

PHI LAMBDA UPSILON  
HONORARY CHEMICAL SOCIETY  
NATIONAL CONSTITUTION

February 1, 2003

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Constitution 1  
(1 February 2003)

THE  
NATIONAL CONSTITUTION  
of  
PHI LAMBDA UPSILON  
Honorary Chemical Society

Article I. Name and objective

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be PHI LAMBDA UPSILON, Honorary Chemical Society\*.

Section 2. The object of this Society shall be the promotion of high scholarship and original investigation in all branches of pure and applied chemistry.

Article II. Chapters

Section 1.

(a) A chapter of this Society may be established in an institution of learning in the United States of America which offers a major in chemistry and is on the approved list of schools meeting the American Chemical Society's minimum standards for undergraduate professional education in chemistry, or offers a major in chemical engineering which is approved by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and offers a major in chemistry requiring at least thirty (30) semester credit hours in chemistry courses for graduation. A chapter of this Society may be established in an institution of learning in Canada after determination by the National Officers that the institution meets the minimum standards of the American Chemical Society and/or the American Institute of Chemical Engineers as indicated in the previous sentence.

(b) For establishment of a new chapter, a local honorary society, approved by college administration authorities shall have been in existence for at least one (1) year before consideration may be accorded this group by

\* Incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois, March 12, 1913.  
Letters registered in the United States Patent Office, August 4, 1931.

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the National Expansion Committee. Furthermore, the local honorary group shall comprise members of the faculty and students, whose scholastic records meet the requirements of the Society, in sufficient number to maintain an active chapter as judged by the National Expansion Committee.

Section 2. Approval of a petition for the establishment of a new chapter shall require the affirmative vote of at least three-fourths of the Executive Committee.

Section 3. The procedure for the establishment of chapter b shall be set forth in the BY-Laws of this Constitution (cf. National By-Laws, Article V.).

Section 4.

(a) A chapter shall be declared inactive by the National Secretary if, in two (2) consecutive academic years, the chapter initiates no new members. The academic year is defined as the period from July 1st through June 30th.

(i)The National Secretary shall notify the chapter, the Chapter Councilor, and the National Executive Committee of inactive status. Also at this time, the National Secretary shall notify the chapter and the principal administrator of the department that all of the chapter's records, including an inventory of these records, must be sent to the National Historian, within one (1) year, if the chapter remains inactive. Transportation costs will be borne by the Society. These records will be returned to the chapter upon its reactivation, the chapter bearing transportation costs. National Secretary shall have the power to grant such authorization.

(ii) If the chapter is without officers, a group of at least two (2) members of the Society on campus may request of the National Secretaryh authorization to elect and to initiate new members, and to provide for the election of officers. The National Secretary shall have the power to grant such

authorization.

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(iii) Given approval by the National Executive Committee the National Secretary shall remove the chapter from inactive status upon receipt of a letter of intent from a faculty member. Furthermore, evidence from the Chapter officers of a firm desire and preparation to initiate new members must be submitted.

(b) If a chapter remains in inactive status for three (3) consecutive years from the time it is declared inactive, the National Secretary shall suspend the Charter of the chapter.

(c) If any chapter of the Society, of whatever status, shall act in violation of the Society's Constitution the Administrative Council shall have the power to take such action as it may seem fit, including Charter suspension or withdrawal.

(d) Given approval by the National Executive Committee the National Secretary shall annul a Charter suspension upon receipt of evidence from the chapter officers of a firm desire and preparation to initiate new members, and/or evidence that any Constitution violations have ceased. Furthermore, a letter of intent from a faculty member should be submitted.

(e) For re-establishment of a chapter after Charter withdrawal, the formal procedures specified in this Constitution, Article II, Sections 1, 2 and 3, for the establishment of a new chapter shall be required.

Section 5. The chapters shall be named with Greek letters in alphabetical order according to the time of their installation, provided that chapters beyond the twenty-fourth (24th) be designated by double letters, Alpha (alphabet); beyond the forty-eighth (48th), Beta (alphabet), etc., as is customary in Greek-letter organizations.

