THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY
February 12, 2018
THE CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY

MISSION
We, the members of the Interfraternity Council of Columbus State University, desiring to establish an internal organization of efficiency, to adopt a definite system of government, to locate authority and responsibility in the Interfraternity Council, and to establish rules and regulations necessary to the conduct of Interfraternity Council affairs, do hereby set up and establish the following constitution.

ARTICLE I
Name
This Organization shall be known hence, as the Interfraternity Council and shall be from this point forth known as the IFC of Columbus State University.

ARTICLE II
Objective
The purpose of this the IFC of Columbus State University are to be set forth as:
A. To achieve and maintain Greek unity, brotherhood, and support of Greek Life.
B. To aid Greek students in their decisions and challenges in their university years and beyond.
C. To promote the interests of the University
D. To promote the interests of the Fraternities within the IFC
E. To promote the interests of the University’s Greek Life
F. To ensure the cooperation between Greek organizations and the university community so that the condition and relations of the Greek life will be positively sustained.
G. To ensure cooperation among the Greek organizations of the campus.
H. To aid all IFC fraternities in the Recruitment process
I. To aid all IFC fraternities in the pursuit of only the most quality men.

ARTICLE III
Membership
SECTION I. Membership in the Interfraternity Council shall be comprised of National members. They are such all- male Greek letter, fraternal organizations associated with National and/or International organizations approved by the Administration of Columbus State University and the Interfraternity Council.

SECTION II. One (1) representative shall represent each member organization of the Interfraternity Council. The voting representative shall be an active member of his respective organization and the alternate shall be a designated member of that same organization. Member Fraternities should be classified as follows:
1. Full Member: Any fraternity chapter, which has been chartered by their inter/national organization.
   Full membership grants the Member Fraternity all rights, privileges and responsibilities under the IFC Constitution, excluding voting privileges, holding positions on the IFC Executive Board, or holding positions on the Fraternal Conduct Board.
2. Associate Member: Any fraternity colony of an inter/national organization. Associate Membership grants the Member Fraternity all rights, privileges, and responsibilities under the IFC Constitution, excluding voting privileges, holding positions on the IFC Executive Board, or holding positions on the Fraternal Conduct Board.
SECTION III. The individuals of each Member Fraternity will be defined as follows:

1. **Active Member:** An active member shall be defined as any man who has been initiated into any IFC fraternity at Columbus State University, and who is on the current member roster on file with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
2. **New Member:** A new member shall be defined as any man who has started the New Member process at Columbus State University, and who is on the current New Member roster on file with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

SECTION IV. Officers and voting delegates are required to attend all IFC meetings and events. Officers are allowed one absence per semester. Each additional absence are subject to fines according to Article VI of the By-Laws.

SECTION V. No organization representative may be on Academic Probation.

SECTION VI. In order to be a member of the Interfraternity Council, Fraternities must achieve colonization status from their national organizations and must meet chapter average membership.

1. Any colony must adhere to the Columbus State Expansion Procedures. This document can be found on the Fraternity and Sorority Life Website.

ARTICLE IV

**Duties of Members**

SECTION I. It shall be the duty of the member organizations to uphold and abide by the Interfraternity Council Constitution, By-Laws, and Recruitment Rules and Regulations.

ARTICLE V

**The Executive Council**

SECTION I. The Executive Council of the Interfraternity Council shall consist of the President, the Vice President of Standard and Conduct, the Vice President of Finance, the Vice President of Recruitment and the Vice President of Programming.

SECTION II. No Individual organization may hold more than one (2) office position unless the executive board and advisor deem necessary.

SECTION III. In the event that any Executive Officer fails in the duties of office, this officer may be removed from office by a written request for removal submitted to the entire council. This request must be confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of all member organizations actively attending and participating in the Interfraternity Council. In addition, the Presidents of each Fraternity will be requested to appear before the Interfraternity Council during the voting process. If removed from Office, the member’s organization must replace him with an eligible candidate within two (2) Interfraternity Council meetings; otherwise, the Interfraternity Council Advisor and President shall choose a suitable replacement.

