

Phi Alpha Honor Society

The purposes of Phi Alpha Honor Society are to provide a closer bond among students of social work and promote humanitarian goals and ideals. Phi Alpha fosters high standards of education for social workers and invites into membership those who have attained excellence in scholarship and achievement in social work.

Phi Alpha offers membership to social work students and faculty, and each chapter is free to develop a program to meet local needs. The National Council is the policymaking body and meets each year at the time and place of the Annual program meeting of CSWE. Each chapter has one voting representative on the Council (see Appendix D).

Hope's chapter of the national Phi Alpha Honor Society is Zeta Theta. Each year members of the Zeta Theta Chapter meet one time per semester. In the spring members meet for an educational activity such as a speaker on graduate schools and in the fall members meet for the induction ceremony and to elect officers for the following year.

The first class was inducted in 1997. To be eligible the student must have:

- a. Declared social work as a major;
- b. Achieved senior status;
- c. Completed two semesters of required social work courses;
- d. Achieved an overall grade point average of 3.3;
- e. Achieved a 3.5 average in required social work courses.

HONOR SOCIETY BY-LAWS

Zeta Theta Chapter Effective Date _____
Phi Alpha Honor Society
Hope College
Holland, Michigan

CHAPTER 1

Officers of the Executive Committee

Section 1. The Officers of the organization shall consist of a President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer to be elected by a majority vote of the active chapter membership.

Section 2. The President shall preside at meetings of the chapter; appoint such committees as may be provided for by chapter Constitution or By-Laws or by vote of the chapter; call special meetings of the chapter, be responsible for all Chapter reports; perform the duties of ritual chair at initiation ceremonies, and promote the welfare of the Society and Chapter.

Section 3. The Vice-President shall perform all duties of the President in the latter's absence or disability and any other duties assigned by the President.

Section 4. The duties of the Secretary-Treasurer shall be as follows:

- a. To forward to the Treasurer of the Executive Council the following:
 1. The national initiation fee for each student and faculty initiate prior to his or her acceptance into membership.
 2. A report certified by the faculty advisor covering the chapter year not later than May 30. The report is to include financial statement, and a list detailing the dates of the meetings held during the year.

b. Fulfill such additional duties as may be required by the Executive Committee or by the Chapter Constitution, the By-Laws, Resolutions, or vote of the Chapter membership.

Section 5. A faculty member in the undergraduate social work program shall serve as the faculty advisor.

CHAPTER II

Organization and Procedures

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Chair of the standing committees, and the faculty advisor.

Section 2. The Chapter shall meet in official sessions at least once each term of the academic year.

Section 3. Standing Committees may be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Special committees may be appointed by the President.

Section 5. The Chapter year shall begin on March 1 and end on February 28.

Section 6. The Chapter shall maintain adequate and accurate records of its membership, activities and finances. Such records shall be kept in such a way as to serve as a permanent and historical record.

Section 7. Qualified persons may be inducted into membership anytime of the year.

Section 8. Election of officers will be held during the second semester of each year.

CHAPTER III

Membership

Section 1. An undergraduate student is eligible for active membership after achieving the following National minimum requirements and meeting local Chapter requirements:

- a. Declared social work as a major.
- b. Achieved senior status.
- c. Completed two semesters of required social work courses.
- d. Achieved an overall grade point average of 3.3 (on a 4.0 scale).
- e. Achieved a 3.5 grade point average in required social work courses.
- f. Local chapters may establish higher eligibility requirements.

Section 2. A graduate student is eligible for active membership after achieving:

- a. A minimum of one term of course work.
- b. A grade point average of 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale).
- c. Local Chapters may establish higher eligibility requirements.

Section 3. A faculty member or community member may be granted membership by invitation of the Executive Committee and approval of the Chapter membership.

Section 4. The Executive Committee with the approval of the membership, may grant Honorary Membership to a maximum of two individuals per year who have made outstanding contributions to the

field of social work.

Section 5. The method of granting membership shall be in accordance with procedures established by the local chapter.

Section 6. Any member may be expelled from membership for reasons of academic or personal conduct unbecoming a student of social work, by a three-fourths vote of the chapter, after a thorough investigation has been made by the Executive Committee, and the member so charged has been granted an impartial hearing before the Executive Committee. Dismissal from the Social Work program or College is cause for automatic recommendation for expulsion.

CHAPTER IV

Dues

Section 1. The initiation fee shall be of sufficient amount to include the following:

- a. the initiation fee required by the National Society.
- b. the initiation fee required by the local chapter.

Section 2. Annual chapter dues shall be established in accordance with chapter needs by action of the Executive Committee and a three-fourths vote of the chapter membership present.

Section 3. Special fees, assessments, fines and penalties may be levied by the Executive Committee and a three-fourths vote of the chapter membership present.

CHAPTER V

Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the Executive Committee and upon ratification by a three-fourths vote of the active membership.