Section 6. Composite Chapters:

(a) Any chapter of the Society may be authorized by the National Secretary to form a composite chapter with affiliated groups of members located at undergraduate, degree-granting institutions in its vicinity and to

elect members from such institutions,

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provided that the candidates proposed for membership possess the Constitution qualifications set forth in this Constitution, Article 3 (cf. National By-Laws, Article VI.). The National Expansion Committee shall grant prior approval of institutions at which such affiliate groups of members may be established in accord with this Constitution, Article 2, Section 1 (a). For the purpose of this Section, the individual group of such a composite chapter, which was originally chartered as a chapter by the Society, shall be referred to as the "central chapter".

(b) Any such composite chapter shall have the power to solve its own problems of organization, selection of chairmen at affiliated campuses, and the holding of joint meetings.

(c) Election to membership and other official actions involving the affiliate groups of such composite chapters shall be held only at the location of the central chapter; provided-

(i) That each affiliate group may name its own committee on eligibility and nominate for membership individuals who meet the requirements of this Constitution, Article III (cf. National By-Laws, Article VI.);

(ii) That each affiliate group be represented, at elections and other business meetings of the central chapter, by one (1) or more representatives who shall present the names of worthy candidates for membership nominated by the affiliate group, together with scholarship ratings and other information which may be required. The voting representation of any affiliate group in the central chapter is such as may be mutually agreed upon by the various groups concerned.

(d) All business of such composite chapters with the National office, relating to initiations or any other activity, shall be transacted by the central chapter only.

(e) The initiation of new members, elected from the several associated branches shall be held at the location of the central chapter or at any of the

branch locations that may be selected as mutually agreeable to all concerned.

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Article III. Membership

Section 1. The Society shall consist of members and Honorary Members.

Section 2.

(a) The membership of the Society shall consist of:

(i) Graduate students:

(ii) Undergraduate students of junior and senior rank who are duly elected (cf. National By-Laws, Article VI.).

(iii) Individuals who are affiliated with institutions of learning where chapters are located, in some capacity other than that of registered student;

(iv) Individuals of recognized ability in their respective branches of chemistry, but who are not classified in any of the former categories. These elections should include only individuals who are making noteworthy contributions to chemistry and whose character, reputation, and influence would be a distinct asset to the Society.

(b) Student members must be registered in the regular session of the university; majoring in chemistry or chemical engineering or some other applied chemical field; or be active in research or administration in chemistry, chemical engineering, or some other applied chemical field; and participate in and support the activities of the chapter.

(c) Nominees for membership shall have declared their intention of following chemistry or chemical engineering or any other field of applied chemistry, as a profession.

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Section 3. Honorary Members shall be individuals of national reputation and of high attainments.

Section 4. Eligibility for membership shall not be limited by race, color, creed, national origin, or sex.

Section 5. A member of any chapter who may change residence shall have the right to affiliate with any other chapter if information from the member's own chapter or the National Secretary certifies the member to be in good standing. Any such member shall have the privilege of becoming a Charter Member of a new chapter, if invited to do so by the petitioning group (cf. National By-Laws, Article VI, Section 12(d)).

Section 6. Any member desiring to resign membership in the Society shall do so in writing to the National Executive Committee, through the local chapter secretary, at the same time surrendering the Membership Certificate and key.

The National Executive Committee shall have the power to act upon such resignation.

Section 7. If any member of the Society, of whatever classification, shall use membership in an unethical way, the National Executive Committee shall have the power to take such action as it may see fit. A unanimous vote of the National Executive Committee shall be required for action in such cases.

Section 8. All members of the Society shall be initiated according to an official ritual of the Society (cf. National By-Laws, Article VI, Section 10.).

Article IV. Insignia

Section 1. The emblem of the Society shall be a key, the general form of which is hexagonal. On this key, typical of the character and purpose of the organization, is a chemical formula, that of ortho-bromotoluene, the letters

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thereof being on the outer band of the emblem. Across the center is a horizontal band on which are the letters, Phi, Lambda and Upsilon. Above this band are crossed retorts and a Liebig bulb; and below it, the letters, sigma and tau, which are the initial letters of the motto of the Society.