SECTION IV. The Term of Office for each Executive Council position shall be two (2) semesters. (January to January). Elections will be held in November.

SECTION V. Interfraternity Council Executive Council Officers for the coming semester will assume their duties at the last regular meeting of the fall semester.

ARTICLE VI


**Duties of Officers**

SECTION I. The duties of the President shall include:

A. To preside at all regular meetings and special meetings of the Interfraternity Council.

B. To appoint the membership of all committees and to serve personally as the coordinator of all committees.

C. To call special meetings of the Interfraternity Council.

D. To carry out such other duties usually pertaining to this office not inconsistent with this Interfraternity Council’s Constitution.

E. Sets forth the agenda to all of the meetings.

SECTION II. The duties of the Vice President of Standard and Conduct shall include:

A. To represent the organization with affiliated organizations and the university administration in all matters of mutual concern.

B. To perform the duties of President in his absence.

C. To generally assist the President.

D. To ensure that all members of the IFC have an up-to-date copy of the Interfraternity Council’s Constitution, By-Laws, and Recruitment Rules and Regulations.

E. To hold copies of Interfraternity Council’s Constitution, By-Laws, and Recruitment Rules and Regulations, and to be familiar with their contents, bringing copies of them to all meetings, and being prepared to answer or secure answers for any question or interpretation of them.

SECTION III. The duties of the Vice President of Finance shall include:

A. To receive all funds for the council and to disburse these funds upon proper authorization by the council and to keep an accurate record according to establishing accounting procedures.

B. To file all necessary reports and forms including financial statements in the proper administrative office.

C. To serve as committee chair for fundraisers.

D. To keep an accurate record of the proceedings of all regular and special meetings, and to disburse a copy of this record to each member organization and to the Greek Advisor and/or the Interfraternity Council Advisor before the next regular meeting.

E. To keep an accurate roll of the membership of the Interfraternity Council and of the attendance at meetings.

F. To assist the Interfraternity Council Advisor and/or the Greek Advisor with grade checks and check-ins for the Interfraternity Council.

SECTION IV. The duties of the Vice President of Programming shall include:

A. Promote all IFC activities;

B. Work steadily with the chapters to plan events, activities, and meetings to promote chapter relations;

C. Coordinate all activities with regards to Homecoming, Greek Week, and Member Education;

D. Compile a monthly newsletter to be sent to chapter presidents and Fraternity advisors associated with Columbus State University’s IFC. This newsletter shall also be sent out to the Panhellenic and National Pan-Hellenic chapters and advisors, along with chosen University officials;

E. Responsible for creating all publications for the Interfraternity Council (flyers, banners, display board, etc.)

SECTION V. The duties of the Vice President of Recruitment shall include:

A. Serve as Recruitment coordinator by overseeing all Recruitment activities of the Interfraternity Council.

B. To serve as committee chair for publicity.

C. Organize promotional tables and materials to attract men to fraternal life;

D. Organize monthly IFC 101 informational sessions during the academic year.
E. Organize a recruitment committee consisting of representation from each chapter;
F. Coordinate a Recruitment schedule approved by the General Assembly;
G. Coordinate a fraternal life informational session for incoming freshman during each orientation session;
H. *Will serve as the Co-Chair of the IFC Judicial Board and attend all meetings scheduled by the Board.

**ARTICLE VII** - Interfraternity Council Advisor

SECTION I. The Interfraternity Council Advisor shall be the designated administrator as appointed by the Office of Student Life and Development.

SECTION II. The duties of the advisor shall include, but are not limited to attending each Interfraternity Council meeting, to confer with the officers, to uphold all Columbus State University policies, to enforce the Interfraternity Council Constitution, By-Laws, and Recruitment Rules and Regulation, and to serve as a liaison between the Interfraternity Council and the faculty and administration of Columbus State University

SECTION III. The Interfraternity Council Advisor shall be allowed to select and send a substitute advisor if he/she is unable to attend any meeting.

