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BYLAWS & CONSTITUTION
Mu Chapter of Theta Tau

Updated May 2013

Preamble

We, the members of Mu Chapter of Theta Tau Fraternity, for the purpose of establishing a permanent set of laws and rules for the better government and direction of the chapter and for objects hereinafter set forth, do hereby declare all previous by-laws of the chapter null and void, and do enact and establish the following set of by-laws for the government of Mu Chapter.

No provision of these by-laws is intended or shall be interpreted to be in conflict with the constitution of the national by-laws. In case of conflict, the constitution and national by-laws shall take precedence.

It is our primary interest that necessary corrections, additions, and subtractions be made for the good of Mu Chapter.

Article I

Name

1. The chapter shall be known as Mu Chapter of Theta Tau Fraternity.
2. Mu Chapter is held under and by the authority of a charter granted on the third of January 1922 by the executive council of Theta Tau.

Article II

Purpose

1. The purpose of Theta Tau is to develop and maintain a high standard of professional interest among its members, and to unite them in a strong bond of fraternal fellowship.
2. Theta Tau strives to encourage the recognition and acceptance of its members' responsibilities to the university and the community.
3. Theta Tau expands the opportunities for social leadership and growth beyond the classroom.

Article III

Members

Section A: Definition

1. All persons who have been initiated into Mu Chapter of Theta Tau and who are enrolled in the University of Alabama are considered to be active members of Mu Chapter.
2. Persons initiated by another chapter may transfer their membership and become active members of Mu chapter.
3. Membership into Mu Chapter of Theta Tau shall be open to all engineering students of The University of Alabama, without regard to race, religion, sex, disability, or national origin, except in cases of designated fraternal organizations exempted by federal law from Title IX regulations concerning discrimination on the basis of sex

Section B: Obligations

1. All members must pay their dues in full as stipulated by the chapter and these by-laws.
2. Members who have not taken care of their financial obligations shall have their voting rights suspended. These rights will be returned when the member returns to good financial standing.
3. All members are required to attend all functions of the fraternity, unless excused as outlined in Article VIII, Section D, or fines will be levied as outlined in Article VIII, Section C.
4. The chapter executive council will review and decide on any exceptions to the financial standings of any member on a case-by-case basis.

5. All members shall live in the house for at least two semesters before graduation. Exceptions will be accepted in cases of marriage, living with parents, and other reasons deemed appropriate by a three-fourths vote of the active membership.
6. Failure to live in the house during school membership will result in a fine determined as follows:
 - a) Each semester, the house manager and treasurer will compile a list of members who have not fulfilled their house residency requirement.
 - b) Those members in violation will then be informed of the fine that they will incur if they fail to move into the house.
 - c) This fine will be an amount deemed appropriate by the Chapter Executive Council. No one member shall be fined more than the double room rate per semester.
 - d) The fine can be waived by a member with the signing of a letter of intent, approved by the Chapter Executive Council.

Section C: Authority

1. Fines for disobeying the will of Mu Chapter are under the discretion of the chapter executive council.
2. Serious offenses that would result in suspension must be decided by a four-fifths majority of all active members.

Section D: Suspension

1. Breaking any of the laws and customs of Theta Tau as well as the directives of the chapter or National Executive Council shall be grounds for suspension.
2. Failure to attend meetings and pay dues will result in a charge of suspension, or additional fines.
3. Convictions of violating any University, local, state or federal laws are grounds for immediate suspension.
4. A member is innocent until proven guilty.
5. Members not in good financial standing shall be subject to a two-thirds favorable vote of a jury to be put on probation, restricting them from social events and voting rights.

Section E: Fines

1. Fines for missing fraternity functions will be added to the member's bill.
2. The Scribe will take roll at each function and within two days present the Treasurer with a list of people to be fined.
3. Standard fines include:
 - a) Missing the second (and subsequent) unexcused meeting \$5.00
 - b) Failure to attend rush functions \$10.00
 - c) Failure to attend initiation or formal pledging \$25.00
 - d) Failure to attend any banquets, such as: Founder's Day, A-Day Picnic, or Homecoming Picnic \$25.00
4. If at any time, the fraternity incurs a financial loss due to the failure of an officer to perform certain duties or perform them on time, the officer responsible shall be fined an amount not to exceed the amount of the loss. Examples of such instances include but are not limited to the following:
 - a) Fines incurred from failure to submit paperwork before a deadline.
 - b) Loss of financial credit due to late submission of dues payment to nationals.
5. Fines for other events may be levied by the chapter executive council or by vote of the chapter.
6. Fines are not to exceed 33 percent of dues per semester.
7. Fines must be taken care of within two weeks of the date of issue and notification from the executive council. Should there be any problems or questions concerning the fine, it is the responsibility of the active to take the matter up with the executive council; at which point financial concessions can be made (e.g., working off the fine). Should the fine not be taken care of within two weeks, the executive council has the right to take disciplinary action against the active. Such disciplinary actions can include up to suspension of voting rights.