Section 2. The colors of the Society shall be the pink and blue shades of litmus.

Section 3. The official Seal and Emblem of the Society shall embody features of design as shown in the following illustration:

Official Seal

Society Emblem (The Key)

Section 4. All jewelry of the Society shall be standardized and approved by official chapter proceedings and shall be purchasable only through the Office of the National Secretary.

Section 5. A chapter shall have the right to use the designs of the insignia on chapter stationery or official programs of the chapter. Those wishing to use the insignia for any other purpose must request prior permission from the National Secretary.

Article V. Chapter Administration

Section 1. The elective chapter officers of the Society shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Councilor, and Alumni Secretary. The office of Alumni Secretary is optional, but in the absence of an Alumni Secretary, the local chapter shall designate another member to perform these duties.

Section 2. Chapter officers, whenever possible, shall be elected in the month of April or May to serve for one (1) year, with the exception of Councilor, whose term of office shall be two (2) years and the Alumni Secretary whose term of office shall be fixed by the chapter.

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(a) A majority vote of the active chapter membership shall be sufficient to elect any officer, and a three-fourths majority shall be necessary to remove an officer at any time.

(b) The newly elected officers shall not assume their respective offices until they have been duly installed. Such installation shall occur before the close of the academic year during which such officers were elected, whereupon they shall immediately take office. They shall be installed according to an official ceremony adopted by the Society, or according to any other appropriate ceremony adopted by the chapters.

(c) Should any chapter office fall vacant, a successor shall be elected to hold office until the next regular election of chapter officers.

Section 3. The duties of each officer shall be those normally pertaining to that office and are enumerated in the By-Laws to this Constitution (cf. National By-Laws, Article VIII, Section 4.).

Section 4. Guidelines for chapter meetings, Records, and Dues must be followed as described in the By-Laws to this Constitution (cf. National By-Laws, Article VIII.).

Section 5. Chapter Jurisdiction. The chapters shall have sole jurisdiction in official proceedings involving the following:

- (a) Amendment of the National Constitution and By-Laws;
- (b) Enactment of new legislation affecting the chapters;
- (c) Changes in the initiation fee and other sources of income;
- (d) Utilization of the Society's reserve funds;
- (e) Changes in the imitation fee and other sources of income.
- (f) Election of the National officers; and

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(g) Any other matters relating to the welfare of the individual chapters.

Article VI. National Society Administration

Section 1. The National Executive Committee for the administration of the Society's affairs during the triennium shall consist of the National officers (cf. Article VII of this Constitution), and the most recently retired National President (cf. National By-Laws, Article II, Section 2.).

Section 2.

(a) The Administrative Council shall be the general governing body of the Society between Congress sessions and shall consist of the National officers, the two (2) most recently retired Past Presidents, and the Councilor and President of each active chapter with the National President as Chairman.

(b) The Administrative Council shall have sole jurisdiction in official proceedings involving the election of Honorary Members and other matters of policy relating to the Society at large providing that such action does not conflict with the jurisdiction of the chapters as defined in this Constitution, Article V, Section 5.

Section 3. The National Congress shall perform the function of:

- (a) Determining the national policy of the Society,
- (b) Interpreting the provisions of the National Constitution and By-Laws, proposing amendments to the National Constitution for subsequent chapter approval, and amending the By-Laws;
- (c) Determining the triennial budget of the Society; and
- (d) Acting as a final court of appeal.

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Article VII. The National officers

Section 1. The National Officers of the Society shall be the National President, National Vice-President, National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Historian and National Editor.

Section 2. The duties of the National officers shall be such as usually pertaining to their respective offices and those enumerated in the By-Laws to this Constitution (cf. National By-Laws, Article VII.).

Section 3. The National officers shall be elected triennially by secret ballot of the individual members of the chapters.

(a) Nominations of National officers shall be made by secret ballot of the official chapter delegates at the triennial National Congress of the Society. Provision shall be made to allow additional post-Congress nominations by the chapters.

(b) In advance of the National Congress the chapters shall be invited to propose qualified candidates and shall be furnished a list of candidates who have been duly proposed.