SECTION IV. The advisor reserves the right to make administrative decisions on behalf of the Interfraternity Council when deemed appropriate.

SECTION V. In the event no Interfraternity Council Advisor has been appointed, the Greek Advisor will act in such a capacity.

**ARTICLE VIII** - Voting Procedures

SECTION I. All procedures pertaining to approving any amendment, activities and use of Interfraternity Council funds must be introduced one (1) meeting before it is approved. At which point the approval will be tabled until the following meeting. The vote will come under new business at which point all votes will be a majority vote from all representatives only, one vote per member organization.

SECTION II. Each member fraternity, in good standing, shall have one vote
- Individuals holding IFC Executive Board position are not entitled to a vote
- In the event of a tie, the IFC President shall cast the deciding vote
- With the exception of the election of IFC Executive Board position, there shall be no secret ballot votes

SECTION III. If a delegate is absent, the vote of his group may be cast by the registered alternate.

**ARTICLE IX** - Standard of Self-Regulation

SECTION I. The Interfraternity Council will refer all alleged violation of this Constitution and Bylaws, or any other policies that apply to member organizations, the Fraternity and Sorority Judicial Process

SECTION II. The Fraternity and Sorority Judicial Board Guidelines will be proved to all member organization on an annual basis and be accessible on the fraternity and sorority website.

**ARTICLE X** - Amendments

SECTION I. This Constitution, its By-Laws, and other information contained herein may be amended by a three-fourths (2/3) vote of representatives of the member fraternities, unless otherwise specified.
SECTION II. The Amendment must be submitted in written form to the Interfraternity Council and to the Presidents of the member fraternities at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting in which the vote is to be taken.

SECTION II This constitution shall become effective immediately and shall supersede all previous Constitutions of the IFC when adopted by a two-thirds affirmative vote if the IFC General Body.

ARTICLE XI  Rules of Order
SECTION I. The IFC shall use Robert’s Rules of Order to govern all matters not specifically covered by the Constitution and/or Standards of Self-Regulation

ARTICLE XII - Meetings
SECTION I. Business meetings of the Interfraternity Council shall be held at least twice a month, except for those months during which Columbus State University classes are in session less than one-half of the total days of the month, in which case there be no less than one (1) regular meeting of the Interfraternity Council.

SECTION II. All meetings shall be open only to members of the Interfraternity Council to include the Interfraternity Council Advisor and the Greek Advisor, unless the majority of the voting members present approve of an exception

SECTION III. Special meetings may be called by the President of the Interfraternity Council at any time, or can be called by the President of the Interfraternity Council at the request of any two member fraternities.

SECTION IV. Notification of regularly scheduled meetings shall be done at the beginning of the current semester utilizing communication addressed to the president of each member fraternity and that member fraternity’s delegates of the Interfraternity Council.

SECTION V. Notifications of special meetings shall be done so in writing or electronic communications and delivered to the highest-ranking officer of the member fraternity who can be located.

SECTION VI. For each meeting a Quorum must exist. A quorum shall exist when majority of voting chapters are present. When all of the members of the Interfraternity Council are present and so constituted may enact any rules or regulations for the Interfraternity Council and may transact any business, which may properly come before the Interfraternity Council.

ARTICLE XIII - Distribution
SECTION I. The most current Constitution and By-Laws of the Interfraternity Council will be distributed to each member fraternity by the first official Council meeting of each school year. Each Interfraternity council member is responsible for reading, learning and taking the Interfraternity Council’s Constitution, By-Laws, and Recruitment Rules and Regulations. Each member fraternity is also responsible for educating its members on the policies and procedures of the Interfraternity Council. Failure to educate oneself and the members of ones fraternity hence forth shall NOT be a suitable defense in actions or sanctions brought against your organization.
THE BY-LAWS OF THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY

ARTICLE I

GPA

SECTION I. Each Fraternity, in order to be in good standing with IFC, must maintain a cumulative chapter GPA of at least 2.75.

