



The Constitution of the Multicultural Greek Council at Florida International University

December 2021

PREAMBLE

We, the undergraduate members of the Multicultural Greek Council at Florida International University, recognizing a need to unify culturally-based Greek organizations with similar aspirations while appreciating their uniqueness and value to the campus community, do resolve to increase awareness and promote a positive image of these organizations through the encouragement of community service and philanthropy, support for high academic standards, and the development of campus and community leaders, thus committing ourselves as individuals and organizations to honor and abide by the tenets of this constitution and bylaws.

ARTICLE I: IDENTITY

Section 1. The name of the organization shall be the Multicultural Greek Council at Florida International University, hereinafter referred to as MGC at FIU, FIU MGC, MGC, or the Council.

Section 2. The members of the MGC are as follows:

- A. Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, Incorporated – FIU Colony
- B. Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Incorporated – Gamma Pi Chapter
- C. Lambda Upsilon Lambda Fraternity, Incorporated – Alpha Rho Chapter
- D. Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Incorporated – Theta Delta Chapter
- E. Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority, Incorporated – Phi Gamma Chapter
- F. Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Incorporated - Alpha Upsilon Colony

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

Section 1. The primary purpose of the MGC is to unite its member organizations in order to share ideas and resources, promote mutual respect and equality, provide a support network for involved students, and collectively accomplish the following:

- A. To serve as the governing body of the organizations approved for membership in the Council.
- B. To organize and implement activities and events that will build and support member organizations and relations between them, the campus, and local community.
- C. To serve as a forum for discussion and debate on issues and concerns important to the general campus and multicultural Greek community in particular.
- D. To promote scholarly excellence in member organizations and provide academic support to substantially improve the retention and graduation rate of individual members.
- E. To coordinate programs and services which promote and foster the development of strong individual leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills.
- F. To serve as a mediator of disputes and conflict between MGC organizations or between member organizations and external entities.
- G. To establish a positive relationship and interact regularly with the Interfraternity Council (IFC), Panhellenic Council (PC), and National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) in an effort to collaborate on educational programming, multicultural awareness opportunities, community service initiatives, and social activities.
- H. To serve as a liaison between the MGC member organizations, FIU Greek organizations, student organizations, the student body, university administration and faculty, and the local community.
- I. To promote higher education opportunities within our local community and support university efforts to recruit and admit a diverse applicant pool.'

Section 2. The MGC is a not-for-profit organization.

ARTICLE III: POWERS AND AUTHORITY

Section 1. The Constitution shall be the supreme governing document of the MGC at FIU and shall remain paramount to any conflicting bylaws. The Constitution does not supersede FIU Policies, local, state and federal laws, and the FIU Student Code of Conduct.

Section 2. The MGC must be recognized and in good standing with Fraternity & Sorority

Life (FSL) at FIU.

Section 3. The MGC shall have the power to levy and collect dues and fines.

Section 4. The MGC shall have such powers as are necessary to regulate the relations among individual member groups and between the member groups and the council itself.

Section 5. The MGC shall have the power to admit, at its own discretion, groups to membership.

Section 6. The officers of the MGC shall serve as the executive board and shall have such powers and duties as are prescribed in Article I of the Bylaws of the MGC.

ARTICLE IV: COUNCIL STRUCTURE

Section 1. The Council shall consist of President, Vice President, Vice President of Finance, and Vice President of Communication.

Section 2. The Council shall have an advisor who shall be a staff member of Fraternity & Sorority Life in the Department of Campus Life.

- A. The Council Advisor will be appointed by FSL.
- B. The Council Advisor will have the following duties:
 - a. To advise the General Body and the Executive Board in all matters pertaining to the operation and activities of the MGC.
 - b. To attend all general body and executive board meetings. To supervise the count of all ballot votes.
 - c. To serve on the expansion committee in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII of the Bylaws of the MGC.
 - d. Does not have the power to override the MGC Constitution and its Bylaws.

ARTICLE V: MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Section 1. The MGC at FIU shall be composed of culturally-based fraternities and sororities at FIU.

