

Constitution of Chi Sigma Sorority
Revised January 8, 2018

Constitution of Chi Sigma Sorority

Name

The organization shall be known henceforth as Chi Sigma, Sisters in Christ, and is established as a non-Greek sorority on the Lander University campus, seeking to exemplify Christian values and uphold biblical standards. In accordance with this constitution, members (sister) of this organization shall be awarded and duty appointed all rights and privileges associated with this establishment. The Greek letters XE shall represent Chi Sigma.

Object

The sorority is and shall be a sisterhood whose object is promoting mutual trust, loyalty and respect among its members. Through the Sisterhood, the sisters will seek to uphold the traditions and ideals of Lander University encourage excellent in scholarship and instill in its members' the ultimate ideals of Christ-like behavior using the Bible as its ultimate standard. The sisters of Chi Sigma will endeavor to live a life of purity, truth and love.

Purpose

The purpose of Chi Sigma is to express the fullness and joy of life by promoting Christian love and fellowship among and between the sisters and the student body of Lander University. By enriching our lives through our bond with Jesus Christ, we will seek to serve our God with integrity, pride and love by demonstrating Christian principles.

Membership

Section A- Active Members

1. Active sisters are defined as those women who successfully completed a period of Indoctrination into the discipline of the sisterhood. They have fulfilled the responsibilities of the Indoctrination period and Lander University qualification for membership. Active membership is also defined as a sister who pays semester dues and participates in events.

Section B-Inductee Members

1. Inductees are those women who, meeting the criteria as set forth in the policies of Lander University and Chi Sigma, become affiliated with the organization by the ceremony of Induction, which is held within a religious or sacred environment.
2. The inductees are to be allowed all rights and privileges of the organization as delegated by the Executive Council (see Article VII). An inductee is also defined as a woman who pays Indoctrination dues (see Article V). The sisters of Chi Sigma shall reserve the right to conduct what shall be known as a confirmation Process involving the prospective Inductee Members. Some events sponsored by Chi Sigma may require additional payments from inductees, but Chi Sigma will attempt to supplement and reduce the necessity of these payments, as the Executive Council appropriates.
3. Inductee members must go through an Indoctrination Period and remain active the following semester. If the sister cannot stay active, inactive status will be enforced and the sister will be subjected to the repercussions associated with inactive status.
4. New members must stay active for the next two semesters following their Indoctrination Period. If not, all girls with the words Chi Sigma or letters XΣ must be given back to the

Vice President which will then be given back to the sister who bought the gifts.
Extenuating circumstances may be excused.

Section C- Inactive Members

1. Inactive membership is defined as the one semester before the dismissal of a sister with no reinstatement. Extenuating circumstances or any circumstances involving the necessity of inactive status are to be presented in written form to the President. Dismissal from the sorority will occur if any sister remains at inactive status for two consecutive semesters. Active status may be returned after reinstatement period.

Section D- Alumni Members

1. Chi Sigma Alumni will be defined as those sisters who graduate from Lander University, transfer to another institution, or are married as an inactive Chi Sigma sister.
2. Married sisters may choose between active and alumni status. Alumni shall be invited to events based on approval by the active sisters. Some activities may require a payment, which Chi Sigma is not to pay or supplement.

Section E- Qualifications for Membership

The following qualifications are those set forth by Lander University and are necessary to maintain active or inductee membership in Chi Sigma:

1. A full-time student at Lander University with a minimum of 12 hours of classes.
2. Must have and maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or, in the case of incoming freshmen, the high school equivalent of a GPA of 2.0
3. Membership is invited to any female student with no regard to race, color, creed, national origin, or physical impairment.

*****Academic Probation*****

1. Any sister who does not maintain the minimum GPA requirement shall be placed on academic probation. Academic probation is a period of one semester in which a sister shall retain all rights, privileges, and responsibilities pertaining to this organization, with the exception of the right to vote.
2. During the period of academic probation, the sister shall be required to complete five (10) hours of library time every week. If, at the end of the probationary period, the GPA of the sister does not meet the minimum requirement, the sister shall become inactive.