Section F: Excuses

1. All excuses must be presented to the Scribe or Regent at least twenty-four hours before the event.
2. All excuses must be written and in the standard format.
3. Acceptable excuses include:

- a) Sickness that would constitute an excuse for not attending class
 - b) Death in the family
 - c) Participation in an official University function
 - d) Taking an examination
 - e) Military obligation
4. Studying for an exam is not an excuse.
 5. Any other excuse may be presented to the Chapter Executive Council for a decision.
 6. Actives, in their last active semester before graduation, are exempted from all fines except missing an initiation. This applies to graduate students in their last semester before graduation as well.

Article IV

Officers

Section A: Offices

1. The elected officers of the fraternity shall be Regent, Vice-Regent, Scribe, Treasurer, and Corresponding Secretary.
2. The Regent, Vice-Regent, and Scribe are to be elected at the next to last regular chapter meeting of each semester.
3. The Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary are to be elected at the next to last regular chapter meeting of the fall semester.
4. The Regent, with the consent of the chapter, appoints the House Manager, all Committee Chairmen, and all Ritual Officers within one week of the beginning of the semester.

Section B: Qualifications

1. All persons nominated for the positions of Regent and Vice-Regent must have been active members for at least two semesters.
2. All persons nominated for the offices of Scribe, Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary must have been active members for at least one semester.
3. No person may be nominated for an office if he will not be in school during the entirety of his term or if he is currently serving the first term of a yearlong position.

Section C: Election

1. All voting for officers shall be by secret ballot.
2. A quorum for elections shall consist of three-fourths of the active members.
3. Written proxies may count as attendance. They may be received through any written medium.
4. All officers must be elected by a majority of votes cast. A runoff shall be held between the two candidates receiving the most votes.
5. All officers shall be thoroughly familiar with their duties as prescribed in the constitution and bylaws of Theta Tau (Chapter IV, Part B) and the chapter officers' manual.

Section D: Replacement

1. If the Regent becomes unable to discharge his duties for an extended period of time, the Vice-Regent shall become Regent.
2. In the event that neither the Regent nor Vice-Regent is present at a meeting, the Marshall or the member with the lowest roll number shall conduct the meeting.
3. Any elected officer may be removed from office by a three-fourths vote of all the active student members. An appointed officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of all active student members.
4. The Regent has the power to appoint an active member to a vacant office pending approval of the chapter executive council.

Section E: Chapter Executive Council

1. The chapter executive council shall consist of the Regent, Vice-Regent, Scribe, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, Pledge Trainer, House Manager, and any previous Regents who remain as student members. The chapter advisor is welcome at any meeting as the council's private advisor.
2. The council is to meet in private on a weekly basis, and is able to solicit opinions from any member before pronouncing a decision.
3. For the purpose of deciding any issue, a quorum of at least four-fifths of the members of the executive council must be present.
4. A decision by the executive council requires a simple majority vote.
5. These decisions are binding on the chapter unless overturned by two-thirds of the active members.
6. The purpose of the chapter executive council shall be:
 - a) To formulate the long range planning of the chapter.
 - b) To coordinate the activities of all committees and all other functions in the chapter
 - c) To define all chapter policies
 - d) To review the financial conditions of the chapter
 - e) To levy fines prescribed by the by-laws
 - f) To review the position of financially delinquent members and to decide the action to be taken
 - g) To make all disciplinary decisions
7. Attendance at all executive council meetings is mandatory with the exception of past regents and the chapter advisor.

Article V

Meetings

Section A: Type

1. Regular weekly meetings shall be held beginning one week after registration ends. Meetings will not be scheduled during dead week.
2. Chapter meetings will be held on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm at the fraternity house.
3. The Regent may call special meetings at any time. The Scribe will notify all members of special meetings.
4. Roberts' Rules of Order should be followed at all regular meetings.
5. Proxies must be submitted to the Scribe twenty-four hours before the start of all regular meetings. See "Proxy Form" in the appendix.

Section B: Format

1. The agenda of regular meetings is as follows:
 - a) Open, following ritual procedure.
 - b) Read passage from national or local bylaws
 - c) Read, for approval, minutes of previous meeting
 - d) Reports of officers and committees
 - e) Old business
 - f) New business
 - g) Close, following ritual procedure
2. Any of the previous may be omitted except items A, B and G at the discretion of the Regent.
3. For the purpose of deciding any issue, a quorum of at least three-fifths of the members of the chapter holding voting rights must be present.

Article VI

Relationships

Section A

1. Mu Chapter of Theta Tau does not share any relationship with any other local, state, or national organization.

Article VII

Finances

Section A: Management

1. The financial affairs of the chapter shall be handled by the chapter treasurer and the finance committee.

2. Special expenditures of over \$50.00 must be passed by the chapter executive council or at a regular chapter meeting.
3. The chapter executive council will audit the chapter financial records each January.

Section B: Dues

- 1) Semester dues for members who occupy a room in the house will be \$450.00, and dues for members living outside the house will be \$480.00. These monetary amounts should be reviewed during the next to last chapter every Spring semester.
- 2) The Housing Corporation will receive 5% of dues each semester.
- 3) Dues should be paid by the second meeting of the semester. If this cannot be done immediately then a formal written payment plan must be worked out prior to this deadline.
- 4) On the fifteenth of each month during the fall semester (the months of September, October, November and December), and the spring semester (the months of January, February, March and April), the outstanding balance on a member's account will increase by five percent unless a payment plan has been approved by the Treasurer, is in effect, and is up-to-date.