Section 2. Member organizations in the Council must maintain affiliation and recognition with Fraternity & Sorority Life.

Section 3. The MGC shall not discriminate against any person based upon race, religion, creed, color, age, national origin or disability. Chapters have the discretion to discriminate based on gender due to Title IX status.

Section 4. Member organizations are required to be affiliated with an inter/national

umbrella fraternal organization in order to have membership in the Council. Member organizations who do hold affiliation with an inter/national umbrella fraternal organization must show documentation of their good standing with said organization annually.

Section 5. Classes of Member Organization

- A. Full membership: A group will be recognized with Full Membership if they are an active chapter in MGC at FIU and will be held accountable for all membership requirements. They must also be recognized by their inter/national umbrella organization as a chapter or colony.
- B. Associate Membership: A group will be recognized with Associate Membership if they are seeking Full Membership within the Council through the expansion process. The group is not held accountable for participation or dues. The group must be seeking membership of an inter/national organization to be recognized as an Associate Member. In order to gain Full Membership status, the Associate Member must provide legal documentation from their inter/national umbrella organization that they have been named a colony/chapter.
- C. Passive Membership: A group will be recognized as a Passive Member of the MGC at FIU when they are not able to fulfill the Fraternity & Sorority Life or Council Standards. A two-thirds $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of the Council Executive Board will be required to vote the group into Passive Membership for the semester.
- D. Alumnae Membership:
 - a. Alumni or Alumnae members are not to be regarded as full members of the Multicultural Greek Council
 - b. Are granted attendance to meetings with permission of the Executive Board of the MGC with at least a week's notice.
 - c. Do not have voting power
 - d. Cannot hold any position within the council.

Section 6. Groups in Good-Standing: A group is considered of Good-Standing if it continues to meet its financial obligations to the Council, FSL, University, and all affiliated entities; it has a good risk management record; it is under no disciplinary action from the Council, FSL, the University, and all affiliated entities; it promotes the anti-discrimination policies and practices that are not compatible to the mission of their organization; and it is engaged on campus and in the FIU Greek community.

Section 7. Chapter Voting Rights: All Full Members in good standing of the Council shall have equal right to vote.

Section 8. Chapter Adherence to University Policies: No person shall be pledged or initiated by any member organization of the Council that is in current violation of the

Student Code of Conduct and/or the University Policies.

Section 9. Academic Performance:

A. Each member organization shall maintain a grade point average of 2.7 each semester, to include all new members and undergraduate members.

B. Any member organization which fails to meet the requirement set forth in Subsection A, above, may be required by MGC and FSL to work with an academic advisor or on-campus department to assist the organization in improving academic performance.

C. Any member organization which fails to meet the requirement set forth in Subsection A, above, for two or more academic semesters, may be subject to such discipline as FSL may impose.

Section 10. The Multicultural Greek Council Performance: Each member organization is expected to fulfill the guidelines and expectations set for all member organizations in the Multicultural Greek Council.

Section 11. Only member organizations in good standing may utilize the programs and services offered by the Council.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

Section 1. The Council shall consist of President, Vice President, Vice President of Finance, and Vice President of Communication.

Section 2. The officers shall serve a term of one calendar year.

Section 3. While in office, officers must maintain a 2.3 GPA and must not have below a 2.3 GPA for more than one semester.

Section 4. Any officer who, during the term of his/her office, ceases to be a voting member, or fails to maintain his/her status as a matriculating undergraduate/graduate (exception University organizations) student maintaining a 2.3 GPA., in good academic and disciplinary standing with their respective organization, shall be removed from his/her office and a replacement shall be elected.

Section 5. Installation of Officers

A. The period from election to the second to last meeting in Fall will serve as a training period during which time the elected officers will become familiar with the duties of the office. Newly elected officers shall officially take office immediately following officer installation and preside over the last general membership meeting in November before the close of the semester. Current

officers shall assist in the transition and training of the officers-elect, from elections until installation.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1. Council meetings shall be held bi-weekly during the academic year.

Section 2. The President or a majority of the Executive Board may call special meetings. All members must be given a minimum 24 hours' notice prior to the meeting time.