The following qualifications are those set forth by Chi Sigma, which are necessary, in addition to those maintained by the University, in order to maintain active or inductee membership:

1. Participation and completion of an Indoctrination period ranging in length from five to eight weeks.
2. Limit inactive status to one semester
3. Fulfill a minimum requirement of two fund raisers and two service projects per semester.
4. Active sisters must complete two events per semester with the philanthropy of Chi Sigma (Connie Maxwell Children's Home)
5. Participation in weekly meetings and Bible studies.

Dues

1. Chi sigma will be financed by dues paid by active members and inductees which are to be collected by dates set by the Executive Council, and alternative arrangements will be made if a sister has trouble paying her dues.
2. Dues are set at 130.00 for current active members per semester. Dues are set at 200.00 for inductee members.
3. Dues from both active and inductee members are subject to change yearly and are nonrefundable or up the Executive Council decision.
4. If a sister has used her own funds for sigma purchases and has approved the purchase with the treasure and president, she may choose to either put the amount towards her dues or receive reimbursement as long as she is paid to the current date following her payment plan.

Finances

1. Funding for the functioning of Chi Sigma will come from semester des, additional payment required for events, fund-raisers and donations. It is suggested that Chi Sigma sponsor at least two fund-raisers per semester. Each fundraiser must meet all the criteria set forth by the University.
2. A finance report will be presents at the first meeting and the middle of each semester by Chi Sigma Treasurer. The financial report should include any recent Chi Sigma transactions and an update of the Sorority finances.

Leadership

Section A- Elected Offices

1. Elected offices include President, Vice President, Chaplin, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Activities Director, Project Coordinator, and Alumni Liaison. These positions will be filled once every academic year and will follow the guidelines set for that position.

Section B- Election Procedures

1. Voting for executive officers shall be by secret ballot and the candidate receiving the majority vote will be elected office. If there is not a majority vote received by any candidate, then the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes will compete in a run-off election. Nominations for elections will be tabled for at least one week, and elections will take place at the end of each academic year. Sisters who accept nominations for Executive Office shall be required to take part in a testimonial meeting, during which each candidate shall state their purpose for running for the Executive position to which she has been nominated through a brief testimony to the sisterhood. This will take place at least one week prior to elections and one week after nominations.

Section C-Office Requirements

1. All offices, except of President and Vice President, may be held by any active sister. The Chi Sigma President must have held a previous officer position preferable Vice President. If none of the active sisters who have officer experience are willing to accept the position, then the office of President will be filled by a general election of sisters with current active status. The Chi Sigma Vice President must have been an active sister or at least 1 year. Any sister who is currently inactive or on academic probation shall be ineligible to run for any executive office and shall be ineligible to vote for any executive office.

Section D-Officer Vacancies or Officer Termination.

1. If a vacancy occurs in any office, the position will first be opened to remaining presiding officers and confirmed by approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the sisters. If none of the existing officers are interested in the vacancy, then it shall be filled by a general election of all sisters with current active status.
2. An officer may be removed from office by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of active sisters. However, notice of one week must be given to the officer in question prior to the vote to enable the officer to prepare a defense.

Section E- Executive Council and Powers Defined

1. The Executive Council will act as the administrative body of Chi Sigma and will consist of President, Vice President, Chaplin, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Activities Director, Project Coordinator and Alumni Liaison, each of whom have one vote for Executive Council decisions.
2. The Executive Council will meet once a week at a meeting time set at the beginning of each semester.
3. All council meetings will be open to all active sisters; however, they will not be allowed to vote on any executive decision.

Part 1- President

1. The President must have been in Sigma for two or more year and been on council for at least a year preferably as Vice President. The President will be responsible for residing over all meeting in an organized manner and will govern all activities. The President will oversee all programs and activities and authorize transacts with the treasurer. President also can call unscheduled meetings.

Part 2- Vice President

1. The Vice President will assist the President whenever needed and will act in the president's position upon her absence for any event, meeting or function. The Vice President will also be the presiding officer over the Indoctrination period for inductees. The Vice President will also be responsible for appointing and chairing an Indoctrination committee. She and the Indoctrination Committee will be responsible for planning any function dealing with responsibilities of the Vice President shall also include the participation of Chi Sigma in the Organization Fair for incoming freshmen and in the Communiversity, with this responsibility being shared with the Historian.

