

**PANHELLENIC COUNCIL CONSTITUTION FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY Revised  
Fall 2009**

**ARTICLE I. NAME**

Section 1           The name of this organization shall be the Florida International University (FIU) Panhellenic Council (PC).

**ARTICLE II. VISION STATEMENT**

The FIU Panhellenic Council strives for a diverse, dedicated community of women representing their organization in all that they do. We will succeed by collectively upholding the ideals and values of all of its members while maintaining a strong, united sisterhood. Its members will carry themselves with integrity, professionalism and enthusiasm.

The Panhellenic Council will be innovative, just, supportive and encouraging of the individual endeavors of its members. With solid standards and values, our Panhellenic Council will be leaders at FIU, developing better women through instilling the important fraternal virtues of service, respect, scholarship, sisterhood and loyalty in its members. We hope to create a sense of inclusion by taking advantage of the opportunities to form lifelong friendships and to serve the FIU and South Florida communities to the best of our ability.

**ARTICLE III. OBJECT**

The Object of the Panhellenic Council shall be to develop and maintain sororities' and women's lives and keep interfraternal relations at a high level of accomplishment, and in doing so:

**ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP** There shall be two classes of membership: Regular and Associate.

Section 1           The Regular membership of the FIU Panhellenic Council shall be composed of all members in good standing of the NPC chapters at FIU.

Section 2           The Associate membership of the FIU Panhellenic Council shall be composed of all members in good standing of NPC colonies or non-NPC member groups at FIU.

**ARTICLE V. THE PANHELLENIC COUNCIL**

Section 1           It shall be the duty of the FIU Panhellenic Council to administer all business related to the overall welfare of the PC and its member groups, and to compile rules and regulations governing the PC which do not violate the sovereignty, rights, and privileges of member chapters, including, but not limited to recruitment and new member affairs.

Section 2

A. Membership The FIU PC shall be composed of one delegate and one alternate delegate from each NPC chapter at FIU and from such NPC colonies at FIU, and from any other Inter/National women's fraternal organizations at FIU that the PC may approve for membership.

B. Selection of Delegates PC delegates shall be selected by the respective chapters to serve for one

calendar year.

C. Delegate Vacancies When a delegate vacancy occurs, it shall be the responsibility of the chapter concerned to select a replacement within two weeks and to notify the PC Secretary of her name and contact information. When a meeting of the PC occurs when a delegate vacancy exists, the alternate delegate of the chapter concerned shall fulfill the duties of the delegate.

D. Officer Vacancies For the position of President, Vice President, Membership Recruitment Vice President, Chief Justice, Treasurer, and Secretary, the acting President/presiding officer of the PC shall call for a special election pending approval of the rest of the Executive Board. The Executive Board reserves the right to decline candidates on the basis of officer qualifications and officer duties (Refer to Article VI of the PC Constitution).

E. Meetings Regular meetings of the Panhellenic Council shall be held as determined by the Executive Board.

- i. Special meetings of the Panhellenic Council may be called by the President when necessary and shall be called upon the written request of any member delegate of PC. Such meetings will require a 72-hour notice of the delegates.
- ii. The FIU PC shall meet on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m., bi-weekly in the Spring and Fall semesters.
- iii. The Executive Board shall hold at least one regular meeting weekly. The time and place shall be determined by the Executive Board.

G. Voice The delegates and alternate delegates of the member groups shall have voice and vote.

H. Special Events All member groups are expected to have representation at PC sponsored events. If chapters do not participate, action may be taken with the chapter's advisor and president through the OSFL. Chapters will not be refunded any funds used for programming and events not attended by the chapter (Refer to PC Bylaws Article I, Section 6C).

## ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS

- Section 1 The officers of the FIU Panhellenic Council shall be the President, Vice President, Vice President of Membership Recruitment (VPMR), Chief Justice, Treasurer, and Secretary.
- Section 2 The offices of President and Vice President of Membership Recruitment shall only be delegated from chapters holding regular membership in the FIU Panhellenic Council.
- Section 3 The offices of Vice President, Chief Justice, Treasurer and Secretary shall be delegated from chapters holding regular or associate membership in the FIU Panhellenic Council. Associate members of the FIU PC who have been in good standing for one full calendar year may run for the positions previously stated.
- Section 4 Voting delegates shall not be eligible to hold office. Officers shall serve for one calendar year.
- Section 5 Officers, delegates or alternate delegates must be present at all meetings of the FIU PC.
- a. Panhellenic E-Board Officers will not be able to preside over their own chapter's officer/ legislative/

executive boards during their term in office.

