

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

CONSTITUTION

PI ALPHA ALPHA

Article I - Name

This chapter shall be known as the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) Chapter of Pi Alpha Alpha, the National Honor Society of Public Affairs and Administration.

Article II - Purposes

The purposes of this society shall be to encourage and recognize outstanding scholarship and accomplishment in public affairs and administration, to promote the advancement of education and practice in the art and science of public affairs and administration, and to foster integrity, professionalism and creative performance in the conduct of governmental and related public service activities.

Article III - Membership

Section 1 - Qualifications

Membership shall be limited to those of academic excellence and achievement and/or distinguished public service who are or have been enrolled or teach in public affairs or public administration programs, or who serve or have served in the public service.

Section 2 - Classes of Membership

Membership shall be limited to those who demonstrate academic excellence in public affairs and administration programs in NASPAA member schools and/or distinguished public service, and who fall within the following classes: student, alumni, faculty, and honorary. All membership is national membership with local chapter affiliation where appropriate.

(a) Student Membership

(1) Undergraduate Students

Candidates for undergraduate degrees who rank in the upper ten percent of their graduating class may be inducted provided that:

(a) They must have completed fifty percent (50%) of the required course work, and be in the upper twenty percent (20%) of their classes (a minimum of 18 semester hours).

(b) they have maintained an average grade of 3.7 on a scale of 4.0 in all courses included in the major in public affairs and public administration, and at least a 3.0 in all other course work;

(c) they have met the requirements of (a) and (b) above and are in the last semester or quarter of their junior year.

(2) Transfer Students

Transfer students who meet the qualifications for undergraduate membership may be inducted after they have completed a minimum of one full year of course work in the school or college to which they transfer and in which the chapter is located.

(3) Graduate Students

A graduate student may be inducted from among the master's degree students who have maintained a GPA of at least 3.7 for 21 semester hours and have completed 50 percent of the majors required coursework.

(4) Doctoral Students

Doctoral students who meet the requirements for Pi Alpha Alpha master's degree student membership or who have completed all the requirements for the MPA or its equivalent, may be inducted without restriction as to number.

(b) Alumni Membership

Those who meet all the requirements of student membership but who have graduated before induction by a local chapter may be inducted as alumni members. Student members shall become alumni members upon graduation.

(c) Faculty Membership

Any full-time member of a NASPAA member institution faculty offering course work in public affairs or administration degree program at which a Pi Alpha Alpha chapter is located, may be elected to faculty membership by such local chapter.

(d) Honorary Membership

(1) Local Honorary

Any person who has achieved distinction in public administration and who possess the distinguished qualities that Pi Alpha Alpha foster may be inducted to honorary membership in a local chapter- Local chapters may induct as many as two individuals per year without express approval of the national council. Prior to induction of more than two honorary members, the local chapter must request and receive approval by the national council.

(2) National Honorary

A person who has made a particularly distinguished contribution to public administration through practice or education may be inducted to national honorary membership.

Section 3 - Nomination for Membership

(a) Membership

The Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Chapter shall have a nominating committee which shall consist of three members, two of whom shall be members of the full-time faculty teaching in the public affairs and public administration program of the university.

National Honorary Membership

The national council and local chapters may nominate candidates for national honorary membership. The selection of the national honorees will be made by a majority vote of the national executive committee at

the Annual Conference of NASPAA or as prescribed by national council policy.

Section 4 - Election of Chapter Membership

Election to chapter membership shall be by a three-fourths vote of those present at an official chapter meeting.

Section 5 - Dues

Each fellow shall pay such initiation fees and annual dues as may be prescribed by the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Chapter.

Section 6 - Transfer of Student Fellows

A student fellow of the National Society, in good standing, who transfers to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and meets the appropriate requirements above, shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of this Chapter but shall be considered an official member of the chapter in which the student was inducted.

Article IV - Local Organization

Section 1 - Officers

The officers of the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Chapter shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, treasurer, and a chapter adviser, and their names shall be reported to the National Director of Pi Alpha Alpha. All officers shall perform duties as prescribed by this Chapter and in accordance with procedures established by the National Council of Pi Alpha Alpha. All officers must be members of Pi Alpha Alpha at the time of induction.

(a) President

The President shall preside at all meetings and serve as the official representative of this Chapter. The President shall be elected by the membership from among the student and faculty members. The President ensures that the Chapter abides by its bylaws and established policies.

(b) Vice-President

The Vice-President shall serve in the capacity of the President during such times as he/she may be absent and perform other duties as directed by this Chapter. The Vice-President shall be elected by the membership from among the student and faculty members.

(c) Secretary

The Secretary shall act as President during the absence of the President and the Vice-President and shall keep the official minutes of this Chapter and perform other duties as normally are associated with this office. The Secretary shall be elected by the membership from among the student and faculty members.

(d) Treasurer

The Treasurer shall collect the dues and perform such other duties as normally are associated with this office.

(e) Chapter Adviser

The Chapter Adviser shall be chosen by the chapter from among the tenured faculty member of Pi Alpha Alpha. The Chapter Adviser may be the NASPAA Principal Representative and/or the Treasurer of this Chapter.

(f) Elections

Officers, except the Chapter Adviser, shall be elected annually and shall assume their offices following their election. A majority of the membership shall be required for the election. Should a vacancy occur in any office, the Chapter Adviser or MPA Program Director will be granted the power to appoint an interim until the next election cycle occurs. Besides interim appointments, no individual shall hold any office for more than one full term.

Section 2 – Meetings

Regular meetings of the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Chapter shall be conducted at least bi-annually, at the beginning of the Fall and Spring academic terms. Special meetings may be called by the President or Chapter Adviser.

Section 3 - Voting

(a) Elections

All elections shall be by secret ballot.

(b) Business

A simple majority of the membership present will be sufficient to act on business before this Chapter unless specified otherwise in the adopted rules and regulations of this Chapter and/or of the National Council of Pi Alpha Alpha.

Section 4-Delegate(s) to the Biennial National Convention of Pi Alpha Alpha

The Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Chapter may select a delegate to represent this Chapter in all business conducted during the Biennial National Convention. This Chapter may designate more than one delegate to the convention, but shall be entitled to but one vote. The name of the chapter member to cast this vote shall be reported to the National Director of Pi Alpha Alpha prior to the convention. The expenses of delegates shall not be a charge on the national treasury of Pi Alpha Alpha.

Article V - Amendments

The Constitution of this Chapter may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the active membership within a period specified by the President and Chapter Adviser.