Section C: House

1. The members of the fraternity shall make every effort to maintain a fully occupied fraternity house.
2. The hierarchy for occupying and selecting rooms within the fraternity house shall be:
 - a) Elected officers have automatic seniority, in order of: Regent, Vice Regent, Treasurer, Scribe, Corresponding Secretary
 - b) Members who lived in the house the previous semester
 - c) Total number of semesters a member has lived in the house
 - d) Member with the lowest roll number
3. Full occupancy of the house, in the event of conflicts between members desiring to live in the house, shall take precedence over the previous rules.
4. Nonmembers, including pledges, warrant no consideration in determining occupancy of the fraternity house.
5. Nonmembers, including pledges, must pass two votes before moving into the house. The first vote will consist of the executive council. The second vote will consist of all active members who will be residents during the same semester(s) as the nonmember and must be passed by simple majority.

Section D: Financial Problems

1. A dues furlough may be granted to a member with financial problems for a period not to exceed one semester. The procedure for this is as follows:
 - a) The member must explain the situation to the chapter executive council.
 - b) The member must be making an honest attempt to eliminate any previous debts and must pay the current semester's national and housing corporation dues.
 - c) Dues furlough must be granted by a unanimous vote of the chapter executive council
2. Good financial standing is defined as any one of the following:
 - a) The member owes the chapter less than fifty dollars.
 - b) The member has taken care of any old debt.

A binding legal note has been signed and is not in default.
3. In the event that Mu Chapter of Theta Tau becomes defunct or is terminated, all funds held in the account at the Regions Bank shall be donated in full to the Theta Tau Scholarship Fund and the account officially closed.

Article VIII **Committees**

Section A: Titles

1. Standing committees include:

- a) Finance
 - b) Professional Development
 - c) Correspondence
 - d) Schrader Award
 - e) Rushing
 - f) Pledging
 - g) Social
 - h) Sports
 - i) Alumni Affairs
 - j) House
 - k) Administration
 - l) Housing Corporation
2. Ad hoc committees may be appointed as the Regent deems it necessary.
 3. The Regent appoints all committee members.
 4. All committees are to be composed of a chairman and at least two members.

Section B: Functions of Standing Committees

1. Each committee shall hold meetings at least every other week. The chairman of each committee should be prepared to discuss the decisions of the committee when called upon during a regular meeting.
2. The Finance Committee shall:
 - a) Be chaired by the Treasurer
 - b) Control the flow of money inside the chapter by preparing and enforcing adherence to a budget
 - c) Pay expenses of the chapter promptly, and collect dues and fines as levied by the Scribe and Chapter Executive Council
 - d) Perform any duties of the Treasurer as directed in the Chapter Officer's Manual
 - e) Notify members of their fines
3. The Professional Development Committee shall:
 - a) Be chaired by the Vice-Regent
 - b) Plan, present, and execute a program of speakers and activities which will stimulate the cultural and technical character of the members
 - c) Have at least one committee member attend all Engineering Coordinating Council meetings.
4. The Correspondence Committee shall:
 - a) Be chaired by the Corresponding Secretary
 - b) Keep up-to-date records of alumni addresses and publish at least one newsletter each semester
 - c) Publish a phone list at the beginning of each semester
 - d) Ensure that the chapter website is kept up to date
5. The Schrader Award Committee shall:
 - a) Be chaired by the Schrader Award Committee Chair
 - b) Keep up-to-date records of the data needed to complete the annual report
 - c) Offer suggestions to improve the performance of the chapter
6. The Rushing Committee shall:
 - a) Be chaired by a member who has been active for at least one semester
 - b) Plan and implement a program to continue the expansion of Mu Chapter
 - c) Plan and hold at least three rush events each semester
7. The Pledging Committee shall:
 - a) Be chaired by the Pledge Trainer, who must have been active for at least one semester
 - b) Be the liaison between the pledge class and the actives, making sure that both sides complete their tasks
 - c) Plan and organize all pledging activities, including but not limited to the pledge retreat, informal interviews, formal interviews, and pledge signature books
8. The Social Committee shall:
 - a) Be chaired by the Social Chairman
 - b) Plan and hold social events, at least two per month, for the chapter
9. The Sports Committee shall:
 - a) Be chaired by the Sports Chairman

- b) Register the chapter for intramural sports teams as interest dictates
 - c) Keep the members informed of upcoming intramural sports events
10. The Alumni Affairs Committee shall:
- a) Be chaired by the Alumni Affairs Chairman
 - b) Plan events with the continuing goal of improving relations between the chapter and the alumni
11. The House Committee shall:
- a) Be chaired by the House Manager, who shall live in the house during his appointed semester
 - b) Be responsible for the maintenance of the fraternity house
 - c) Levy fines not to exceed thirty-five dollars per infraction for such infractions as trash, dirty dishes and personal articles in public places. This is not a complete list.
12. The Administration Committee shall:
- a) Be chaired by the Scribe
 - b) Maintain the minutes
 - c) Maintain correspondence with the National Fraternity
 - d) Supervise the upkeep of the test files and notes
 - e) Distribute an up-to-date copy of these bylaws and policy to each new member and each member when the bylaws or policy is amended (these may be in electronic form)
 - f) Maintain the scrapbook with pictures and memorabilia
 - g) Plan a faculty picnic once per semester
13. The Housing Corporation Committee shall:
- a) Act as a liaison between the chapter and the Housing Corporation
 - b) Keep the Housing Corporation informed of deadlines and developments relevant to housing
 - c) Give regular presentations to the chapter regarding the Housing Corporation's progress
14. The duties of these committees are not inclusive. The Regent can add special assignments at his discretion.

