

# Constitution of Rho Lambda

## Article I - Name

This organization is to be known as Rho Lambda. The Greek letters, Rho Lambda, signify “Panhellenic Leadership.”

## Article II - Purpose

The purpose of this organization is to honor those women within the Greek community who have been outstanding in the display of demonstrated leadership, ability, and loyalty to the Greek community and their sorority.

## Article III - Colors and Pin

- A. The colors of the organization shall be crimson and gold.
- B. The pin shall be a gold, broke, triangle with a crimson inset bearing the Greek letters, Rho Lambda, in gold.

## Article IV - Officers

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer

## Article V - Membership

- A. Women who in the opinion of the members of Rho Lambda have displayed outstanding
- B. leadership, ability, and loyalty throughout their years of sorority affiliation shall be eligible for
- C. membership.
- D. Nominations for membership may be submitted to the members of Rho Lambda by the president and local advisors of each national sorority or by membership application.
- E. An overall average of a 2.75 (on a 4.0 scale) is required for membership.
- F. Only active members of a national sorority in their junior or senior year are eligible for
- G. membership. To be eligible for membership, those described above must have been initiated,
- H. active members of their sorority for at least one full academic semesters.
- I. E. Transfer students who are already members of a national sorority will be eligible for membership after one term or semester on the university or college campus.
- J. F. To be eligible for membership, candidates must be regularly enrolled, full-time undergraduate
- K. students in the university or college.
- L. G. The maximum number of new members elected in any year shall be ten percent (10%) of the total sorority membership.
- M. H. Honorary members shall have demonstrated outstanding service to the sorority system but need not have been sorority women.
- N. Honorary members shall have all the privileges of membership with the exception of voting and holding offices.

#### Article VI - Meetings

- A. There will be a minimum of four meetings per year.
- B. Special meetings shall be called at the request of the President.

#### Article VII - Finances

All new initiates will pay a fee of \$40 to the Gamma Gamma Chapter. \$15 will be used for a National office fee, while the other \$25 will be used to purchase the Rho Lambda Pin.

#### Article IX - Amendments

This constitution can be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active chapters of Rho Lambda.

## **By-laws of Rho Lambda Southeast Missouri State University Gamma Gamma Chapter**

#### Article I - Meetings

The time and place of meetings shall be decided by the membership at the first college meeting of the year.

#### Article II - Procedure

- A. Procedure in meetings not covered in the Constitution or in the By-Laws is governed by Roberts Rules of Order.
- B. One-half (1/2) of the active membership shall constitute a quorum.

#### Article III - Finance

- A. The expense of tapping and officers' supplies shall be borne by the Panhellenic Council and the National Pan-Hellenic Council for a new chapter. After members are initiated, the chapter should be self-sustaining.
- B. A one-time initiation fee of \$40.00 (including pin and certificate) shall be levied upon new members; \$15.00 of this shall be paid to the National Office for membership dues.
- C. After the one-time initiation fee, no fee shall be levied upon current members.
- D. No fees shall be levied upon honorary members.

#### Article IV - Selection of Members

- A. Selection of members shall take place in the fall and/or spring of each academic year.
- B. Selection of new members requires a quorum to be present.
- C. New members shall be selected by a unanimous vote of the active membership of the Gamma Gamma Chapter of Rho Lambda.
- D. Selection of new members shall be considered by recommendations from members of Rho Lambda that are in good standing.
- E. An overall average of a 2.75 (on a 4.0 scale) is required at the time of consideration for membership.

#### Article V - Election of Officers

- A. The election of officers shall take place after the tapping of new members in the spring of each academic year.
- B. Officers shall be elected on the basis of their expected enrollment for the following entire, academic year.
- C. The election procedure shall be assisted by an advisor.

#### Article VI - Amendments

These by-laws can be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active members of Gamma Gamma Chapter of Rho Lambda.

#### **Anti-Hazing Statement**

1. Hazing for the purpose of pledging, initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for maintaining membership in a group, organization or team shall be defined as:
  1. Any intentional, knowing or reckless act, whether on or off campus, which endangers the mental or physical health or safety of any person, regardless of consent, or which violates public law or University policy.
  2. Hazing includes, but is not limited to:
    1. Any physical brutality such as whipping, beating, striking, paddling, branding, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activity;
    2. Any physical activity such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement, calisthenics, or other activity that subjects a student to risk of harm, or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of a student;
    3. Any activity involving consumption of food, liquid, alcoholic beverage, drug, or substance that subjects a student to risk of harm, or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of a student;
    4. Any activity that intimidates or threatens a student with ostracism, subjects a student to extreme mental stress, shame or humiliation, or adversely affects the mental health or dignity of a student, or that may reasonably be expected to cause a student to leave the organization or institution rather than submit to acts described above; and,
    5. Any activity, in which a person solicits, plans, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts to aid another in hazing or intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly permits hazing to occur and/or knowingly fails to report the incident.
  2. Hazing is inconsistent with Missouri laws/statutes, University policies, the Student Code of Conduct, and fraternal/organizational laws. Rho Lambda and its members agree to abide by the anti-hazing policy required of all student organizations at Southeast Missouri State University.

## **Non-Discrimination Statement**

Southeast Missouri State University and Rho Lambda are committed to providing a safe, civil and positive learning and working environment for its faculty, staff, students, and visitors, free from discrimination in any form. This policy applies to all members and guests of the University community and prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, genetic information, disability, or protected veteran status in any of its programs or activities. *Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1971, Section 106.14 makes an exception for social fraternities and sororities in regard to gender for membership criteria.*

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