Part 3- Chaplin

1. The Chaplin will conduct Bible studies at each weekly meeting. Bible studies can be done through an actual study book or can be prepared from the personal studies of the Chaplin. She must be committed to growing her walk with Christ daily in reading the Bible and prayer. She will be responsible for the prayer box each week. The prayer box concept should include cards filled out by each member regarding prayer requests and

praises needed for the week. Members will each take another member's card and include them in their prayer time during the preceding week. The Chaplain should be included as a mediator should any issues arrive. The Chaplain should also be in constant prayer for the sorority and its members.

Part 4- Secretary

1. The secretary will be responsible for keeping minutes for each meeting. She is also responsible for maintaining all Chi Sigma Files, which will include month calendars, minutes, agendas, member rosters for active, inactive, inductees and alumni members. The secretary should communicate with the President regarding room reservation for meeting and events and ensure that the forms are submitted in a timely fashion. Usually two weeks in advance.

Part 5- Treasurer

1. The Treasurer will be responsible for handling all financial matters as explained in Article VI and maintaining financial history and accurate records. The Treasurer will also be responsible for all banking transactions and balancing of the check register. The Treasurer will be allowed to sign checks, which must be approved by the President. The Treasurer is also responsible for monthly finance reports which are to be given at the first meeting of each month. A draft budget will also be prepared by the Treasurer with input from the Executive council by the end of the first two weeks of each semester. The Treasurer will also be responsible for maintaining all receipts, which must be available for reimbursement. Extenuating circumstances regarding reimbursement when a receipt is not available must be recorded. The Treasurer will also be responsible for chairing the fundraising activities. All fundraising activities must be approved by the Executive Council.

Part 6- Historian

1. As a member of the council of Chi Sigma Christian Sorority, the Historian is responsible for the following duties
2. Taking photographs at major events that occur within the sorority, which is but not limited to: expo, interest night, pinning, trust day, induction, and retreat.
3. Keeping all social media accounts up to date with pictures and information about events that we are planning around campus (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc).
4. Creating flyers for specific events and displaying them around campus (i.e. interest night).
5. Creating a poster board for the expo event at Lander. The poster should be creative and contain our mission, philanthropy, pictures, and other information of interest.

Part 7- Activities Director

1. The Activities Director will be responsible for appointing an Activities Committee. The Activities Director, along with her committee, will be responsible for planning at least one activity per month during the academic school year, a social event each semester with another organization, and a formal or semiformal event and retreat per semester.

Part 8-Service project and Fundraiser Coordinator

1. The service project and fundraiser coordinator will be responsible for planning a minimum of two fundraisers and two service projects per semester. The fundraisers and service projects should include working with Greenwood communities and Chi Sigma Christian Sorority's established philanthropy (Connie Maxwell)
 - Plan a minimum of two service projects per semester

- Plan two fundraisers per semester
- Each fundraiser and service project should benefit Connie Maxwell Children's Home, or the Greenwood community.
- Continue to establish and grow a relationship with Connie Maxwell Children's Home.

Part 9- Alumina Liaison

1. The alumina Liaisons will be responsible for updating and current event which should be posted and made available to all active and inactive sisters, inductees, and alumni on a Chi Sigma Christian Sorority website or Social media. She also works with the Secretary and activities director during t-shirt ordering and activities planned while also planning homecoming events for the Sorority.

Discipline Code

Section A-Offenses

The following offenses shall be considered to be unacceptable conduct, and proof of guilt may be sufficient grounds for reprimand, suspension, or expulsion. These offenses can be brought to Executive Council by any member (active, inactive or inductee) to be further investigated.

Disciplinary action will be taken after further review of offense.

