories of active undergraduate, alumni and instruction.

801 – The degrees of membership shall be determined using the accumulation of points set out in the by-laws of the honorary.

801.1 – The National Council shall periodically examine the point structure to facilitate fairness and to incorporate changes in forensics, service and scholarship practices. Any changes to the point system shall not apply to existing active undergraduate members until they have completed their undergraduate eligibility or changed their membership status. Any changes to the point system shall apply to alumni and instruction members beginning on August 1st following approval of those changes.

801.2 – The National Council shall be responsible for monitoring the points system and shall rule on any disputes arising from the assignment of points for all activities for which points may be accumulated.

802 - The degrees shall be as follows: proficiency, achievement, merit, excellence, distinction, honor, and key level accomplishment: bronze key, silver key, gold key, platinum key.

Article IX –Official Insignia

900 - The official badge of Pi Kappa Delta shall be a gold key.

901 - The key shall denote degree and order, in the following manner: for the Degree of Proficiency shall be an amethyst set in the eye; of the Degree of Achievement shall be a topaz set in the eye; Merit shall be a turquoise set in the eye; Excellence shall be an opal set in the eye; Distinction shall be a diamond set in the eye; Honor shall be an onyx set in the eye. For the degree of Key Level Accomplishment– Bronze Key, shall be a bronze key with a topaz set in the eye; Key Level Accomplishment – Silver Key, shall be silver key with a turquoise set in the eye; Key Level Accomplishment – Gold Key, shall be a gold key with a diamond set in the eye; and for Key Level Accomplishment – Platinum Key, shall be a platinum key with a onyx set in the eye. The distinguishing mark of the Order of Undergraduate membership shall be a ruby set in the upper center; for the Order of Instruction an emerald set in the upper center; of Alumni, Affiliate, Attainment or Honorary membership shall be a sapphire set in the upper center; of two orders shall be turquoise set in the upper center; of the three or four orders shall be a diamond set in the upper center.

902 - Pi Kappa Delta keys in good condition shall be exchanged for other keys or may have other sets inserted, upon application to the Chief Operating Officer and payment by the owner of the key of the cost of exchanging or adding jewelling.

903 - All keys shall be numbered and records kept of them by the Chief Operating Officer.

904 - A past president's ring of special design shall be awarded to each National President at the close of term of office.

905 - A past governor's ring of appropriate design shall be available through the Chief Operating Officer.

Article X – *The Forensic* and the *Key*

1000 - Pi Kappa Delta shall publish The Pi Kappa Delta *Key* devoted to the interests of the organization. *The Key* shall contain the official papers of the organization, news of its work and progress, general forensic news, and other such material as shall be suitable for the publication. Subscriptions shall be free to active undergraduate members of this honorary, and in applying for membership the candidate also understands that he or she is subscribing to this publication.

1001 - It shall be the duty of each Local Undergraduate and Alumni Chapter to inform the Editor, who serves as editor of *The Key*, of any news likely to be of interest to other Chapters.

1002 - Alumni Chapters may arrange to secure copies of *The Key* through the Chief Operating Officer on terms fixed by the National Council.

1003 - The organization shall publish a scholarly journal devoted to the educational objectives of Pi Kappa Delta which shall be known as *The Forensic of Pi Kappa Delta*. The journal shall contain articles reflecting the range of qualitative and quantitative methodologies appropriate to the study of forensics. Each Chapter shall receive a copy of each issue of *The Forensic* upon payment of its annual national dues. The subscription price of the journal shall be fixed by the National Council. *The Forensic of Pi Kappa Delta* will also be made available digitally to the membership on the Pi Kappa Delta official website.

1004 - Alumni Chapters may arrange to secure copies of *The Forensic* through the Chief Operating Officer on terms fixed by the National Council.

1005 - Individuals and institutions may subscribe to a journal-only membership by paying the annual fee to the Chief Operating Officer's office. The subscription rate shall be established by the National Council.

Article XI – Grand Catalog

1100 - The Chief Operating Officer and the organizations administrative assistant shall keep a Grand Catalog of the names of members of Pi Kappa Delta with a record of their Orders and Degrees at the time of initiation, and any subsequent changes in Orders and Degrees. The President of each Undergraduate Chapter shall send this information annually, or more often if requested, to the Chief Operating Officer on the official catalog forms. Names shall not be entered in the catalog or carried by the Chief Operating Officer until all application blanks and fees have been received.

Article XII – Parliamentary Authority

1200 - The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be the authority in parliamentary procedure not covered by specific provisions of this constitution.

Article XIII - Amendments

1300 - The constitution may be amended by a proposal receiving a majority vote at a regular National Convention and a two-thirds affirmative vote by either electronic or mail ballot by request submitted to the membership no later than thirty days following the National Convention. The constitution may also be amended by a three-fourths affirmative vote in the referendum initiated by the National Council.

1301 - Unless an amendment incorporates its own effective date, it shall be effective on June 1 following adoption.

1302 - All proposed amendments to the constitution must be in the hands of the Chair of the Constitutional Revision Committee by November 1 of the year preceding the National Convention and shall be printed in the Winter *Key* of the convention year.

Article XIV - Emergency

1400 - When by a three-fourths vote, the National Council shall determine that an emergency exists of such gravity as to make the holding of a National Convention impossible or impracticable, then, and in that event, the National Council may, by a two-thirds vote take any action necessitated by such an emergency, notwithstanding anything contained in this constitution. However, any ten Local Chapters may, by joining in a written request to the National Council, initiate a referendum of the Local Chapters on any action taken by the National Council hereunder.