

Multicultural Fraternities and Sororities at Colorado State University, Fort Collins Colorado

Draft: Constitution of the Multicultural Greek Council

Preamble

The purpose of the Multicultural Greek Council is to strive to promote positive multicultural interfraternal relations and positive awareness on campus and within our surrounding communities. We, the undersigned Greek organizations have joined together to form this council known as the Multicultural Greek Council at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado in order to better meet our individual and joint needs. We recognize that there are certain areas of action and programming that can best be carried out by the joint efforts of our culturally based organizations. As culturally based organizations, we strive to promote and uplift our common heritages and history. As community oriented organizations, we shall keep our commitments to all underrepresented groups. We do hereby establish such an organizations and bind ourselves to abide by the provisions of the following constitution and bylaws.

Purpose:

To develop relationships among its members to inspire a culture of trust, support, understanding, dedication, commitment, rapport and friendship.

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ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Multicultural Greek Council at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado hereinafter referred to as the MGC at CSU.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of the MGC at CSU shall be to promote progressive multicultural inter-fraternal relations within organizations and to create positive awareness on our campus and within our surrounding communities.

ARTICLE III: POWERS AND SCOPE OF AUTHORITY

Section 1: The scope of authority shall be legislative, administrative, judicial, and advisory. By virtue of authority vested in it by this Constitution and Bylaws, the council shall have the power to regulate all matters or organizational interest, except those that are of institutional policy, to which the MGC is free to make recommendations to the University. Authority for the MGC is derived through recognition by the Office of Greek Life, Office of Student Leadership Involvement and Civic Engagement (SLiCE), and our own member organizations.

Section 2: The power of the council shall be to: formulate any rules necessary to regulate all organizational matters, to administer and enforce the constitution bylaws, rules and regulations established by the MGC at CSU; to enact laws and to amend them; to adopt resolutions and/or suggest on policies for chapters; and to provide advice to MGC member organizations at CSU.

Section 3: All policies and activities of the council and its members shall be in compliance with University policies, including but not limited to the MGC Constitution and Bylaws and an applicable local, state and federal laws.

Section 4: The council shall manifest its judicial authority through the Judicial Board as specified in Article XI and in the "Multicultural Greek Council Judicial Procedures."

ARTICLE IV: STRUCTURE

Section 1: There shall be a General Council consisting of one delegate from each recognized MGC at CSU chapter which shall have final authority of all matters related to this council, in accordance with the university guidelines. Fines may be imposed for non-attendance. Delegates must be currently enrolled as CSU students.

Section 2: There shall be an Executive Board, subject in all respects to the general council.

Section 3: Undergraduate chapters of the MGC shall be comprised of college/university national and local fraternities and sororities at CSU.

Section 4: No more than one member of the same organization may serve on the Executive Council, but more than one member of the same organization may serve on Executive Committees.

Section 5: In the event of multiple members from the same organization on the Executive Board [if there are not enough organizations to fill the executive spots] then the President and Vice-President, or the President and Treasurer may not be members of the same organization.

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: The founding organizations of the council include Alpha Phi Gamma Sorority, Inc. (ΑΦΓ), Beta Kappa Gamma Fraternity, Inc. (ΒΚΓ), Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc (ΛΘΝ), Nu Alpha Kappa Fraternity, Inc. (ΝΑΚ), Pi Lambda Chi Latina Sorority, Inc (ΠΛΧ), Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Inc. (ΣΛΒ), and Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority, Inc. (ΣΛΓ).

Section 2: Each affiliate organization must appoint at least one representative to attend general body weekly meetings, in addition to the Executive Officer. Each organization in attendance will be given one vote in all voting matters. Organizations that are excused from the meeting will not incur a fine, but lose voting rights on anything for the meeting at which they are not present. In the event of a tie, the President of the Multicultural Greek Council is given the tie-breaking vote.