Article IX

Advisors

Section A: The Chapter Advisor

1. The Chapter Advisor's duties shall be:
 - a) To counsel members concerning financial, social, and scholastic matters.
 - b) To inform the active chapter of University policies concerning the Fraternity.
 - c) To inform members of services and programs offered by the University.
 - d) To take active interest in the Fraternity.
 - e) To consult the Regent before making any statements that would in any way bind the Fraternity.
2. Attend at least one Chapter Executive Council meeting per semester.
3. The advisor shall serve a period no shorter than one semester and no longer than 4 semesters without being reelected.
4. Additional responsibilities shall be those assigned by The University of Alabama Student Handbook.

Article X

Parliamentary Authority

Section A: The Chapter Advisor

1. The rules contained in the current addition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and special rules of order the association may adopt.

Article XI

Amendments

1. Proposed amendments to these bylaws must be made at least one week before a vote is taken. See the "Amendment Proposal Form" in the appendix.
2. Two-thirds majority of all active membership present and voting may amend these bylaws.
3. These bylaws or any part thereof, may be temporarily suspended by a three-fourths vote of the active student membership present and voting.

Article XII
Bylaws

Section A

1. Bylaws to this constitution may be added at any regular meeting of the association by two-thirds vote, provided the bylaws has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.

CONSTITUTION

Article I – Name and Purpose

Section 1. The name of this Fraternity shall be THETA TAU.

Sec. 2. In all publications Theta Tau shall be described as a "Professional Engineering Fraternity."
[1977]

Sec. 3. The purpose of Theta Tau shall be to develop and maintain a high standard of professional interest among its members, and to unite them in a strong bond of fraternal fellowship.

Article II – Insignia

Section 1. The official badge of this Fraternity shall be a gold gear wheel with crossed hammer and tongs and the letters Theta and Tau. In the center of the wheel shall be a dark red garnet. The inner rim of the gear wheel shall be jeweled with pearls. This badge shall be worn only by members of Theta Tau, and it shall not be made into any other form of jewelry. It shall be compulsory for every initiate to have a badge, and no man shall be initiated who declines to buy or wear the official badge.

Sec. 2. The official gear pin shall be of the design on file at the office of the Executive Director and of the Fraternity jeweler. This pin may be worn by the relatives and friends of the members. It shall be ordered on proper forms through the Executive Director. This pin shall be the official piece of jewelry used in "pinning" and furthermore it shall be accorded the same respect given the official badge of this Fraternity. [1994]

Sec. 3. The official pledge button shall be a triangular gold shield with a dark red gear wheel in its field. Its use by the chapters is obligatory.

Sec. 4. The official coat of arms shall be explained by the following heraldic descriptions: Or, a bridge with three arches, proper; on the chief, gules, three gear wheels, proper; crest: a hand grasping hammer and tongs, all proper. Other parts of the coat of arms shall have the following colors:

- (a) The ribbon scroll below the shield shall be gold with the letters "ΘΤ" in black.
- (b) The sleeve shall be black.
- (c) The torsade structure immediately below the clasped hand shall have alternating dark red and gold strands, with dark red on the left end.
- (d) The above wording shall be interpreted to mean:
 - (1) The bridge with three arches will be gray.
 - (2) The field behind the gears will be dark red.
 - (3) The gears and hammer and tongs will be black.
 - (4) The hand will be flesh-colored.
 - (5) The rest will be gold as stated.

A complete coat of arms with the proper colors shall be kept by the Archivist for reference.

Sec. 5. This Fraternity shall have a Grand Seal bearing the device of the coat of arms of the Fraternity and inscribed "Grand Seal – Theta Tau." This seal shall be affixed to all instruments issued by or under the authority of the officers of the Fraternity.

Sec. 6. The official recognition button shall be of the design on file at the office of the Executive Director and of the Fraternity jeweler.

Sec. 7. The colors of the Fraternity shall be dark red and gold.

Sec. 8. The gem shall be the dark red garnet.

Sec. 9. The flower shall be the Jacqueminot rose.

Sec. 10. Replicas of the official badge which are to be used in Ritual ceremonies or as wall decorations in a chapter house, excluding those which are mounted on plaques, shall correctly reproduce the badge. Specifically, the colors, positioning of the hammer and tongs, and substitutes for the pearls and the dark red garnet shall be correct.

Sec. 11. The official flag of Theta Tau shall be a rectangle arranged horizontally and divided into four equal quadrants. The upper right and lower left quadrants shall be fields of gold; the others fields of dark red. On the upper left quadrant shall be the coat of arms in full color, and on the lower right quadrant the Greek letters "ΘΤ" in gold.