SECTION II. If a fraternity does not meet a 2.75 GPA from the most recent semester, then the chapter will be finable. This fine will be to the extent of $10 per brother.

SECTION III. If a Fraternity did not achieve at least 2.75 GPA cumulatively, then the chapter must follow the Fraternity and Sorority Academic Expectations.

ARTICLE II

Good Neighbor Policy

SECTION I. The Interfraternity Council's Good Neighbor Policy is one that is set to ensure unity among the Interfraternity Council fraternities by prohibiting any form of negative marketing towards any other Interfraternity Council fraternity.

SECTION II. Signs are to be hung in conjunction with current school policy. Signs should be in good taste and not slanderous or offensive. The Interfraternity Council advisor has the authority to remove any sign that does not adhere to the current policy or is deemed inappropriate.

SECTION III. Only approved Interfraternity Council material can be distributed at formal Recruitment activities and orientation functions.

SECTION IV. No parties are to be held after an official orientation function or during the formal recruitment period. No freshman (male or female) shall be invited to a party/gathering/collection of bodies/restaurant/or any other location/event where IFC members are present after an official orientation function.

ARTICLE III

Hazing

SECTION I. All forms of hazing as well as any activities defined as hazing are prohibited at all times. Hazing is defined as: any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off group or campus premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities include: creation of excessive fatigue, physical and psychological shocks, wearing apparel that is conspicuous or not normally in good taste, engaging in public students and jokes, morally degrading or humiliating games or activities, late night sessions that interfere with scholastic activities, and any other activities which are not consistent with the regulation and policies of the educational institution. Please note, this is NOT exhaustive.

ARTICLE IV
Dues

SECTION I. Each member fraternity of the Interfraternity Council shall pay dues by the FIRST week of October and March of every school year. Interfraternity Council dues shall be $10 per member.
   a. If the average of a fraternities GPA from the last two semesters is higher than 3.0, that fraternity will receive a $5 discount on their dues. That fraternity will then be responsible for paying only $5 per member at the beginning of the school year.

SECTION II. The Interfraternity Executive Council has the right to increase the total amount of dues, and when dues are to be paid, with a unanimous vote.

ARTICLE V

Absences

SECTION I. One (1) executive council member and one (1) delegate shall represent each member organization on the council. The voting representative shall be an active member of each organization and the alternate shall be a designated member of that same organization. Officers and voting delegates are required to attend all IFC meetings and events. Officers are allowed one absence per semester. Each additional missed absence will result in a fine of $50 per missed meeting. A registered voting delegate or registered alternate must be present at all IFC meetings and events. If neither are present at an IFC meeting, the member fraternity will be fined $100. If more than one meeting or event is missed the fine increases by $25, for example if a representative misses two meetings they will be fined $75.

ARTICLE VI

Sanctions

SECTION I. All incidents of violations to the Interfraternity Council Constitution, By-Laws and Recruitment Rules and Regulations will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Please Refer to the Fraternity and Sorority Life Judicial Process.

ARTICLE VIII

Student Government Association Representative

SECTION I. The creation of this position will be so that the Interfraternity Council can have a member in Student Government Association to voice the concerns of the Interfraternity Council to members of the Student Government Association Forum, as well as to offer a helping voice to each Interfraternity Council fraternity. (This Position will be elected at the beginning of each Semester.)
THE RECRUITMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY

ARTICLE I  
Purpose  
The purpose of the Recruitment Rules and Regulations of the Interfraternity Council is to provide a basis for the conduct of each Interfraternity Council fraternity, especially during such times that are designated for Recruitment. The following Rules and Regulations are to be followed at all times before, during, and after Recruitment periods, when applicable.