Section 3: The member organization must be a/an inter/national culturally based (not limited to race or ethnicity) Greek letter fraternity or sorority organization oriented in community service and social activities. In order to remain in active status with the council, a member organization shall maintain at least a 2.00 cumulative GPA among its active members and be in good standing with the university. If the organization is on probation for any reason by the University, the delegates of the respective organization may attend the scheduled meetings but will lose their privilege to vote. Each voting member of the affiliate organizations must maintain at least a 2.00 cumulative GPA, be in good standing with the university, and be active within his or her affiliate organization, and their chapter must be in good standing with the council.

Section 4: There shall be two classes of membership: Established and Associate. An Established member shall be defined by the following:

- A) MGC members shall consist of Colorado State University Multicultural Greek sorority and fraternity chapters rather than individuals.
- B) Any individual as a member of sorority or fraternity chapter that is a member of MGC shall have automatic membership in the MGC.
- C) Members must be in good standing with Colorado State University.
 - a. Each chapter shall have the right to one delegate and one alternate.
 - b. An active roster has been submitted within two weeks of the onset of the semester to the Office of Greek Life
- D) Member Organizations are allowed no more than three unexcused absences at a MGC Meeting/Event throughout the course of an entire calendar year. The Executive Board will conduct a hearing upon the third absence into the reason for the absences and further consequences will be left to the discretion of the Executive Board. Fines of \$20 (twenty-dollars) will be imposed for unexcused absences.
- E) An organization wishing to go inactive or withdraw from the council must notify the council in writing of intentions and reasons for withdrawing membership from the MGC within one month of the onset of the academic semester. If the drop deadline

is not met, the organization is held responsible for all financial and participation responsibilities for that semester.

Section 5: New chapters are required to obtain recognition from the MGC, the Greek Life Office and SLiCE. New chapter's status is defined as "Associate Members" status and consists of new organizations that have petitioned the MGC for recognition. This is the first step in the recognition process. Associate members may have a voice but no vote, nor may they hold an office on the MGC Executive Board.

Section 6: CSU's recognized student organizations shall not deny membership to any student on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Section 7: Violation of any section of this constitution by a member organization shall warrant a meeting in front of the MGC Judicial Board and/or the Associated Students of Colorado State University Judicial Board.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

Section 1: Executive Board: The elected officers of Council shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Greek Liaison(s), and Public Relations.

Section 2: MGC shall have as its primary advisor, the MGC advisor, as designated by the Office of Greek Life at CSU.

Section 3. Vacancy of Office

A temporary vacancy, less than three weeks, of any office shall be appointed by the President. A permanent vacancy, more than three weeks, of any office shall be filled by a special election. In the event that the President is unable to hold office, the Vice President shall assume the Presidency.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

Section 1: All committees shall be formed and established in accordance with the needs of the MGC to carry out the programs of the council and delegate duties to the General Council. The establishment of such committees will be under the direction and supervision of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

Section 1: The meetings of the council shall be held weekly beginning with the first week of school in each new semester. It is the responsibility of the President to allocate a common time and notify the organizations before the onset of the semester. If voted upon by the council, a meeting may be suspended if the council has nothing to discuss.

Section 2: All special and/or emergency meetings will be called by the President. Each organization shall be notified and the meeting will occur within 48 hours in which all

organizations will be expected to attend. There are no fines for missed emergency meetings however the organization's vote will not be counted.

Section 3: The Executive Committee shall meet prior to each general meeting.

ARTICLE IX: FUNDS AND OBLIGATIONS

Section 1: Membership Dues: Each organization shall contribute \$65 (sixty-five dollars) by the third meeting of the semester, member organizations with less than five active members will pay \$10 (Ten dollars) per member. Failure to do so will result in an additional **\$25 (twenty-five dollar)** fine per week. Failure to pay by the end of the semester will result in the loss of voting rights for the organization from the council.

Section 2: All money collected or raised belonging to the MGC shall be deposited and disbursed through an established bank account for the organization—all funds must be deposited within 48 hours after collection and the receipt must be documented by the Treasurer. No money collected by MGC will be spent on alcohol or illegal substances.

ARTICLE X: SCHEDULING EVENTS

Section 1: Each organization will provide the council a tentative calendar of public events at the end of each meeting. Public events are defined as an event in which you would expect fellow Greek members and social organizations to attend [Ex: Parties, fundraisers, yearly celebrations, guest speakers.] It is also the responsibility of each organization to notify the council of any changes to the calendar.