Sec. 12. The use of the coat of arms, in any form, shall be reserved solely for the members of Theta Tau. However, colony members may display the Greek letters "ΘΤ." [1968]

Sec. 13. The alternative flag shall be a rectangle arranged horizontally, divided along its length into three equal sections. The left and right sections are dark red, and the center one is gold with the Greek letters "ΘΤ" in dark red and arranged vertically. This flag may be displayed by members or colonies of the Fraternity. [1994]

Article III – Publications

Section 1. The official publication of the Fraternity shall be called *The Gear of Theta Tau*.

Sec. 2. *The Gear of Theta Tau* shall be edited by a Board of Editors which shall include the Editor-in-Chief, and whose members shall be appointed by the Executive Council.

Sec. 3. *The Gear of Theta Tau* shall be mailed free of charge to each alumnus or honorary member whose current address is on file with the Central Office and whose name has been reported clear of debt by the chapter to the Central Office. All new initiates of the Fraternity shall receive a life subscription to *The Gear of Theta Tau*. [1984]

Sec. 4. Any member or organization of members of the Fraternity desiring to publish or have published any article or statement regarding the policy or business affairs of Theta Tau shall submit same to the Grand Regent, and he to the Executive Council for approval. The Grand Scribe shall keep a verbatim copy for the files of the Fraternity.

Article IV – Organization and Government

Section 1. Sovereignty in this Fraternity is vested primarily in the Convention, but between Conventions this power resides in the Executive Council.

Sec. 2. The actions of the Executive Council must be presented to the next subsequent Convention for ratification.

Sec. 3. Wherever the vote of "alumni" is called for in this Constitution or Bylaws thereof, reference is made only to alumni in good standing.

Sec. 4. The Executive Council shall be directly responsible for all those duties and responsibilities delegated to the Executive Director by the Constitution and Bylaws. [1976]

Sec. 5. Each chapter shall have an Adviser or Advisers chosen from among the alumni or honorary members in the locale of the chapter. In cases where the chapter has more than one Adviser, one of these shall be designated as Senior Adviser. The chapter Senior Adviser shall maintain a personal contact with the chapter officers and shall be an official representative of the Executive Council on the chapter's campus. The Adviser(s) shall be appointed by the Executive Director upon recommendation of the chapter, and serve until the next Biennial Convention. [2000]

Sec. 6. Regional Directors shall be official representatives of the Executive Council to the chapters in their regions and shall be appointed by the Executive Council.

Sec. 7. The Executive Council shall have the authority to appoint such persons or person as it shall deem necessary to assist in carrying out the duties of the Executive Director, Grand Regent, or other Executive Council members. Such persons or person shall be selected from the alumni of Theta Tau. [2000]

Article V – Membership

Section 1. Membership in this Fraternity shall be open to engineers who possess the qualities of brotherhood, as determined exclusively by the individual chapters, and demonstrate a professional attitude beneficial to Theta Tau. Members must be over eighteen years of age, but a younger student may be pledged. [1977]

Sec. 2. Student membership in Theta Tau is limited to students who are regularly enrolled at the school where the Theta Tau chapter exists, and pursuing a bachelor's degree or higher degree in an engineering curriculum accredited for that school by the ABET Engineering Accreditation Commission. Those enrolled in any other curriculum are eligible only if that curriculum has been approved by two-thirds vote of the Executive Council. The Executive Director shall notify the Executive Council upon receipt of the request for a change. The Executive Council, or those appointed to act in its stead, shall then have thirty days to consider the change in the chapter's curricula list which will be maintained by the Executive Director. [2000]

Sec. 3. No chapter shall have more than 70 student members at any time. However, the Executive Director shall have the power to waive this law temporarily when application is made in writing by the chapter. Furthermore, the Executive Council shall have the power to grant permission to exceed this limit for an extended period with biennial review when application is made in writing by the chapter. [2004]

Sec. 4. Election to student membership is only by unanimous secret ballot, separate and apart, by all student members of the chapter. Although a ballot on any pledge may be requested by a student member at any time during pledging, a final ballot must be taken no more than ten days before initiation. This time limit may be extended up to 120 days for the purpose of initiation at National Conventions or Conferences. In the case of an unfavorable vote during this ballot, a pledge may be reconsidered, but the number of additional ballots shall be limited to two. [1995]

Sec. 5. Freshman students may not be initiated during their first semester, trimester, or first quarter in school, or until they have completed an equivalent number of credit hours. It is unlawful to initiate a student within six months of graduation. A member must remain a student member as long as he is an undergraduate student except as provided in the Constitution or Bylaws. [2000]

Sec. 6. Honorary membership in this Fraternity shall be limited to those actively following engineering as a profession, or teaching a technical subject in an engineering college where there is a chapter of this Fraternity, or who have been of great service to the Fraternity and whose election is approved by a unanimous vote of the Convention. [1978]

Sec. 7. Election to honorary membership is only by unanimous secret vote of the chapter. Such election shall be concurred in by the alumnus and honorary members of the chapter with not more than two negative votes. (See Bylaws, Chapter II, Part A).