Section 4. Any member in good standing who has shown an active interest in the affairs of the Society and who possesses the necessary qualifications shall be eligible for election to a National office.

Section 5 The National Offices shall be distributed, as far as possible, in different geographical locations.

Section 6. The newly elected officers shall assume their respective duties on the first (1st) day of July immediately following the election.

Section 7. The National Officers shall serve for a period of three (3) years, or until their successors are duly elected.

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(a) If for any reason the office of National President shall become vacant, the National Vice-President shall immediately succeed to this office and fill the unexpired term. Should any of the other National Offices fall vacant, the Executive Committee shall appoint a successor to serve for the remainder of the triennium.

(b) Any National Officer may be removed from office by a three-fourths majority of the Administrative Council.

(c) Any National Officer who is found to be in non-compliance with the duties of their office or in violation of the Constitution or By-Laws may be removed by the affirmative vote of 5 members of the Executive Committee. In event that the offending officer is the first-Past President, the next chronologically available past-President will be requested to provide a vote on the removal of the National Officer.

Section 8. Tenure of office by each of the National Officers shall be limited to two (2) terms of three (3) years each, except as provided for in sub-Section (b) of this Section.

(a) Former tenure of any office shall not be construed as disqualifying such officer from election to another National Office, provided the officer has the necessary qualifications.

(b) Under exceptional circumstances, economic or otherwise, the terms of National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Historian, and National Editor may be extended beyond the limit fixed in this Section, if such extension appears to serve the best interests of the Society; provided, however, that such tenure shall in no case exceed four (4) terms.

Section 9. For purposes of conforming to the Corporation Laws of the state under which the Society is incorporated, the National Officers and the two most recently retired National Presidents shall be designated as the "Board of Directors" of the Society.

Section 10. The National officers, together with the two (2) most recently retired National Presidents shall act as a court of appeal between

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Congress sessions.

Section 11. No chapter letter, official proceeding or announcement other than routine notices of national deadlines shall be sent to the Councilors or chapters from any of the National officers, unless previously submitted to, and approved by, the National President. At the National President's discretion, such proposed communications may be submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration and approval.

Article VIII. The National Congress

Section 1. A regular Congress of the Society shall be held every three (3) years, at least three (3) months in advance of July first (1st), the termination date for the term of office of the National Officers, and preferably the preceding summer, or at a time immediately preceding or following a chemical meeting of national importance.

The National Executive Committee, under extreme circumstances and in the interest of economy, may call the Congress not earlier than two (2) years nor later than four (4) years after the preceding Congress session.

Section 2. The Congress shall consist of the following members: one (1) official delegate from each chapter, each of whom shall have an equal right of suffrage; each of the present National Officers; and the two (2) most recent past National Presidents who are available. (cf. National By-Laws, Article III, Section 1.).

Section 3. Each delegate, in order to have a seat in Congress, shall present credentials signed by the secretary of the delegate's chapter.

Section 4. Delegates from two-thirds of the active chapters shall constitute a quorum at the Congress.

Section 5 Procedure in Congress shall conform in general to "Robert's Rules of Order"(cf. National By-Laws, Article III, Section 5.).

Section 6. The National Congress shall perform the functions listed in

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Article VI, Section 3 of this Constitution.

Article IX. The REGISTER

Section 1. The official publication of the Society shall be known as "The REGISTER of Phi Lambda Upsilon".

(a) The Register shall be published once a year with each annual issue containing the reports of chapter activities, articles of scientific importance items concerning the academic and scientific achievements of members, installation of new chapters, list of new members, etc., etc..

Section 2. The REGISTER shall be distributed by the National Editor as follows:

(a) New initiates shall receive The REGISTER as part of the initiation fee, for a term following their initiation to be decided by the Administrative Council or the National Congress.

(b) Honorary Members shall receive The REGISTER, gratis, for life.

(c) Subscriptions to The REGISTER may be renewed upon payment of rates as prescribed by the By-Laws to this Constitution (cf. National By-Laws, Article IV, Section 4.).