Section 6 Any officer failing to perform her duties as outlined shall be asked to resign and a successor shall be determined according to the process described in Article V, Section 2d of the PC Constitution, with the approval of the Executive Board.

#### ARTICLE VII. OFFICER QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES

##### Section 1

A. Qualifications for the office of President are as follows:

- i. She shall have been an active member of her NPC chapter in good standing for at least two years.
- ii. She shall have maintained at least a 2.7 cumulative scholastic grade point average (GPA).
- iii. She shall be a full time student (9 credits) as determined by FIU.
- iv. She shall be well versed in parliamentary procedure.

B. The President shall:

- i. Have overall responsibility for the operation of the Panhellenic Council.
- ii. Call and preside over all regular meetings of the PC, and call and preside over its special meetings.
- iii. Call and preside at all meetings of the PC Executive Board.
- iv. Review, approve and sign all PC checks and contracts.
- v. Report as required to the NPC Area Advisor.
- vi. Maintain a complete, up-to-date President's file which will include a copy of the current FIU Panhellenic Council constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules (including Recruitment), the current NPC Manual of Information and related materials, current correspondence and materials received from her NPC Area Advisor, her copies of the College Panhellenic Reports to the Area Advisor, and all other pertinent materials.
- vii. Oversee the FIU PC Expansion Chair Cabinet member.
- viii. Perform all other duties usually pertaining to her office.
- ix. Maintain a 2.7 cumulative scholastic GPA throughout her term.

##### Section 2

A. Qualifications for the office of Vice President are as follows:

- i. She shall have been an active member of her chapter in good standing for at least one year.
- ii. She shall have maintained at least a 2.7 cumulative scholastic GPA.
- iii. She shall be a full time student (9 credits) as determined by FIU.
- iv. She shall be well versed in parliamentary procedure.

B. The Vice President shall:

- i. Perform the duties of the President in the event of her absence or an inability to serve.
- ii. Be responsible for overseeing the following Cabinet members: New Member Education Chair, Scholarship Chair, Public Relations Chair, and Programming Chair.
- iii. Be responsible for all programming pertaining to the PC (i.e. workshops, seminars, etc.).

- iv. Have overall responsibility and oversee the operation of the FIU PC Intern program.
- v. Perform all other duties usually pertaining to this office.

vi. Maintain a 2.7 cumulative scholastic GPA throughout her term.

### Section 3

A. Qualifications for the office of Vice President of Membership Recruitment (VPMR) are as follows:

- i. She shall have been an active member of her NPC chapter in good standing for at least one year.
- ii. She shall have maintained at least a 2.7 cumulative scholastic GPA.
- iii. She shall be a full time student (9 credits) as determined by FIU.
- iv. She shall be well versed in parliamentary procedure.

B. The VPMR shall:

- i. Serve as Chair of the Recruitment Committee.
- ii. Preside over regular Recruitment Team meetings with all participating member groups' Recruitment Teams.
- iii. Preside over and be responsible for all recruitment functions, including room reservations, recruitment statistics, COB lists, official recruitment reports, etc.
- iv. Be responsible for maintaining contact with member groups during any informal recruitment events and outcome of said events, including bid invitations to join.
- v. Be responsible for Recruitment Counselor (PT) education, training and supervision before and during recruitment with the help of the Panhellenic advisor and the Assistant Recruitment Coordinator
- vi. Be responsible for promoting sororities to potential new members throughout the year, and during orientation.
- vii. Perform all other duties as pertaining to the office of VPMR.
- viii. Maintain a 2.7 cumulative scholastic GPA throughout her term.

### Section 4

A. Qualifications for the office of Chief Justice are as follows:

- i. She shall have been an active member of her chapter in good standing for at least one year.
- ii. She shall have maintained at least a 2.7 cumulative scholastic GPA.
- iii. She shall be a full time student (9 credits) as determined by FIU.
- iv. She shall take part in the necessary pertaining Conduct and Conflict Resolution training session held by the OSFL and OCCR.
- v. She shall be well versed in parliamentary procedure.