Section 2: This calendar will be organized by the Secretary and readily available to all council members. Failure to notify the council of a publically scheduled event may result in an appeals process that may be carried through by the organization that scheduled the first event against the organization that scheduled another event on the same date and time. The organization may choose to file an appeal to be given to the judicial board president (e.g. MGC President) within a week of said double booking. The judicial board will then convene and bring the accused organization to a judicial meeting at which time they will be given the opportunity to defend their decision to double book an event. The judicial board will reach a final verdict. If found guilty, the judicial board will take the necessary actions against the accused organization for violation of the constitution and will decide on a disciplinary action in accordance with the severity of the issue.

Section 3: If two organizations announce an event on the same day at the meeting, then the appeals process becomes null and void and both organizations may host their event, though re-scheduling will be highly encouraged by the executive board.

Section 4: Each organization is highly encouraged to co-program with other member organizations.

ARTICLE XI: ACCOUNTABILITY

Section 1: An attendance tally of member organizations to MGC events will be accounted by the MGC Secretary.

Section 2: All member organizations must have a minimum of 2 members in attendance at all events hosted by the MGC, unless there are less than 5 total active members, in which case only 1 member is required to attend.

- A) MGC events do not include events held by member organizations

Section 3: Penalties and Fines

- A) Definition of Absence – If member organization does not have the required number of 2 members (or 1) present at a MGC event.
- B) If a member organization is absent from an MGC function they will be charged the equivalent of an unexcused absence to a council meeting, \$20 (twenty-dollars).
- C) An organization is allowed three fined absences in a calendar year. In the event of the third absence, said organization will have to appear before the Judicial Board of the MGC for review and possible dismissal. If the organization is allowed to remain, they are subjected to loss of voting rights for one semester and dues being doubled for the subsequent semester.
- D) If an organization is dismissed from the MGC, they must re-apply as an Associate Member for consideration to rejoin the council.

ARTICLE XI: JUDICIAL BOARD

Section 1: The Judicial Board will be responsible for matters involving council regulations and organization disputes. In addition, violations by members belonging to the board may result in disciplinary action against an individual in accordance with university regulations. The President shall preside as Chair of the Judicial Board.

- A) The Judicial Board shall consist of one (1) member from each organization. The Delegate shall have the first claim to this seat, but can be substituted by their MGC Executive. If an organization does not have a seat on the executive council but has voting rights, they are given a seat on the Judicial Board.
- B) Received written complaint must be presented to the council no later than seven (7) business days following the alleged incident; in consultation with the Executive Board, the date, time and location of the hearing shall be set but must be within five (5) business days of the written complaint.
- C) Any organization accused of a violation shall be notified of such and given a maximum of five (5) business days to present its case before the Judicial Board.
- D) The hearing will be open only to representatives of the presenting and defending organizations and any of their witness. In addition, the Director or Assistant Director of Greek Life must be present at the hearing.
- E) Hearing Procedure
 - a. The MGC Advisor will preside over the hearing.
 - b. The accused organization will be brought up in front of the judicial board
 - c. The judicial board will announce the violations which have occurred or the ground on which the organization is being brought up on
 - d. The accused organization will be given the opportunity to defend themselves and provide an explanation to the board
 - e. The Judicial Board will convene in private and determine a final verdict to the accused organization
- F) The organization must abide by all levied sanctions.

- G) An organization can be penalized for an action or non-action if such act would violate University policy, Council policy or violate the policy of its respective organization.
- H) Any sanction levied against an organization can be appealed through the General Council of the MGC (Within two weeks of the sanction).

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Proposal of Amendments: Amendments to this Constitution or By-Laws may be proposed by affiliate chapters through their representatives.

Section 2: The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended as follows: Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be submitted to the Executive Council ten (10) business days before the meeting at which they shall be presented. The Executive Committee, through the Secretary, shall circulate the proposed amendment to all voting representatives before the meeting seven (7) business days in advance.

- A) The proposed amendment will be voted upon at the following general meeting.
- B) The Executive Committee will only make recommendations (no alterations) to the proposed amendment.