Section 3. Business cannot be conducted unless a quorum of the membership is present. one- third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of the delegates from voting member organizations must be in attendance for a quorum to be present.

Section 4. Members must be present to vote. Absentee or proxy voting is not permitted.

Section 5. In order to vote, member organizations must have Full Membership and be in Good- Standing with the Council.

ARTICLE VIII: FINANCES

Section 1. Dues for Full Member organizations shall be \$25 per chapter and \$7 per active member. Should a chapter's membership fall to 3 or less members, their active member dues shall be \$15 each.

Section 2. Dues must be paid by the second general meeting of each semester during the regular academic year. Should the organization not turn in their dues as specified, a fine shall be imposed as stated in Article VII of the Bylaws of the MGC.

Section 3. Payment Plans:

- A. Must be established no later than the first general body meeting of each semester.
- B. All payment plans should be paid off no later than the fourth general body meeting of the same semester.
- C. Must be signed off by the Vice President of Finance, MGC President, and the organization's chapter delegate to be considered valid.
- D. If an organization does not pay off their payment plan within the allotted period, the organization will be considered in poor standing. All reservations will be canceled and future reservation privileges suspended.

ARTICLE IX: UNRECOGNIZED GROUPS

Section 1. Florida International University requires all social fraternities and sororities to be affiliated with a governing council under the umbrella of the Fraternity & Sorority

Life/Campus Life and with a larger, nationally-based organization who provides additional supervision and guidance. The Multicultural Greek Council does not condone unauthorized expansion activities such as “campus crashing”, “ghost lines”, recruiting or soliciting membership, pre-initiation activities, pledging, educating and/or initiating FIU students without having approved recognition through the university. The Multicultural Greek Council also recognizes the risks such groups may pose. No Multicultural Greek Council chapter shall conduct any business/activities, official or otherwise, with any unrecognized fraternity or sorority including affiliate groups.

ARTICLE X: BYLAWS

Section 1. The MGC at FIU may establish Bylaws to this Constitution provided that such bylaws do not conflict with the provisions herein, and further provided that such bylaws be introduced by a member of the MGC, read and passed by a three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) vote at two (2) meetings of the General Body of the MGC.

A. This Constitution may be amended by a three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) vote of the voting delegates of the Full Member groups of the MGC at FIU at two (2) separate meetings. Amendments shall be proposed at the first (1st) meeting and voted upon at the second (2nd) meeting.

B. Any amendments made to the MGC Constitution must be reviewed by the General Body. Proposed amendments must be given to the general body in writing at the preceding meeting.

C. Amendments can only be initiated by organizations holding Full Membership in the MGC.



The Bylaws of the Multicultural Greek Council at Florida International University

December 2021

ARTICLE I: POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Duties of the President

- A. Preside over all meetings and to enforce the constitution of the MGC in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.
- B. Shall be competent and knowledgeable of all rules and regulations governing student organizations at Florida International University
- C. Shall ensure all events are compliant with risk management policies
- D. Shall have access to make space reservations for Council events through the appropriate platform.
- E. Shall maintain and update a folder with all relevant information pertaining to that position.
- F. Manage the MGC Panther Connect portal.
- G. Shall declare results of Council voting.
- H. Shall reserve the right to call special/emergency meetings within 24 - 48 hours of emergency, to be held only on business days.
- I. Serve as the official spokesperson and representative for the MGC. This may include representing the MGC at civic and social functions, or when the council is called upon by the member organizations for representation.
- J. Appoint all committee chairpersons not otherwise provided for in the Constitution of the MGC with approval of the Executive Board.
- K. Chair the Executive Board.
- L. Shall coordinate and schedule Executive Board meetings.