B. The Chief Justice will:

- i. Make and maintain strong, positive communication by serving as a liaison between the current faculty/administration, PC Judicial Board and Councils.
- ii. Serve as the presiding officer of the PC Judicial Board.
- iii. Keep an updated file on all chapter risk management policies and alcohol policies.
- iv. Call a meeting of the PC Judicial Board as deemed necessary before Formal recruitment.
- v. Schedule and run hearings after violations have been submitted to PC or the Panhellenic Advisor.
- vi. Be responsible for overseeing the following Cabinet members: Athletics Chair, Council

- Relations Chair, and Sorority Suites Chair.
- vii. Perform all other duties as pertaining to the office of Chief Justice.
  - viii. Must maintain a 2.7 cumulative scholastic GPA throughout her term.

## Section 5

### A. Qualifications for the office of Treasurer shall be as follows:

- i. She shall have been an active member of her chapter in good standing for at least one semester.
- ii. She shall have maintained at least a 2.7 cumulative scholastic GPA.
- iii. She shall be a full time student (9 credits) as determined by FIU.

### B. The Treasurer shall:

- i. Be responsible for the general supervision of the finances of the FIU Panhellenic Council.
- ii. Be responsible for the preparation of the annual budget and, following its approval by the PC, provide a copy to each member chapter.
- iii. Receive all payments due to the PC. Collect all dues and give receipts.

Be responsible for the prompt payment of all bills of the FIU PC.

Maintain up-to-date financial records; issue monthly statements to chapters regarding money reports, incoming funds and outgoing payments; give a financial report at each regular meeting of the PC and an annual report at the close of her term of office.

- vi. Sign Panhellenic Council contracts when authorized to do so.
- vii. Create monthly invoices of all fines, fees, and other outstanding balances for each member chapter for prompt collection.
- viii. Perform all other duties usually pertaining to the office of Treasurer.
- ix. Be responsible for overseeing the Community Service Chair Cabinet member.
- x. Must maintain a 2.7 cumulative scholastic GPA throughout her term.

## Section 6

### A. Qualifications for the office of Secretary are as follows:

- i. She shall have been an active member of her chapter in good standing for at least one semester.
- ii. She shall have maintained at least a 2.7 cumulative scholastic GPA.
- iii. She shall be a full time student (9 credits) as determined by FIU.

### B. The Secretary shall:

- i. Keep an up-to-date roll of the members of the PC and call attendance at all Council meetings.
- ii. Keep current statistics concerning the number of initiated members and new members for each PC chapter.
- iii. Keep full minutes of all meetings of the FIU PC, and a record of all actions taken by the Executive Board.
- iv. Maintain a complete, up-to-date file which will include the minutes of the meetings of the FIU PC, copies of all current contracts made by the PC, and all current correspondence.
- v. Be responsible for the official correspondence of the PC unless provided otherwise.
- vi. Provide member chapters with the current PC Constitution and Bylaws, and all standing rules including current recruitment rules each year.

- vii. Be responsible for overseeing the Historian Cabinet Member.
- viii. Perform all other duties usually pertaining to the office of Secretary.
- ix. Must maintain a 2.7 cumulative scholastic GPA throughout her term.

Section 7 The chapter delegates shall:

- A. Function as the liaison to the PC from her chapter as voting delegate.
- B. Attend all PC meetings and workshops.
- C. Be responsible for notifying her chapter members of all regular and special meetings of the PC.
- D. Possess a notebook including the current PC Constitution and Bylaws, an NPC Manual of Information (Green Book) and meeting minutes and agendas.
- E. Provide a report to the PC on the ongoing activities and needs of her member chapter at each PC meeting.
- F. Promote Panhellenic awareness and enthusiasm within her chapter.
- G. Challenge that she try to maintain a 2.7 cumulative scholastic GPA throughout her term.
- H. Bring issues and concerns that affect her chapter or the sorority community to the attention of the Panhellenic Council Executive Board, Cabinet and/or fellow delegates.

#### ARTICLE VIII. PANHELLENIC ADVISOR

Section 1 The Panhellenic Advisor to the FIU Panhellenic Council shall be appointed by the Administration. The Panhellenic Advisor shall serve in an advisory capacity to the PC.

#### ARTICLE IX. PHILANTHROPY

Section 1 The philanthropy adopted by the Panhellenic Council of FIU shall be decided upon by the Executive Board and approved by the delegates. One philanthropic event per semester shall be planned with collaboration of all FIU member chapters.