Sec. 8. Alumnus members are those who have been student members of the Fraternity, or who were alumni of an organization receiving a charter from Theta Tau, and who have since been initiated.

Sec. 9. No member of this Fraternity, student, alumnus, or honorary, shall become a member of any other organization declared competitive by the governing body of Theta Tau without thereby being subject to expulsion. Members of such organizations shall be ineligible to membership in this Fraternity. (See Bylaws, Chapter II, Part D).

Sec. 10. Members of local college engineering fraternities or of societies or clubs with fraternal bonds at colleges where there is no chapter of Theta Tau, may be elected to membership in this Fraternity provided, however, that such initiate or candidate pledge himself to resign from his former local fraternity and acknowledge allegiance to this Fraternity alone, in case a chapter of Theta Tau be later established at such college.

Sec. 11. A graduate student, if otherwise eligible, can be elected to student membership as is an undergraduate student, provided he is initiated at least six months before the termination of his graduate work.

Sec. 12. Student membership is limited to students who are eligible to pledge according to their university's rules. [1991]

Sec. 13. Theta Tau does not restrict membership on the basis of gender, race, creed, or color. [1991]

Article VI – The Convention

Section 1. The Convention of the Fraternity shall be composed of the Executive Council members, the Regional Directors, one Delegate from each chapter, and one Delegate from each alumni association. A Convention may convene if a majority of the Executive Council members and student Delegates are present. [1990]

Sec. 2. National Conventions shall be held biennially except when the Executive Council considers it unwise because of extreme emergency.

Sec. 3. Each Delegate and Alternate from a chapter must be a student member in good standing. They must be elected by a three-fifths vote of all the student members of their chapter in a manner prescribed in the Bylaws, and must bear credentials properly signed. The expenses of the Delegate, and those of the Alternate while at the Convention, shall be paid from the national treasury (except as provided in the Bylaws, Chapter III, Sections 11 and 13).

Sec. 4. Each Delegate and Alternate from an alumni association must be an alumnus or an honorary member. They must be elected by a three-fifths vote of all the members of the association attending the meeting at which the election occurs. They must bear credentials signed by the officers of the association. Their expenses will not be covered by the national treasury. [1986]

Sec. 5. The expenses of the Executive Council members, the Editor-in-Chief of *The Gear*, and Regional Directors shall be paid from the national treasury. [1972]

Sec. 6. The chapter Delegates, Executive Council members and Regional Directors shall have one vote each. Alumni Association Delegates shall have one-half vote each. No voting member shall be entitled to more than one vote. [1994]

Sec. 7. The Grand Regent shall appoint from among the Delegates, Alternates, and visitors present the necessary committees of the Convention, shall seek to distribute representation on each committee among those in attendance. [2000]

Sec. 8. Chapter and alumni association Delegates are held to voice the opinion of their chapters or alumni associations, and any vote cast by them shall be held in all ways to be the actual vote of their chapters or alumni associations.

Sec. 9. Amendments, motions, resolutions, etc., adopted by a Convention, shall not become effective until adjournment, unless otherwise decided by a unanimous vote.

Sec. 10. A vote of the Convention shall include all qualified Delegates from the chapters and alumni associations, Regional Directors, and members of the Executive Council. All such voters who are registered and not permanently withdrawn from the Convention shall be the body referred to whenever a vote of the Convention is called for, whether the provision refers to a majority, two-thirds, four-fifths, or unanimous vote. [1990]

Sec. 11. Whenever this Constitution or Bylaws call for a vote taken at a Convention, it is understood that between Conventions a vote may be taken of the chapters, the eligible alumni associations, the

Regional Directors, and the Executive Council, and such a vote shall have the same force as if taken at a Convention. A favorable vote by four-fifths of the student members of a chapter shall be considered a favorable vote of the chapter. A favorable vote of an alumni association shall be a favorable vote of four-fifths of the members attending that meeting. [1991]

Sec. 12. Special Conventions may be called by a unanimous vote of the Executive Council. The call for such special meeting shall state the purpose of the call, and no business may be transacted except such as relates to the purpose of the call.

Sec. 13. When a vote is taken between Conventions, the period for balloting shall be limited to 30 days. Ones not submitting ballots within this period shall be considered as permanently withdrawn from the Convention (see Article VI, Sec. 10). [1995]

Article VII – The Executive Council

Section 1. The Executive Council shall consist of the Grand Regent, the Grand Vice-Regent, the Grand Scribe, the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Marshal, the Grand Inner Guard, the Grand Outer Guard, the Delegate-at-Large, and the Student Member. The first five of these are the officers of the Executive Council. [1972]

Sec. 2. The members of the Executive Council, except the Student Member and the Delegate-at-Large, shall be elected by a simple majority vote of the Convention for a term of two years from among the alumnus and honorary members. Not more than two honorary members may be on the Executive Council at any one time. The Student Member shall be elected by a simple majority vote of the Convention for a term of two years from among the student members attending the Biennial Convention. The immediate Past Grand Regent shall be designated "Delegate-at-Large." If the immediate Past Grand Regent cannot serve as Delegate-at-Large, or holds another Executive Council position, the Executive Council may appoint another Past Grand Regent to this position.