Section 3: The Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be considered adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote by members present at the meeting. The amendment is immediately effective unless otherwise stipulated in the proposal.

ARTICLE XIII: COLONIZATION/EXPANSION

Section 1: Any fraternity or sorority wanting to enter into the MGC shall submit a petition to the Executive Board to establish its eligibility and possible membership status. The MGC Vice President will oversee the progress of the associate member group.

Section 2: Only one "Associate Member" group will be admitted into the council per semester, with a maximum of two organizations per academic year. In the event that multiple organizations petition the board for "Associate Member" status, the council may elect to vote and allow additional "Associate Members" onto the council.

Section 3: A presentation is required before the General Council before "Associate Member" status can be granted. The presentation should include the following information:

- A) Any alumni in the area (if applicable).
- B) The number of members at Colorado State University currently associated with the fraternity/sorority (i.e. founding members)
- C) Sample of literature and publications of the fraternity/sorority available to or for the use of the colony. This portfolio shall include: the constitution and by-laws, rules, regulations, policies, websites, and photos pertaining the colony.
- D) A list of chartered chapters.
- E) Basic information regarding the organization: Organization's name, founding date, mascot, colors, flower, etc.

Section 4: A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the MGC, allotting 1 vote per organization, is required for entry into the MGC under "Associate Member" status.

Section 5: If approval to colonize is granted, a letter will be sent to the petitioning organization containing the recommendation of the Council, and the Greek Advisor, including but not limited to the conditions of the colonization, as well as the requirements for installation of an active chapter. Each organization will be given one (1) calendar year to complete the necessary requirements.

Section 6: The colony/chapter is bound by MGC Constitution, By-Laws and all University rules and regulations pertaining to organized chapters.

Section 7: A colony/chapter must achieve recognition from SLiCE and a faculty and/or staff advisor to oversee the founding of the organization.

Section 8: During "Associate Membership" status, a group shall fulfill the following requirements:

- A) Submit to the MGC Executive Board a progress report four (4) times throughout the calendar year. Each report shall be written and orally submitted to the general council. Included in this progress report shall be an evaluation of the group's:
 - 1) Growth
 - 2) Scholastic Achievement
 - 3) Financial Stability
 - 4) Social Activities
 - 5) Service to the University and Community

- 6) Future Plans, Goals and Projects
 - 7) Any other data relating to the group's progress
 - 8) A tentative Calendar of events relevant to the group's up-coming events (Ex: Meetings, Community Service Events, Fundraisers, etc.)
- B) "Associate Member" organizations are also responsible for completing the necessary components in the "Associate Member Guidelines" sheet [Appendix A] required to be an active status which include:
- 1) President must attend all MGC meetings, consistently and be actively engaged. If the President is unable to attend, they will send the Vice-President in their place.
 - 2) Responsible for participation in all MGC events
 - 3) Must pay all dues on time, on time and in the full amount.
 - 4) Responsible to organize a community service in conjunction with Vice President of MGC that involves all MGC organizations.
 - 5) Responsible for hosting a Fundraiser in conjunction with the Treasurer of MGC that involves all MGC organizations, in which 50% of the profits will go to the organization and 50% will go to the MGC council at CSU.
 - 6) Must be in good standing with Greek Life office including all paper work must be turned in., including a full roster with all listed positions of each of the members.
 - 7) Must be aware and abide by federal, state, local, university, and council policies and rules.
 - 8) Responsible for understanding the MGC Constitution. (All Associate members need to obtain a copy and understand the constitution).
 - 9) Responsible to have a Liaison representative to attend Executive meetings.