#### ARTICLE X. UNANIMOUS AGREEMENTS AND POLICIES

Section 1 All members of the FIU PC shall act in accordance with fundamental Panhellenic policies established by the NPC in the Unanimous Agreements (The Panhellenic Compact, Standards of Ethical Conduct, College Panhellenic Agreements, Agreements on Questionnaires and Constitutions and the Jurisdiction of a College Panhellenic Council). All members of the FIU PC shall act in accordance with the FIU Student Code of Conduct.

Section 2 All FIU PC rules and policies shall be in harmony with those currently established by the NPC and the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Life on behalf of FIU.

#### ARTICLE XI. VIOLATIONS

Section 1 Violations of any regulations of the Constitution or its related Bylaws of Recruitment (Unanimous Agreements – Article VI, Section 2e) of the NPC Unanimous Agreements shall be subject to penalties established by the FIU Panhellenic Council, in conformity with those recommended by the NPC.

Section 2 Any dispute arising from violations of PC rules and regulations shall be adjusted through arbitration principles in the NPC.

## ARTICLE XII. STANDARDS AND CODE OF CONDUCT

### Section 1 Standards of Conduct

- A. Panhellenic Council Judicial Board The University and Panhellenic Council have established certain values, expectations, and standards which guide the behavior of women's fraternal organizations at Florida International University. The Panhellenic Council Judicial Board, in conjunction with the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Life(OSFL), aspires to portray these values and promotes and encourages the highest moral and ethical behavior and respect among Greek organizations. It is the PC Judicial Board's duty to ensure that the rights and responsibilities of all PC organizations are protected and carried out in the best interest of the Greek and University communities at FIU. The PC Judicial Board fosters the educational mission of the University and supports a safe and secure Greek environment conducive to academic and personal growth, learning, diversity, cultural understanding and the respect for self and others.
- B. Jurisdiction Jurisdiction under the Panhellenic Council Standards of Conduct applies to the conduct of any sorority that occurs on University premises. However, the PC Judicial Board reserves the right to impose disciplinary action on any sorority's conduct, regardless of location.
- C. Membership
- i. The PC Judicial Board shall be composed of: one representative from each member chapter of the PC (when possible), the Chief Justice of the FIU PC, and the Panhellenic Advisor, who will serve as Judicial Board Chairman (non-voting member).
  - ii. Qualifications: Members of the PC Judicial Board must meet the following requirements:
    - a. Judicial Board members must have and maintain a 2.5 semester and cumulative GPA while serving on the Board.
    - b. Judicial Board members must be in good standing with their sorority chapter.
    - c. Judicial Board members must be in good judicial standing with the University.
    - d. Judicial Board members must attend and complete all Judicial Board training and workshops.
  - iii. The PC Judicial Board Chief Justice and Panhellenic Advisor will approve members appointed by their individual chapters.
- D. Burden of Proof
- i. The burden of proof at a Panhellenic Council Judicial Board hearing always rests with the University, and the standard of proof will be the preponderance of the evidence.
  - ii. The burden of proof at the appellate level rests with the charged student to clearly show that an error has occurred during the Panhellenic Council Judicial Board hearing process.
- E. Responsibilities
- i. Recruitment A recruitment function is an activity sponsored by a Panhellenic Council member chapter in which prospective members are invited. All PC member chapters are subject to these policies regardless of place, residence or location of sponsored activity.
    - a. Alcoholic beverages at any recruitment function, whether formal or informal, are prohibited.
    - b. Advertisements having any pictures of or with references to alcohol or any pictures which may be offensive and/or degrading are prohibited.
  - ii. Registration of Events All chapter social events, both on and off campus, must be registered with Panhellenic Council. Social Event Registration Forms must be turned into the PC Chief Justice and/or Panhellenic Advisor 5 business days prior to the event.

iv. Risk Management

- a. Failure to follow the minimum guidelines/standards as outlined by OSFL or Panhellenic Council Risk Management Policies (FIPA Policy).
- b. Failure to follow the guidelines/standards as outlined in the organization's National and/or Chapter Risk Management Policies.
- c. Failure of a chapter to provide OSFL with a copy of its National/Chapter Risk Management Policy.