1. Revealing private affairs of Chi Sigma or its members.
2. Slanderous remarks about Chi Sigma or its members via word of mouth or social media.
3. Demonstrating an uncooperative attitude toward personal responsibilities in Chi Sigma.
4. Abusive use of alcohol or drugs. Any sister found guilty of this offense will immediately be suspended and will face possible expulsion. The sister will also be recommended to a health service organization to receive medical attention.
5. Underage drinking (consuming alcohol under the age of twenty-one) or enabling the consumption of alcohol by another person under twenty-one.
6. Alcohol consumption or drug use while displaying Chi Sigma paraphernalia.
7. Gossiping. Using foul gestures or language that directly conflicts with the interests, integrity, or purpose of Chi Sigma.
8. Dressing immodestly and calling perverse attention to herself.
9. Posting pictures, videos or comments/posts online that would lead to negative impressions of Chi Sigma and/or its members.
10. Sexually immoral conduct that would directly conflict with the interests, integrity, or purpose of Chi Sigma.
11. Being charged with three fines on one semester as outlines in Article XIII.
12. If of age (twenty-one or older) alcohol should be moderated, if under the age of twenty- one absolutely NO alcohol. (Especially in pictures displayed on the internet sites such as Facebook).
13. Any sister found going against the object of Chi Sigma by displaying written or verbal negativity towards Chi Sigma or its member will receive a verbal warning from the President as the first warning. If a second offense is made,

the matter will be brought before council and consequences will be made by council members.

Section B-Charges

1. The Executive Council may hold a confidential, informal hearing to officially address any charge of offense that one member brings against another, as outlined in Article VIII, Section A. The charge and defense will then be presented to the Executive Council, without the names of the accuser or the accused. The council has the power to impose any penalty short of expulsion. If the Executive Council feels that expulsion is necessary, the charge and defense will be presented to all active sisters, without the names of the accuser or the accused. A formal vote will be held, and expulsion can only be enforced by two-thirds of the active sisters. The member against whom the charges are brought shall be given notice of the proceedings, allowing her a full and fair opportunity to be heard at an Executive Council meeting. The Executive Council may impose any penalty short of expulsion. Each sister will be considered innocent of any charge until proven guilty. Executive Council members' voting in these cases is outlined in Article VII, Section G. (See Amendment V and XIV.)

Section C- Disciplinary Actions

1. Any sister guilty of a charge will be given a verbal warning by the President. If the offence occurs again, the situation will be brought before the Executive Council to handle. Suspension will be enforced as inactive status for the remaining portion of the semester. (See Amendment IV.) Suspension will be defined as a sister taking inactive status without the privilege of participation in Homecoming events, formals, mixers, and/or retreats. The sister will not be allowed to wear her letters during the term of suspension. Suspension can be removed by the unanimous vote of the Executive Council. Expulsion will result in complete dismissal from the sorority. The sister in question will lose all rights to associate herself with Chi Sigma.

Philanthropy

As of August 20, 2007, the philanthropy of Chi Sigma shall be Connie Maxwell Children's Home in Greenwood, SC.

Amendments

This constitution may be amended by a vote of all sisters with active status, provided that the proposed amendment is presented in writing at the weekly meeting at least one week prior to the final vote.

Fines

As of September 10, 2012, all fines will be set at a price of \$10.00 (ten dollars). Sisters will be fined for: if more than 1/4 (one fourth) of meetings are missed, not attending mandatory events, not completing tasks that a sister signed up for, profanity/ slander on social media as well as photography, not attending philanthropy events and not attending fundraising and service project events.

Meetings

Each member of Chi Sigma is expected to miss not more than one-fourth (1/4) of the weekly meetings each semester. Executive Council members are expected to miss no more than two of the weekly Executive Council meetings per semester. Meetings are to be scheduled for a regular time, which is to be agreed upon by the active sisters, before the end of the first two weeks of each semester. Each meeting will consist of devotion, prayer requests, business and fellowship. Other activities may occur during a meeting but must be approved by the Executive Council. As of September 24, 2008, at the start of each Executive Council and regular weekly meeting, the Secretary will call roll, and any sisters not present will be counted as tardy. Sisters who walk in late will still be counted as present but tardy. If a sister is counted tardy three times in a semester, the three tardies will be equivalent to one absence. If more than one fourth (1/4) of meetings are missed, a fine of \$10 (ten dollars) will be charged for each meeting after.

Mandatory Events/Activities

Mandatory events for homecoming will be determined by the Executive Council. Both basketball games are mandatory, and all active sisters are to sit together during both games.

Big/Little Requirements

As of September 10, 2012 any Little participating in a Fall Rush will be expected and required to take on one or more Littles during the following Fall Rush. Taking on the roll of a Big sister will require effort in maintaining a good relationship between the Big sister and Little sister including attending events in which the Little sisters are required to attend: Rush breakfasts, meetings, devotions, Rush activities, etc.