ARTICLE II  
Interfraternity Recruitment  
SECTION I. Recruitment shall consist of Fall Formal Recruitment, Spring Formal Recruitment, and two (2) designated periods of Open Recruitment, which shall commence immediately after Bid Day.

SECTION II. The Interfraternity Council has authority to establish the schedule for Recruitment each year that must meet final approval of the Interfraternity Council Advisor.

SECTION III. Organizations may gather contact information from potential new members at summer orientations or any other approved activities.

SECTION IV. All Applications for Formal Recruitment are due to CSU involve the first event of Interfraternity Council Recruitment. Potential New Member who accepted a bid must pay a $10 new member fee.

SECTION V. Only approved students shall participate in any formal Recruitment activity or continuous open bidding activity. If a student is extended a bid without the Fraternity and sorority Advisor checking grades, those students’ bids will be retracted. If a member fraternity initiates a non-approved student, the number of bids for the next fall semester will be limited to a number set by the student life administrator and the member fraternity’s nationals will be contacted and informed of misconduct.

SECTION VI. Recruitment rules shall be established by the Interfraternity Council and will be made available to each member organization through their representatives. Violations of Recruitment rules shall be reported within 24 hours to the IFC advisor. See Appendix 1 for a complete list of Interfraternity Council Recruitment Rules.

SECTION VII. The conduct of all Interfraternity Council members must be in accordance with the Columbus State University handbook during all Recruitment and campus activities and should at all times exemplify a positive reflection of Columbus State University.

ARTICLE III  
Potential New Members’ Bill of Right  
SECTION I. All participants of formal Recruitment must complete an application and pay the $10 dollar Recruitment fee upon signing their bid. The Interfraternity Council advisor must then approve students’ grades.

SECTION III. See Guide to Fraternity and Sorority Life: Policies, Procedures and Regulations for Potential New Members requirements.
SECTION III. Prospective members are not permitted to consume alcohol before or during any Interfraternity Council function.

SECTION IV. Potential members are not obligated to sign a bid.

SECTION V- New Members have the right to:
   A. The right to be treated as an individual, fully informed about the recruitment process, the right to ask questions and receive true and objective answers from recruitment counselors and members
   B. The right to be treated with respect
   C. The right to be treated as a capable and mature person without being patronized
   D. The right to ask how and why and receive straight answers

ARTICLE IV

Interaction with Potential New Members

SECTION I. No gifts as a monetary way shall be given to any potential new member.

SECTION II. Chapter must adhere to the Fraternity and Sorority Life Best Practices:
   A. Any conversation between potential new members and members of a fraternity cannot demean, degrade, or otherwise belittle another fraternity. Stating a fact (ex. “that fraternity is on social probation right now” or “that fraternity has a lower GPA then we do”) is not considered demeaning. Forging or otherwise lying about any facts, concerning one’s own fraternity or another, will be considered a violation. Inferring reasoning or causes for those facts (ex. “that fraternity is on social probation because they can’t get their lousy grades up” or “that fraternity has a lower GPA then us because their chapter is a bunch of alcoholics”) is considered belittling and will result in a violation of this regulation.

SECTION III. No alcohol is allowed at any Interfraternity Council recruitment function. No member of a fraternity can be under the influence of alcohol at a recruitment or orientation function. No alcohol can be present at the venue of a recruitment event, excluding venues that own permits for alcohol. For example, if there is a Recruitment event at a restaurant that serves alcohol, no member or potential new member may partake in consuming alcohol, but the venue is acceptable. If there is a Recruitment event at an Interfraternity Council member’s house, there can be no alcohol on the premises for the duration of the event and while any potential new members are at the house on the day/night of the event. Violation of this rule will be considered unfair Recruitment

SECTION IV. Only members of each fraternity (active and alumni only) are allowed to participate in formal recruitment activities. The Interfraternity Council does not allow any female participation at formal recruitment. University personnel are excluded from this rule. Violation of this rule is considered unfair Recruitment

ARTICLE V

Duties of Campus Officials

SECTION I. All Recruitment infractions must be turned into the Interfraternity Council advisor within 48 hours of being witnessed and must be emailed to include a timestamp and written out in a formal complaint to be turned into the Interfraternity Council advisor. At least one of the two forms of complaint must be filed within the 48 hours.