F. Organizations' Rights The charged organization has the right to:

- i. Clear and complete notice of the PC Policy or Student Conduct Code charge and the allegations upon which the charge is based.
- ii. An opportunity to review all information in the organization's judicial file.
- iii. A notice of the formal hearing date at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the hearing.
- iv. An opportunity to present relevant evidence and information, including presenting witnesses and/or signed written statements.
- v. Cross-examine witnesses. Appropriate witnesses will be called by the Panhellenic Council Judicial Board to all Judicial Board hearings. Those witnesses who appear may be cross-examined by the organization's Chapter President. If called witnesses do not appear, their written or taped statements may be considered by the Judicial Board. In some cases, student witnesses who fail to appear may be charged with a violation of the Student Code. Appropriate witnesses may also be called by the charged organization to all formal hearings.
- vi. Accompaniment by an on campus advisor of the organization's choice. The advisor may not represent the organization before the Judicial Board; the President of the organization must speak for the organization.
- vii. The decision of the hearing in writing. All hearing decisions will be communicated in writing (also verbally at the discretion of the Judicial Board) to the charged organization and will include the findings of fact, the hearing decision, sanctions imposed (if applicable), and the appropriate appellate body.
- viii. Appeal the decision in writing within seven (7) calendar days of the receipt of the hearing decision. (See Section M, Appeals.)
- ix. If the charged organization fails to appear at the scheduled hearing, the hearing may be held in the organization's absence.

G. Hearing Procedures

- i. Initiating Charges A review for possible charges may be initiated in the following ways:
  - a. Filing a police report with the University Police Department or requesting that a report from another law enforcement agency be sent to the University Police Department.
  - b. Providing a written and signed statement to the Panhellenic Advisor or PC Chief Justice.
- ii. Filing Time Reports must be made to the Panhellenic Advisor, PC Chief Justice, or law enforcement within sixty (60) calendar days of the incident, or knowledge about the incident.
- iii. Determining Charge Upon receipt of a signed statement or police report, the PC Chief Justice will meet to determine the following:
  - a. Whether there is enough information to warrant formal charges.
  - b. Whether formal charges should be brought against the organization or individual.
  - c. What specific charges shall be brought forward, if any.
  - d. The date of the hearing, if formal charges are brought forward.
- iv. Notice The notice given to a chapter will include the following:
  - a. Notice of charge(s), including specific alleged code violations and offenses.
  - b. Notification to attend an information session (conducted by the PC Chief Justice, Panhellenic Advisor or designee), during which the chapter may review all materials to be used in chapter's case and receive information regarding his/her due process rights and procedures used in a judicial case. It is the chapter's responsibility to schedule an appointment for an information session prior to the hearing.

- c. If a chapter fails to schedule or attend a scheduled information session, and the (10) calendar days have expired since the date of the charge letter, a hearing will be scheduled and held in the chapter's absence. Notification of hearing time, date and location will be sent to the chapter.
- d. Notice of a formal hearing date will occur at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the hearing of the case.

H. Hearing Forum Chapters charged through OSFL may choose from the following hearing forums:

- i. Summary Resolution This hearing is informal and conducted by the PC Chief Justice and Panhellenic Advisor. This forum can be chosen with the agreement of the PC Chief Justice and the Panhellenic Advisor.
- ii. Panhellenic Council Judicial Board Hearing This hearing will be heard by a minimum of three (3) committee members and the Chairman. A representative from OSFL must also be present. Decisions will be based on a majority vote and will be provided in writing to the charged sorority within fourteen (14) calendar days from the conclusion of the Panhellenic Council Judicial Board's deliberation.

I. Hearing Procedures/Format

- i. Order of Presentation The following order of presentation will be followed in formal hearings. Exceptions may be made due to extenuating circumstances by the hearing body. Informal hearing order of presentation can be considerably modified with the agreement of the charged organization.
  - a. Opening statement by the PC Chief Justice Chair. This must include presentation of formal charges.
  - b. Opening statement by the charged organization.
  - c. Questions directed to the charged organization by the Judicial Board.
  - d. Presentation of evidence and witnesses by the PC Chief Justice, followed by questioning of witnesses by the Judicial Board and the charged organization. Witnesses are then dismissed.
  - e. Presentation of evidence and witnesses by the charged organization, followed by questioning of witnesses by the organization and the Judicial Board. Witnesses are then dismissed.
  - f. Follow-up questions directed to the charged organization by the Judicial Board.
  - g. Closing statement by charged organization.
  - h. PC Chief Justice brings hearings to closure.
- ii. Deliberation (decision and determination of sanction(s), if applicable) Deliberation is not part of the hearing. The charged organization will not be included in deliberation. The hearing body's final decision will be reported to the charged organization in writing.
- iii. Prior Records The Judicial Board considers prior records of disciplinary action only in the sanctioning phase of deliberations.
- iv. Outcome The Judicial Board's determination of "responsible" or "not responsible" will be based solely on the information presented at the hearing.
  - a. Note that any inquiries can be made regarding the outcome of any hearing administered by the Judicial Board. Such requests can be directed to the OSFL or Chief Justice.
  - v. Decision for referral.