[1984]

Sec. 3. If any Executive Council member is temporarily or permanently unable to fulfill the duties of his office, the Grand Regent, with the concurrence of the Executive Council, shall appoint an alumnus or honorary member, or student member for office of student member, to serve in his stead until he can again officiate or a Convention elects his successor. All chapters, alumni associations, Regional Directors, and Executive Council members shall be notified of such appointment by the Grand Regent, with the attestation of the Grand Scribe. [1991]

Sec. 4. If the Grand Regent is unable to perform the duties of his office for an extended period and the Grand Vice-Regent is unable to assume his duties. His successor shall be chosen by the Executive Council.

Sec. 5. The officers of the Executive Council shall sign all charters for chapters and alumni associations.

Sec. 6. Any national officer, any member appointed by the Grand Regent, or anyone under contract with the Executive Council shall visit each chapter and colony at least once every two years. Any expense incurred shall be paid from the national treasury.

Sec. 7. A majority vote shall be required to carry any motion made at a meeting of the Executive Council unless otherwise provided in this Constitution.

Sec. 8. The Executive Council shall have the power to take disciplinary action for the Fraternity. (See Bylaws, Chapter VI.)

Sec. 9. Theta Tau may be nationally incorporated and the assets and property of the Fraternity shall be vested in the members of the Executive Council as trustees for the Fraternity.

Sec. 10. The Executive Council shall have the power to patent or register the insignia of the Fraternity as far as same may be possible under the laws of the United States and other countries. It shall also have the power to apply for copyrights of any of the publications of the Fraternity.

Sec. 11. The Grand Regent and the Grand Vice-Regent shall be selected from those who have previously served as a national officer. The Grand Inner Guard and Grand Outer Guard shall hold office for no more than two consecutive terms. [1992]

Sec. 12. There is hereby created the office of Counsellor of Theta Tau Fraternity, and the holder thereof shall be a member of the Executive Council *ex officio*. The duties of this office will be of a statistical, historical, and advisory nature as designated by the Executive Council. This office shall carry a compensation to be determined by the Executive Council. This office is to be held only by Erich J. Schrader. [1954]

Sec. 13. The Executive Director shall be a member of the Executive Council *ex officio*. [1994]

Sec. 14. Each member of the Executive Council shall have only one vote. [1994]

Article VIII – The Chapter

Section 1. The officers of a chapter shall be a Regent, a Vice-Regent, a Scribe, a Treasurer, and a Corresponding Secretary. Each officer shall be a student member in good standing and be elected by a majority of all student members. The ballot shall be secret. [1988]

Sec. 2. The Regent, Vice-Regent, and Scribe shall be elected at such intervals as each chapter may prescribe. The Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary of all chapters shall be elected at the middle of the college year and shall hold office for one calendar year. The Executive Director shall be notified of the election of the above named officers.

Sec. 3. The Regent shall appoint such other officers as are required by the Ritual.

Sec. 4. The Regent shall cause at least one Article of this Constitution to be read at all regular meetings so that the complete Constitution shall be read during the year. The Policy and other sections of Part III of the Ritual shall be read at the second meeting of each term. The record of these readings shall be entered in the minutes of the chapter.

Sec. 5. Each chapter must have bylaws not inconsistent with the Theta Tau Constitution or Bylaws, a copy of said bylaws to be placed on file with the Executive Director.

Sec. 6. Individual chapters may incorporate as such.

Sec. 7. To lawfully function as an official unit of this Fraternity, every chapter must have a charter issued to those designated as charter members whose names shall appear thereon. The charter shall be signed by the officers of the Executive Council and shall bear the Grand Seal of Theta Tau. During the period between installation and receipt of its charter a new student unit shall function under a letter of dispensation signed by the Grand Regent.

Sec. 8. Each chapter shall maintain a permanent headquarters. [1995]

Article IX – Alumni Clubs and Associations

Section 1. Alumni clubs may be authorized by action of the Grand Regent, who shall have the power to issue a letter of authorization to four or more alumnus members who apply for it.

Sec. 2. The application for an alumni club must contain the proposed time and place for meetings which must be held at least once each year.

Sec. 3. Alumni clubs shall have no legislative power in the Fraternity.

Sec. 4. An alumni club, after two or more years of successful existence, may petition the Executive Council for an alumni association charter. Such petition must be presented by not fewer than seven alumni who have attended a majority of alumni club meetings for at least one year prior to the presentation of the petition. The petition shall be in the form prescribed by the Executive Council.

[1968]

Sec. 5. No alumni association charter shall be granted to any group of alumni which has not previously existed as an alumni club.

Sec. 6. No alumni association charter shall be granted to petitioners in any city or area where an alumni association has previously been established by charter, and exists, without first obtaining consent from such alumni association.

Sec. 7. Each alumni club or alumni association shall be governed by its own bylaws which must not be contrary to the laws of Theta Tau, and a copy of which must be filed with and approved by the Executive Director. [2000]

Sec. 8. An alumni association, to hold its charter, must hold regular meetings, and render an annual report to the Executive Council. The Executive Council is empowered to decide whether or not an alumni association is acting in conformity with the requirements of this section.

Sec. 9. The Executive Council may suspend the charter of any alumni association if meetings are not held for two consecutive years, or if the association is guilty of the violation of any of the Law and Customs of the Fraternity.