SECTION II. For every formal Recruitment period, each fraternity is required to complete the items outlined on Appendix A

SECTION III. These rules will only be amended with a 3/5 majority vote
ARTICLE VI

Bid Extension

SECTION I. Bids can only be extended to such students that meet all the requirements of a potential new member and who have been cleared by the Interfraternity Council Advisor.

SECTION II. The period for which bids can be offered and extended to potential new members will begin at noon on designated bid days. During Formal Recruitment, potential new members will sign bid cards in the Greek center on the designated bid day voted by IFC general body.

SECTION III. Any potential new member that wishes to receive a bid must attend at least one Fraternity and Sorority Life 101 in the semester.

SECTION IV. Any violations of the Bid Extensions, whether through giving bids outside of the designated periods, to a student who does not meet the potential new member requirements, or to a student who did not attend at least two nights of formal Recruitment, will be subject to removal of the bid extension and additional sanctions.

ARTICLE VII

Sanctions and Fines

SECTION I. The following Sanctions are to be applied to any fraternity for violating the corresponding Recruitment rule. If no sanction is listed for a Recruitment Rule, then the sanction is at the discretion of the Interfraternity Council Advisor. In the event that there are multiple infractions of the same nature during the same incident, the fine and/or penalty will only apply once. For example, if a fraternity purchases meals for 3 individual potential new members (a violation of Article II Section III) that fraternity will only suffer one sanction, not 3 separate sanctions. In addition, some Recruitment rules will have more than one of the following sanctions.

SECTION II. $100 dollar fines will be assessed for the following infractions:
   a. If Recruitment materials are not approved by the Interfraternity Council advisor (Article IV Section III a)
   b. If there is any violation of the bid extension policies (Article V Section IV)

SECTION III. $200 dollar fines will be assessed for the following infractions:
   a. If any fraternity gives a gift to a potential new member (Article III Section III)
   b. If any fraternity demeans another fraternity’s good name or falsifies facts about themselves (Article III Section IV)
   c. If any fraternity advertises or holds any party during formal recruitment or orientation (Article III Section VI)
   d. If any fraternity member violates the no alcohol policy (Article III Section VII)

SECTION IV. Any fraternity that commits a violation that is deemed as an unfair Recruitment practice will be subject to much harsher punishments. An unfair Recruitment practice is defined as any activity that will alter the view of a) your fraternity in an positive light and b) other fraternities in a negative light, in the minds of potential new members in such a significant way that it would be impossible for another fraternity to compete for the attention of those potential new members on an even playing field. All unfair Recruitment practices violations will be subject to all of the following sanctions
   a. $250 fine (as well as any above mentioned fine that is acceptable)
   b. Forfeit of all but 5 bid extensions for the semester in which the violation took place
c. Forfeit of open Recruitment privileges for the semester in which the violation took place
If any fraternity violates the unfair Recruitment practices twice within 3 semesters, that fraternity will suffer the following

a. $350 fine (as well as Section III fines that are applicable)
b. Forfeit of all bid extensions for the semester in which the violation took place
c. Forfeit of open Recruitment privileges for one full calendar year

A third offence of unfair Recruitment practices within 3 semesters of the first would simply repeat the above punishments for a second offence and reset all applicable dates.

The reasoning for the harshness of these punishments is to encourage proper Recruitment practices, not to hinder growth of any Interfraternity Council member. If any of the unfair Recruitment practices take place, it would sway the minds of all the potential new members that are affected in such magnitude that they would undoubtedly ignore all advances by other fraternities, even if those potential new members would be better suited in these fraternities. Removal of just formal bid extension would simple allow the fraternity being punished to take in all comers through open recruitment, so that is why there will be no open Recruitment for the guilty.