J. Sanctions

- i. In light of the facts and circumstances of each case, the following sanctions, or combination of sanctions (with or without appropriate modifications) may be imposed upon chapters found to have violated the PC Policies, Student Conduct Code or other University policies:
  - a. Reprimand -written or verbal.
  - b. Work Hours -assignment to complete tasks under the supervision of a University department or outside agency.
  - c. Education activities -attendance at educational programs, interviews with appropriate officials, written research assignments, planning and implementing educational programs, or other educational activities.
  - d. Restitution -requirement to reimburse the University, organization or person for damage to or misappropriation of property owned or in possession of the University or other persons. Any such payment on restitution will be limited to actual cost of repair or replacement.

- e. Fines -All fines will go towards educational programs and functions presented/ sponsored by the PC or PC approved events. However, it is the expressed wish of the PC that sanctioning will primarily be of an educational nature. Any fines assessed to chapters will only ascertain tangible infractions (late payments, absences, etc.)
- f. Fees -student will be responsible for the payment of all fees associated with any sanction delivered (i.e., educational seminars/programs, etc.).
- g. Conduct Probation -A period of time during which further violations of PC Policies, Student Conduct Code or other University policies may result in more serious sanctions, and/or temporary or permanent interruption of the organization's status with PC or the University. Restrictions, which may be placed on the chapter during the probationary period, include, but are not limited to participation in or exclusion from student activities, social events, intramural activities, alcohol functions, or facilities. If the organization is found responsible for another violation of University policies during the period of Conduct Probation, serious consideration will be given to imposing a more severe sanction. This does not affect an individual's status with the University or attendance at classes.
- h. Deferred Suspension -A period of time in which the chapter's suspension is temporarily withheld pending completion of other sanctions by a specified deadline date. Failure to complete all sanctions and provide proof of completion by the specified date(s) will result in an automatic enactment of the suspension without charges or hearing. If an organization is found responsible for another violation of any University or PC policy during the period of Deferred Suspension, serious consideration will be given to imposing a sanction of Dismissal or Expulsion.
- i. Suspension -Separation from the University for a specified period of time. This includes loss of registration status with Greek Affairs and PC. This does not affect an individual student's status with the University, academic area or attendance at classes.
- j. Expulsion -Permanent separation from the University with no possibility of rechartering. This does not affect an individual student's status with the University, academic area or attendance at classes.

#### K. Appeals

- i. Appellate Body. Decisions of the PC Judicial Board cases may be appealed to the Director of Campus Life (or designee).
- ii. Appeal Requests
  - a. A written request must be submitted to the Director of Campus Life within seven (7) calendar days of the receipt of the hearing decision. If the disciplinary action is not appealed, that decision becomes final.
  - b. The written request must state the reason(s) for appeal, the supporting facts, and the recommended solution. Appeal considerations are limited to:

Due process errors involving violations of a charged organization's rights that substantially affected the outcomes of the initial hearing. Appeals based on this consideration will be limited solely to a review of the record of the PC Judicial Board hearing. The due process error must be described in full detail in the appeal letter.

New evidence, which was not available at the time of the original hearing, and that could have substantially affected the outcome. The nature of the evidence must be described in full detail in the appeal letter.

The severity of the sanction is disproportionate to the nature of the offense.

The preponderance of evidence presented at the hearing does not support a finding of "responsible". Appeals based on this consideration will be limited solely to a review of the record of the PC Judicial Board hearing.

#### iii. Appellate Review

- a. The Director of Campus Life or designee will review the written appeal, tape recording (if applicable) and documentation from the original hearing and determine if there is a basis for appeal. If it is

determined there is no basis for appeal, a written decision will be sent to the organization stating appeal denial and basis for the denial within fourteen (14) calendar days.