Section 9: Upon the successful completion of the progress reports and the "Associate Member Guidelines" sheet, the General council shall vote on active status for the organization. Upon approval, the organization shall be given a letter granting them full voting rights within the council. If the organization fails to complete the required "Associate Member Guidelines," they may petition the Executive Board for an extension. If at any time the Executive Board feels that the "Associate Member" status has been violated by the organization, they will be brought up in front of the Executive Board to discuss possible termination of the "Associate Member" status. At any time if the "Associate Member" groups feels that the Vice President is not upholding their Colonization/expansion (Article XIII) they may petition for a MGC executive replacement.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1: OFFICERS

Section 1: Eligibility and Terms of Officers

The President and Vice President shall have the following qualifications:

- A) In good standing with their respective affiliate organizations
- B) President shall have at least one year minimum active status within their affiliate organization and one semester active in the MGC (Executive Board Member, Delegate Member, or Head of Committee).
- C) Maintain a cumulative GPA of a 2.25 and at least a 2.0 in the semester prior to the election or appointment
- D) Be enrolled at Colorado State University as a full time student.
- E) Officers must attend all Executive Board meetings with 72 hours notice. No more than two unexcused absences will be allowed per academic semester.
- F) Officers are required to attend all General Council Meetings. No more than two unexcused absences will be allowed per academic semester.
- G) Subject to removal from office should be if member fails to maintain requirements of the above state in 1, 2, 3, or 4, or if he/she fails to maintain responsibilities stated in Section 2.
- H) Removal procedures will follow due process, including a seven day notice in writing, the right to speak on one's behalf and the right to an appeal.
- I) No person serving as president of their organization may serve as the President of the Multicultural Greek Council.
- J) Officers shall serve from May to December of the following year with a transition period from November to December for the training of incoming officers.

Section 2: Elected Officers and Duties

Duties of Officers:

- A) President
 - a. To preside at all meetings, regular or special
 - i. To act as a representative from the MGC at conferences, meetings and all other functions.
 - b. Has no voting rights, but the President has the authority to break a tie; however, the president may not use their vote to create a tie in the Council meetings
 - c. Develop an agenda prior to each meeting
 - d. Remains neutral and maintains the best interest for the MGC
 - e. Create an academic semester calendar for the MGC
 - f. Oversee see all expenditures of the budget funds of the council
- B) Vice President
 - a. Runs meetings in absence of President in this case shall adhere to all responsibilities stated in Article 1, Section 2A.
 - b. Responsible for presiding over two community service projects over the year, one per semester planed in advanced.
 - c. Responsible for overseeing colonization/expansion.
 - i. Meet with associate members within two weeks of being granted "associate member status" to review associate member guidelines.
 - ii. Meets with Associate member group to establish due dates for requirements.

- C) Secretary
 - a. Keep a calendar of events for each year, updated each semester.
 - b. Records and presents minutes at MGC Meetings
 - c. Distributes minutes one week prior to the next MGC meeting by email to an updated delegate roster list
 - d. Keeps attendance for organizations at meetings and at council sponsored events
 - e. Maintain a current roster of all MGC member information
 - f. Perform any necessary clerical duties of the MGC
- D) Treasurer
 - a. To collect, take charge of and disburse when authorized, any funds or moneys acquired by the Council, and to be responsible for said moneys and funds
 - b. Keeps record for all financial transactions of the MGC
 - c. Responsible for heading two fundraising committees for MGC
 - d. Present a balance sheet of MGC's accounts at the start of each meeting.
- E) Greek Life Liaison(s)
 - a. Participate fully in all trainings
 - b. Serves as MGC Chairs of Greek Week.
 - c. Responsible to create contact with other councils (NPHC, IFC, Pan-Hellenic) and report back information
 - d. Develop ways to promote the interests, concerns and ideals of the MGC
 - e. To inform and encourage support of programs and/or activities of individual council member organizations
- (F) Public Relations
 - a. Maintain and manage the CSUMGC website
 - b. Create flyers for MGC events
 - c. Consulate with GMAP for marketing of Greek life
 - d. Making sure MGC is positively represented on Colorado State University's Campus

Section 3: Election of Officers

- A) Elections will be held at the end of November of each calendar year.
- B) Elections shall be majority vote and be done by secret ballot. The nominee receiving simple majority vote shall be elected. Every organization has one vote; in the event of a tie, the President shall cast the tie breaking vote.
- C) All candidates shall be required to give a speech on the day of elections, not exceeding five (5) minutes, detailing their reasons for seeking office and their qualifications.
- D) Officers will hold their position for the calendar year from January to December with a transition period from November to December.
- E) If, for any reason, an officer must step down, a replacement officer shall be elected by the voting members as soon as possible.
- F) Election procedures will follow Robert's Rules of Order.
- G) Anyone from any organization is eligible to be elected in the absence or removal of an organization, pending they meet the criteria for Executive Officers.