- M. Co-sign with Vice President of Finance for all withdrawals and any other transactions regarding the MGC's bank account.
- N. Request the removal of any person from any council meeting due to behavior deemed Inappropriate.
- O. Shall meet with the Council Advisor at least on a monthly basis.
- P. Has the power to break a tie in a vote when there is a motion.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the Vice President to:

- A. Assist the President in the performance of his duties or her duties and to act in place of the President when necessary.
- B. Shall be competent and knowledgeable of all rules and regulations governing student organizations at Florida International University
- C. Shall maintain and update a folder with all relevant information pertaining to that position.
- D. Be well versed in Robert's Rules of Order.
- E. Be well versed in the constitution of MGC.
- F. Serve as the interpreter in the case of any procedural dispute
- G. Establish that a quorum is present at General Body Meetings.
- H. Supervise the election process. If the Vice President is running for a position, then the next highest ranking officer must supervise elections.
- I. Be responsible for scheduling and reserving event spaces.
- J. Shall record and maintain attendance records as to administer fines for any event or meeting absences.
- K. Manage the expansion process:
 - a. Manage all groups applying to the MGC, and prepare presentation dates
 - b. Serve as a liaison between interested/associated member organizations and MGC
 - c. Preside over expansion committee meetings
- L. Shall coordinate educational workshops, with topics related to risk management (i.e Hazing Prevention, Alcohol Awareness, etc.), and the promotion of cultural competency, advocacy, awareness, education, etc.
- M. Shall coordinate the MGC's programming, including but not limited to the MGC Showcase and the MGC Banquet.
- N. Oversee the execution of the annual MGC Banquet.
- O. Oversee Council community service events.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of the Vice President of Finance to:

- A. Keep an accurate account of all monies received and paid by the MGC.

- B. Provide receipts for all monetary transactions on behalf of the MGC.
- C. Shall present an annual budget to the Executive Board
 - a. Annual Budget shall be approved by the Executive Board through majority vote.
- D. Present the annual budget for each semester by the third (3rd) MGC General Body Meeting of such semester.
- E. Invoice and collect dues and fines each semester.
- F. Shall spearhead any and all Council-fundraising, philanthropy, and solicitations efforts.
- G. Co-sign with the President and FSL for all withdrawals and any other transactions regarding the MGC's bank account.
- H. Shall maintain and update a folder with all relevant information pertaining to that position.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Vice President of Communications to:

- A. Record and maintain accurate minutes and Council attendance of all proceedings at General Body, emergency, mandatory Council Events, and Executive Board meetings.
- B. Present the minutes of the previous meeting to the general body for approval forty-eight (48) hours prior to the start of the upcoming meeting.
- D. Notify chapter delegates and Executive Board Officers of upcoming meeting times and locations.
- F. Maintain and distribute a contact list of all Council members
- H. Assist FSL in updating chapter membership rolls and officer database rosters at the beginning of every semester.
- I. Handle all correspondence (i.e., thank you notes) with the university.
- J. Coordinate marketing and promotional materials for all council programming.
- K. Manage all social media websites and accounts.
- M. Organize tabling efforts on behalf of the MGC and work with member organizations for staffing.
- N. Coordinate photography at MGC programming.
- O. Perform all other duties as pertaining to the office of Public Relations.
- P. Shall maintain and update a folder with all relevant information pertaining to that position.

ARTICLE II: QUALIFICATION TO HOLD OFFICE

Section 1. To be eligible for a position on the MGC Executive Board, members must:

- A. Be an initiated member of an organization holding Full Membership in the FIU MGC.
- B. The candidate must be a full-time student enrolled for at least 9 credits and have a 2.3 cumulative GPA.
 - a. Must not be on any university scholastic or disciplinary probation.
 - b. Grades and conduct status must be verified by FSL.
- C. The candidate must be in good standing with his or her organization.
- D. Must attend all General Body Meetings and Executive board meetings

Section 2. No member may hold more than one office. No member may serve more than two years in the same office.

ARTICLE III: ELECTIONS

Section 1. Elections are held near the end of the fall semester and shall take place at regularly scheduled meetings of the organization at which a quorum is present. At least one week's notice shall be provided for any meeting at which an election is to be held.

Section 2. Nominations for officers shall be made at the regular meeting immediately preceding the election meeting.

- A. Only voting representatives of each member organization may nominate a candidate or second a nomination.
- B. No organization may second their own nomination.
- C. The candidate must accept their nomination to proceed.
- D. Should no candidate be nominated for a position, it is up to the discretion of the previous Executive Board to nominate an eligible MGC member.