Article X – New Chapters

Section 1. A chapter of the Fraternity may be established only in a school with at least one bachelor's or higher degree-granting engineering curriculum accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology or by the Canadian Accreditation Board except as otherwise provided in Sec. 10 of this Article. [1980]

Sec. 2. A petition for a charter as a chapter of this Fraternity may be presented by not fewer than twenty students eligible to membership as prescribed in this Constitution. This petition shall be in the form prescribed by the Executive Council. [1988]

Sec. 3. Each petitioning body shall in its petition manifest its intention of securing a permanent headquarters.

Sec. 4. A member of the Executive Council, or a member in good standing appointed by the Grand Regent, shall inspect and report on the petitioning body. Any expense incurred shall be paid from the national treasury.

Sec. 5. A four-fifths vote of the Convention shall be required to accept a petition for a charter.

Sec. 6. When a petition has been accepted, the Executive Director shall prepare a letter of authorization to install a new chapter. After being signed by the Grand Regent and Grand Scribe, the Executive Director shall then arrange for the installation. [2000]

Sec. 7. The signers of a petition who are initiated at the installation shall be classified on the chapter roll as charter members. If not enough signers are present at the installation of the chapter to equal the number specified in Section 2 of this Article, then a number of other members of the petitioning body may be substituted to equal the required minimum and may be initiated as charter members.

Sec. 8. Honorary members of a local may be initiated as charter or alumnus members.

Sec. 9. Alumni of Theta Tau living in the same town where an organization has been chartered shall have the privilege of voting, along with the Executive Council, on the alumni of such organization, and their ballots shall have the same power as those of the student members of the new chapter. Eligible alumni of a local that are elected to membership in Theta Tau shall be notified by certified mail within three months after the chapter has been installed and if they have not signified their desire to join within three months thereafter, they shall no longer be eligible to membership in Theta Tau.

Sec. 10. Upon recommendation of the Executive Council, the Convention may by four-fifths vote approve the petition for chapter status from a Theta Tau colony which has been operating in a commendable manner for at least two years since its certification even though its school currently has no bachelor's or higher degree-granting engineering curriculum accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology or by the Canadian Accreditation Board. [1980]

Sec. 11. The petitioning body should show strength in the following areas: professional development, communications, community service, good interfraternal skills, visitations to other chapters within its vicinity, and financial organization. [1988]

Article XI – Fees and Dues

Section 1. Chapters shall remit to the Executive Director such fees and dues as are prescribed in the Bylaws. (Refer to Chapter V.) [2000]

Sec. 2. Alumni associations and clubs shall not be required to pay any fees or dues.

Sec. 3. Alumni of a local which has received a Theta Tau charter shall pay the same initiation fees as student members.

Sec. 4. The Executive Director shall not order a badge for any student, alumnus or honorary initiate whose national initiation fee has not been paid. [1986]

Article XII – Ritual

Section 1. The Ritual of this Fraternity is secret and for members only. Each member is to observe and obey its provisions. [2004]

Sec. 2. No chapter of this Fraternity has the right to change or revise any of the procedure of initiation, or any of the other recognized forms and symbols of Theta Tau; nor make any additions to same without consent of the whole Fraternity given through the Convention. Changes in Ritual, however trifling, can be made only by the unanimous consent of the Convention. Ritual shall be defined as consisting of:

- Introduction
- Instructions to Presiding Officers
- Opening Ceremony & Closing Ceremony for Meetings
- Pledging Ceremony
- Parts I and II for Initiation Ceremony
- Part III for Installation of Officers and for Visiting Members
- Convention Opening and Closing Ceremonies

The Pre-Convention Opening Ceremony and the Grand Chapter Memorial Service shall also be Ritual. [1990]

Sec. 3. The formal opening and closing ceremony shall be used at all meetings of the Fraternity except when anyone not a member is present.

Sec. 4. The Fraternity strictly prohibits hazing, any acts which may endanger the physical or mental health or safety of members or nonmembers. [1991]

DELETED

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Article XIII – Constitution

Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution can only be made by a four-fifths favorable vote of the Convention, except where otherwise stated.

Sec. 2. Amendments to this Constitution shall not be retroactive.

[This section was deleted by Convention Amendment, 2004]

Sec. 4. In printing or reprinting the Constitution and Bylaws and updating insertions therefor, the Grand Regent is authorized to make corrections in wording and punctuation as he deems necessary to clarify provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws. However, no correction may be made which would change the sense of the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws. Actions taken pursuant to this Section are subject to approval of the Convention. [1972]

Article XIV – Alumni Hall of Fame

Section 1. An Alumni Hall of Fame shall be established to recognize members who have excelled within this Fraternity and/or their profession.

Sec. 2. The Director of the Alumni Hall of Fame shall be appointed by the Executive Council.

Sec. 3. The initial inductees to the Hall of Fame shall be Theta Tau's four Founders.

Sec. 4. Nominations and selection shall be as per Bylaws, Chapter X. [1986]

Sec. 5. The Judging Committee shall hold all nominations for a period of five years for continued consideration for induction into the Alumni Hall of Fame. [1988]