- b. If an appeal is granted, an appellate review will be scheduled within fourteen (14) calendar days of receiving the written request for appeal.

c. The appellate review may include the charged organization and any witnesses called by the organization; the appellate body may determine whether it needs to call any further witnesses or gather additional information.

- d. The appellate review will be recorded; this recording will serve as the official record of the review.

e. The charged organization may bring an advisor to the appellate review.

f. On appeal, the burden of proof rests with the organization to clearly exhibit that an error has occurred during the Judicial Board hearing process; this is not a re-hearing of the judicial case.

iv. Appellate Decisions

a. The appellate officer may do one of the following:

Uphold the Judicial Board's decision.

Remand the decision to the original Judicial Board for review of the specific information in question.

Order a new hearing be held by a different Judicial Board.

Modify any sanction(s).

b. The appellate decision is sent in writing to the organization, within fourteen (14) calendar days of an appellate review, unless notification is given that additional time is necessary for consideration of the record on appeal.

c. Decisions of the appellate officer reflect final agency action.

d. Decisions involving suspension, dismissal or expulsion will be reported to the Vice President for Student Affairs, and may be reviewed by the Vice President for Student Affairs (or designee) at his/her discretion within (14) calendar days of the appellate review.

e. Except in the case of an interim suspension, the organization's status will remain unchanged during the appellate process.

L. Interim Suspension In situations where the Vice President for Student Affairs (or designee) has reasonable cause to believe the actions of that organization presents a clear and present danger to the health, safety or welfare of the campus community or its members (this includes associate members), an interim suspension may be imposed.

i. An interim suspension must be reviewed by the PC within ten (10)calendar days unless the organization waives his/her rights to a hearing in writing and requests a Summary Resolution by the Panhellenic Advisor.

ii. An organization under interim suspension shall not be allowed to carry out any function as a chapter. All activities, meetings, events, etc. will be suspended.

M. Official Record of Taped Proceedings Charged chapters can obtain a copy of taped judicial hearing and appellate reviews by submitting a written request and furnishing blank tapes to the appropriate body that resided over the hearing or appeal. The University is not responsible for the purchase or provision of tapes used for copying official tapes of judicial proceedings. The charged chapter will incur any costs associated with the copying, recording or mailing of tapes.

### ARTICLE XIII. EXTENSION AND COLONIZATION

Section 1 Inter/National Headquarters of a sorority may petition for colonization with the Panhellenic Council and Florida International University.

Section 2 A group of students on campus expressing interest in forming an Inter/National sorority may petition the Panhellenic Council and Florida International University. The following guidelines must be met to be considered for membership into Panhellenic Council.

A. Must have and maintain a student interest group of twenty-five (25) women for six (6) months.

B. Must have and maintain a minimum GPA of 2.75.

C. Must have a financial budget for each active semester, and have a minimum budget of \$1500.

D. Must hold weekly meeting with the student interest group.

E. Must have a faculty advisor for the student interest group.

F. Must have a new member Education program for all new members of the group.

G. Local organizations will not be recognized.

Section 3 Panhellenic Council may vote to expand as outlined in Article XI of the Panhellenic Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV. AMENDMENTS Section 1 This constitution may be amended by two-thirds vote of the voting body.

Section 1	Consider the goals and ideas of member groups as continually applicable to campus life and personal needs.	
Section 2	Promote superior scholarship as basic to intellectual achievement.	
Section 3	Promote an upstanding, positive image in accordance with the values and ideals of member groups.	
Section 4	Cooperate with member groups and the University administration in concern for the maintenance of high social and moral standards.	
Section 5	Act in accordance with such rules established by the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) Unanimous Agreements and Policies.	
Section 6	Act in accordance with such rules established by the Panhellenic Council, as prescribed with the intentions of not violating the sovereignty, rights and privileges of member groups.	
	iv. Each member of the Executive Board must hold at least two office hours	
	per week.	
	v. Quorum shall constitute a majority (50 percent plus one of the eligible voting body) of member chapters for the transaction of business.	
F.	Voting	
	i.	The voting body of the FIU PC shall be the delegates of each member group holding membership.
	ii.	Associate members in good standing may vote on all matters not pertaining to any exclusive formal recruitment issues and/or any National Panhellenic Conference issues.