Section 3. All nomination procedures must be done in order of succession with the presentation of each office.

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Vice President of Finance
- D. Vice President of Communications

Section 4. Elections Meeting

A. The Vice President shall preside over elections, unless he or she is running for office. In such a case, the President shall preside over the election process. In the event that the entire Executive Board is running for office, the Council Advisor shall oversee the election process.

B. Presentations

- a. At the elections meeting, each candidate will be allowed to make a three (3) to five (5) minute presentation of his or her goals and platform.
- b. Each candidate will be subject to a brief question and answer session, at the discretion of the Executive Board.

C. Votes shall be cast by

D. Officers shall be selected by majority vote.

E. Each Full Member organization has one (1) vote. If no candidate receives a majority vote, a runoff election shall be held between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

F. Election results are tabulated immediately following each vote by the presiding President and the MGC Advisor.

Section 5. The violation of this constitution by any member of the executive board shall warrant a call for impeachment from the executive board by a council motion and vote according to Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 6. Filling Vacancies

A. Should the office of the President, Vice President of Council Operations, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Communications become vacant for any reason, the procedure for filling the office or offices shall be as follows:

- a. At the first (1st) general body meeting where a vacancy exists, the Vice President (or the President in the event the vacant position is the Vice President) shall:
 - i) Announce the vacancy to the council.
 - ii) Explain the procedure for filling a vacancy.
 - iii) Ask for nominations. Nominations must be held prior to the election at the next General Body Meeting.
- b. An election shall occur at the next General Body meeting following the announcement of the vacancy, except in the case where the announcement falls on the last Council meeting of the semester and/or year. In this case, the

Executive Board will appoint an officer to be approved at the first (1st) meeting the following semester.

B. Should vacancies develop during the summer, the office is appointed temporarily by the MGC Executive Board and approved by the council at the next General Body Meeting.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS AND VOTING

Section 1. General Body

A. The general body of the MGC shall be composed of one delegate from each member organization.

B. The general body has voting power on all matters.

C. The general body has the power to elect and impeach Executive Board officers.

D. The general body shall have the power to deliver mandates to member organizations

and to the members of the Executive Board.

E. The general body shall be provided with a copy of the agenda by the executive board

prior to the start of each general meeting.

F. The general body shall report back to their organization about official business of the MGC

G. The general body shall be the main point of contact for the Multicultural Greek Council Executive board.

Section 2. General Body Meetings

A. General body meetings shall be held on a bi-weekly basis during the academic year.

B. The general body meetings will consist of the general body, the executive board officers, general members and the advisors.

C. Only chapters holding Full Membership in the MGC shall have voting rights at the general body meetings.

D. Business cannot be conducted unless a quorum of the membership is present. Two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the general body voting delegates must be in attendance for a quorum to

be present.

E. Members must be present to vote. Proxy voting is to be permitted if members are unable to vote due to excruciating circumstances, such as:

a. Academic obligations, medical emergencies, transportation emergencies, family emergencies

B. The Executive Board should be notified of Proxy voting at minimum two (2) hours prior to the commencement of the General Body Meeting.

F. All meetings shall follow parliamentary procedure according to Robert's Rules of Order.

G. Delegates from member organizations are expected to attend all general body meetings. Any absence deemed unexcused will be subject to a fine as per Article VII.

Section 3. Chapter Delegates

A. Full member organization shall have one (1) vote in the general body meeting to be cast by an official delegate of the organization.

B. Delegates shall speak on behalf of and make decisions for their respective organizations and should be able to do so without adjournment or consultation with other chapter officers.

C. Organizations are responsible for the actions, conduct, and fulfillment of the duties and responsibilities of their delegates.

D. MGC Executive Board officers cannot function as chapter delegates.

ARTICLE V: STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing committees and special officers necessary to carry out the work of the MGC shall be appointed by its Executive Board to serve during the tenure of the executive board that appointed them.