Section 4: Vacancies and Impeachment

- A) In the event of a vacancy in office, all vacant offices under four weeks shall be appointed by the Multicultural Greek Council President with approval of Executive Officers. All permanent vacant offices shall be elected by the MGC council. The

election process will be the standard mode of elections for officers as conducted by the MGC. An announcement will be made at a general meeting of the vacancy. Qualified applications will have one week to give their speech at the following MGC council meeting.

- B) Impeachment
 - a. Removal from Office:
 - i. All elected officers may be subject to impeachment consistent with violation of any article of the MGC Constitution and Bylaws.
 - ii. Grounds for dismissal of officers or members shall include: neglect of duty, more than three (3) absences from meetings per semester, unless notification of absence is submitted in writing to the President twenty-four (24) hours in advance; failure to accept responsibilities, or failure to work in harmony with the purpose of the organizations.
 - b. Procedure
 - i. Any active member organization(s) or Executive officer may bring an officer of the MGC at Colorado State University up for impeachment with due cause. The alleged violations must be presented in writing and appear with the sponsoring organization(s) or Executive officer on the established agenda.
 - c. Notification
 - i. All Executive Board members will be notified in writing of the alleged charges, the officer accused, and the date and time of the complaint.
 - d. Hearing
 - i. The Executive Board of the MGC will convene and formally hear the accusations of the sponsoring organization(s) or Executive officer and the rebuttal from the accused officer.
 - e. Sanctions
 - i. Removal from office (majority vote of the Executive Board required)
 - ii. Probation and review
 - f. Decision
 - i. The decision of the Executive Board is final

ARTICLE 2. COMMITTEES

Section 1: The Committees of the MGC shall be: Community Service, Fundraising, Social, and Public Relations.

- A) The Vice President will coordinate the Community Serve Committee. It will work to disperse information to students throughout the Colorado State University campus fraternity/sorority system.
- B) The Treasurer will coordinate the Fundraising Committee. It will contact other institutions to share ideas and resources.
- C) The Greek Liaison(s) will coordinate the Social Committee. It will be responsible for organizing all Greek events and relating information to the NPHC, IFC and Pan-Hellenic councils.
- D) The Public Relations will coordinate the Public Relations Committee. It will be responsible for the promotion of MGC events, community services, and other activities.

- E) Other committees may be created through a vote by the Executive Board on a needed basis throughout the academic year.

ARTICLE 3: FINANCE

Section 1: Dues shall be collected by the fourth meeting of each semester.

Section 2: Absences and Fines

- A) Definition of an Absence—when both required delegates from a member organization do not attend a General Meeting or other attendance required function. An absence can be avoided by seeing an approved absence from the President twenty-four hours prior to the meeting, or in the case of an emergency.
- B) There will be a \$20 (twenty-dollar) fine to the respective member organization with each unexcused absence at the General Meeting or other attendance required function. Fines should be paid before or by the next General Meeting.
- C) Appeals may be made to the Judicial Board within seven (7) days.
- D) Definition of Tardiness—when a delegate is not present when the meeting is called to order. An Excused Tardy is when a delegate notifies the secretary prior to when the meeting is called to order that they will be late, in which case they will not be marked as tardy.
- E) If a delegate is tardy to a General Meeting three (3) times in one semester, it will be equivalent to one (1) absence fine which will be charged to the respective delegate's member organization.

Section 3: It is the duty of the Treasurer to work closely to be sure of the financial status of each member organization before any voting may take place.

Section 4: Reactivation---Organizations wishing to reactivate with the Council must pay the current semester dues and any outstanding financial obligations to the Council.

ARTICLE 4 – AUTHORIZATION

Section 1. The President of the MGC at CSU is authorized to speak on behalf of the council. The President shall authorize any others speaking on behalf of the MGC at CSU.

ARTICLE 5 – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern in all matters not provided for in this Constitution and Bylaws of the Multicultural Greek Council.

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