

PI DELTA PHI, THE NATIONAL FRENCH HONOR SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this society shall be Pi Delta Phi

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

The purpose of this society shall be to recognize outstanding scholarship in the French language and Francophone literatures, to increase the knowledge and appreciation of Americans for the cultural contributions of the French-speaking world and to stimulate and to encourage French and francophone cultural activities.

ARTICLE III MOTTO

The motto of this society shall be: Probaïnomen Diakritoi Philogálatoi which means "Avançons, amis fidèles de la culture française."

ARTICLE IV QUALIFICATIONS FOR A CHAPTER

Any group of students and/or teachers of French at a an accredited college or university that offers a major sequence of courses in French or French Studies that leads to a major in French, French Studies, or Romance/Modern Languages with a concentration in French may apply to the National President for affiliation with Pi Delta Phi, the National French Honor Society. Students who submit a letter of interest should include the name and e-mail address of a French faculty member who has agreed to serve as Chapter Moderator.

ARTICLE V ORGANIZING A NEW CHAPTER

All applications and preliminary correspondence regarding affiliation with the Society should be directed to the National President who will send pertinent information.

The completed application, to be submitted to the National President, includes: (1) a copy of the institution's catalog page that attests to the institution's accreditation; (2) and two required letters: the first from the head of the French section of the sponsoring institution that assures the school's support of Pi Delta Phi and that describes briefly how a chapter of the Society might enhance the French program and/or the mission or goals of the department or institution, and the second from the college or university President (or Dean or other appropriate administrative officer) indicating that the school officially approves affiliation with Pi Delta Phi. Upon receipt of the application, the President will act upon the request.

Once the President has established the eligibility of the institution applying for affiliation, the appropriate regional Vice President will be directed to contact the new Chapter Moderator and to select a date for the installation of the chapter. The Regional Vice President will forward the installation date to the President. The National President will then direct the new Chapter Moderator to send the following items to the Executive Director: (1) the name, contact information, and e-mail address of the faculty member who will serve as Moderator of the new chapter; (2) the names and addresses (both home and school) of the charter members (faculty should use the Pi Delta Phi Membership Form available on the National Website); (3) a single

check covering the fee for the engraved charter and official banner; and (4) a single check covering the lifetime national dues for each initiate for regular or honorary membership.

ARTICLE VI MEMBERSHIP

Membership in Pi Delta Phi is open to all, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or disability, provided that each candidate meets the academic requirements of the Society. Membership is lifetime.

There are two categories of membership: regular and honorary.

Regular membership. This category includes undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in a degree program at the sponsoring institution who shall be nominated in recognition of their academic achievement in at least one semester of upper-division French (i.e. beyond the intermediate-level series of courses). Candidates for Regular membership shall be of at least sophomore standing with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in French courses, a minimum overall grade point average of 2.8 on a 4.0 scale, and rank in the top 35% of their class. Students from neighboring institutions who take French courses at the sponsoring institution are not eligible for regular membership, but may be nominated for honorary membership.

Honorary membership. This category includes the French faculty of the sponsoring institution who are not already members of Pi Delta Phi; members of the faculty at large; students who do not meet the requirements for regular membership; college or university alumni who did not become members while attending the sponsoring institution; and diplomats, community and business leaders who have demonstrated support of the French language, and/or of the cultures and literatures of the French-speaking world.

ARTICLE VII INSIGNIA AND MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE

The pin (key) is the same for regular and honorary members. A certificate given to all members at the same initiation indicates the category of membership. Blue, white and red graduation cords are available.

ARTICLE VIII PRIVILEGES

Regular members may vote, hold office in the chapter, and represent their chapter at official meetings of the Society. All members may attend national functions.

Only faculty members of Pi Delta Phi, currently teaching French, are eligible for national office.

ARTICLE IX NATIONAL OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

The National Officers of the Society form the Executive Board which includes the President, the Immediate Past President, the President Elect, regional Vice Presidents, the Executive Director, and the Newsletter Editor. All members of the Executive Board attend the annual meeting.

The Executive Director and the Newsletter Editor are not elected but appointed by the President.

Duties of the Executive Board:

President: The President is the official representative of the Society and is responsible for its growth. This officer organizes and presides at board meetings and at national conventions. The President is an ex officio member of all committees and appoints the Executive Director and Newsletter Editor, with the approval of the Board.

Immediate Past President and the President Elect: The Immediate Past President and the President-elect serve for two years as consultants on all matters of importance to the Society.

Regional Vice-Presidents: The Vice Presidents promote the expansion of the Society in their respective regions, endeavor to be in contact with all chapters included in their geographical areas, install new chapters, and serve on the scholarship committee.

Executive Director: Appointed by the National President, the Executive Director is responsible for keeping the permanent records of the Society. The Executive Director chairs the scholarship committee, submits an annual report of major decisions made by the Board, and provides chapters with the official banner, pins, certificates, and graduation cords.

Newsletter Editor: The Editor of the Newsletter is responsible for collecting chapter news and for publishing the Newsletter.

ARTICLE X OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

The official publication of the Society is the Newsletter, published and distributed to all chapters biannually.

ARTICLE XI DUES

Prior to the initiation, each chapter sends to the Executive Director the national dues determined by the Board. Each chapter may, at its discretion, determine the amount of local or chapter dues.

ARTICLE XII FACULTY MODERATOR

The term of the Faculty Moderator's office is indefinite. Duties of the Moderator are: (1) to represent the chapter at its own institution, and at national conventions when possible; (2) to advise and to support all activities of the chapter; (3) to be responsible for the annual election of any student officers; (4) to submit an annual report to the Executive Director; (5) to keep accurate and up-to-date records and to assure that such records and all information of the Society are given to the succeeding moderator.

ARTICLE XIII NATIONAL MEETING

A national meeting of the Society shall be held at least every four years to discuss matters pertaining to the welfare of the Society, to provide educational opportunities and to allow members from various chapters to come to know one another.

ARTICLE XIV AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution and By-laws approved by the Executive Board by a majority vote shall be submitted to the chapters by mail ballot. Adoption shall be by a two-thirds vote of those chapters returning ballots by a date clearly specified on the mail ballot.

DATE OF FINAL REVISION: October 15, 2009, ratified by Decision of the National Executive Board, November 7, 2009.