Article X. National Awards

Section 1. The Society shall sponsor an award to be presented to a chemist, chemical engineer, or biochemist who is under the age of thirty-five (35) at the time of nomination and who has made outstanding contributions to chemistry through research education or administration in the fields of pure and applied chemistry. The award shall be known as the Phi Lambda Upsilon Fresenius Award.

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(a) The award shall consist of a plaque of suitable design (cf. National By-Laws, Article II, Section 2c.).

(b) The Award shall be administered by the National Awards Committee (cf. National By-Laws, Article II, Section 9.).

(c) The nominations for the Fresenius award may be submitted as follows:

(1) Any active chapter may nominate one person annually.

(2) Each member of the Executive Committee may nominate one person annually.

(3) Department Chairs of Ph.D. granting institutions in chemistry, biochemistry, chemical engineering or other chemistry-based departments may nominate one person annually. The National President is to be responsible for contacting these respective department chairs and nominations are to be submitted to the National Secretary.

(d) This nomination will be considered for one (1) award only and a new nomination must be submitted if the respective chapter, member of the Executive Committee or department chair wishes to have the National Awards Committee reconsider an individual in subsequent years.

(d) The Award shall be presented by the National President or a representative delegated by the National President at a meeting mutually agreeable to the recipient and to the Society.

Section 2. In gratitude for services rendered the Society, distinction in the form of a suitable key may be accorded members of Phi Lambda Upsilon who have assumed national responsibilities in the Society. This Award shall be known as the National Distinguished Service Award.

(a) This distinction may be awarded to all National Officers upon completion of six (6) years of service.

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(b) The financing of these awards shall be from the funds of the National Society.

(c) An appropriate key shall be selected and the awards administered by the most recent living Past National President of the Society to individuals designated by the Executive Committee.

Article XI. National By-Laws

Section 1. The National Society may adopt rules and by-laws to outline the methods by which the Society shall transact business.

Section 2. A By-Law may be adopted by a three-fourths majority vote in Congress or by chapter vote. A three-fourths majority of chapters reporting their vote in the two (2) month period starting the day the proposed By-Law was mailed to the chapters must favor the By-Law for adoption.

Article XII. Amendments to the Constitution

Section 1. Amendments to the National Constitution may be proposed by the triennial Congress, or by the chapters, or by the Administrative Council, or by the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws, for approval by the chapters. Any such proposal, in order to warrant consideration by the chapters, shall come as a seconded motion, supported by one (1) or more chapters. If submitted by the Administrative Council, such proposal shall be supported by one (1) or more members of the Council. If submitted by the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws, such proposal shall have been approved by a majority of the members of the Committee.

Section 2.

(a) Such proposal of amendments to the National Constitution shall be transmitted to the National Committee on Constitution and By-Laws through the office of the National Secretary. Following action by the Committee and upon order of the National President, these proposed amendments shall be published in The REGISTER, containing also a

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a statement of any favorable and non-favorable action by the National Committee on Constitution and By-Laws as well as any comments received from the membership concerning approval or disapproval of said amendments. Following publication of the proposed amendment, the National Secretary shall prepare official proceedings for each proposed amendment and send these without delay to the chapters for their adoption or rejection.

(b)The chapters in obtaining a vote from their members on the proposed amendment shall circulate to their entire resident membership a written ballot along with such information as may be necessary for a fair consideration of the amendment. The chapter shall proceed to vote upon the

amendment within a thirty (30) day period by any method deemed advisable, and the chapter secretary shall poll the votes of the members of the chapter as to number favorable, number unfavorable, and number not voting. The result of the chapter vote shall be certified to by the chapter President and Councilor and forwarded to the National Secretary for compilation.

Section 3. At least two-thirds of the votes cast must approve the amendment for the vote of the chapter to be favorable. A three-fourths majority of the active chapters reporting their vote on the amendment to the National Secretary within the two (2) month period starting the day the proposed amendment is mailed to the chapters must favor the amendment for its adoption.

Section 4. The National Secretary shall duly transmit to the chapters and National officers the result of the vote on such amendments.

END  
of the  
NATIONAL CONSTITUTION  
of  
PHI LAMBDA UPSILON  
Honorary Chemical Society