ARTICLE VI: EXCLUSIVE WEEKS POLICY

Section 1. Each organization will be given a week (five (5) consecutive days) in which to program public events. Selection of the week will be determined by Fraternity & Sorority Life. During this week, no other organization shall compete with programming (i.e. any event that would affect the attendance to events of the authorized organization) without written permission of that organization.

Section 2. If a change is necessary, involved groups will be expected to compromise and

negotiate an equitable solution.

- A. The buying and/or selling of an organization's week is strictly prohibited.
- B. In the event that a compromise cannot be reached, the executive board shall deliberate and present a reasonable solution.
- C. A fine will be imposed for any groups violating and programming during another organization's week.

ARTICLE VII: FINES

Section 1. Dues

- A. Organizations who fail to submit dues on time will incur a \$20 fine. The organization will have seven (7) business days to pay off the remaining balance in order to avoid any succeeding late fees.
 - a. Failure to pay dues after the aforementioned seven (7) business days, the organization will be subject to a fine of \$15 per week, every week that is not paid.
- B. After two weeks, the organization will be considered in poor standing. They will lose all privileges as a voting member of the MGC, registration/recognition by FSL and MGC, and use of University facilities or funds.

Section 2. Unexcused Absences

- A. General Body Meetings
 - a. If an organization misses a General Body meeting without prior 24 hour notification to the Council President, a fine of \$25 will be assessed to the Entity
 - b. Organizations who fail to attend three meetings or more in one semester will lose voting rights, reservation privileges, and exclusive week programming.
 - c. Fines that are not paid by the end of the semester will roll over to the following semester and must be paid in order for the organization to be considered in good standing.
 - i. Organizations will be assessed a \$5 fine for arriving 15 minutes or more late.
 - ii. Organizations will be assessed the full absence fine if arriving 30 minutes or more late or leaving 30 minutes or more early.
- B. MGC Events: MGC Events include social, promotional, educational, and/or service Programs.
 - a. 2 delegates from active chapter membership must attend MGC events.

- b. A \$30 fine will be assessed to the Chapter, unless a notification of absence was provided at least 24 hours prior to the Executive Board.
- c. A \$100 fine will be assessed for all chapters not performing in the MGC Showcase.
- d. An additional \$10 fine will be assessed for all chapters who fail to notify the MGC Executive board of their absence at least seven (7) business days prior to the showcase.

Section 3: Conduct

- a. No smoking or drinking in letters if not a \$20 fine will be assessed to the organization
- b. No bullying or harassment at any MGC Events if not a \$40 fine will be assessed to the organization at the discretion of the Vice President of Finance.
- c. No cursing at events as we are the face of MGC and should behave as such a \$5 fine will be assessed to the organization.

ARTICLE VIII: EXPANSION

Section 1. The FIU MGC shall discuss and vote to open or close for expansion during the third meeting of each fall semester.

Section 2. As needed, the FIU MGC shall establish a committee for the purpose of handling expansion of the council.

Section 3. The Expansion Committee shall deal with all matters pertaining to expansion of the MGC at FIU. The committee must approve and sanction any action in the area of expansion of newly formed organizations. A detailed description of Expansion Committee duties can be found in the Expansion Manual in the MGC PantherConnect Portal.

Section 4. The MGC Vice President shall oversee the Expansion Committee. The committee shall consist of the MGC Vice President, all full membership organizational Chapter Presidents, and the MGC Advisor.

Section 5. Expansion Eligibility

- A. No organization shall petition for acceptance into the MGC once they have been established with any other Greek council recognized by FSL.
- B. Organizations which have lost FSL recognition may petition for acceptance into the MGC to return to the council and campus.

Section 6. Expansion Process: A detailed description of Expansion Process can be found

in the Expansion Manual in the MGC PantherConnect Portal.

ARTICLE IX: REGULATIONS

Section 1. All member groups of the MGC shall be bound to this constitution, the bylaws, and any of the MGC's established rules as well as the rules and regulations of FIU, the State of Florida, and the United States of America.

Section 2. If any member fraternity or sorority violates any regulations of the constitution, bylaws, or FIU, it shall be subject to the penalties of FSL and the MGC.

Section 3. Violations shall be judged and sanctions will be imposed, by the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.