

MISSION

The only honor society permitted to bear the name Jesuit, Alpha Sigma Nu inspires members of Jesuit college and university communities to develop their gifts and to embrace the values of Jesuit education in preparation to go out into the world to serve others. Alpha Sigma Nu encourages and supports all members, to a lifetime pursuit of intellectual development, deepening Ignatian spirituality, and service to others, and to see themselves as part of the global Jesuit network committed to the mission of the Society of Jesus.

ALPHA SIGMA NU CONSTITUTION

Article 1 – Name

The name of this organization shall be Alpha Sigma Nu, Incorporated (hereinafter referred to as “the Society”). The Society is the Honor Society of Jesuit institutions of higher education.

Article 2 – Purpose

The purpose of Alpha Sigma Nu shall be to honor students of Jesuit colleges and universities who distinguish themselves in scholarship, service, and loyalty to the ideals of Jesuit education. Alpha Sigma Nu shall furthermore inspire all members to develop their gifts towards a lifelong commitment to the service of faith and the promotion of justice in solidarity with the Society of Jesus through the establishment, support, and proper functioning of Chapters in accredited Jesuit institutions of higher education and the Society’s alumni network.

Article 3 – Members

Section 3.1 Qualifications

Qualifications for membership shall be based on scholarship, loyalty and service in the institution or community.

Scholarship means one meets the scholastic eligibility requirements set forth in Sections 3.3 and 3.4.

Loyalty means a demonstrated commitment to Jesuit ideals of higher education and to the mission of the Society of Jesus.

Service means a proven concern for others demonstrated by activities in support of the institution or the community.

Section 3.2 Membership

Membership shall be attained by one of two methods: Nominations by Chapters of (1) Students attending an accredited Jesuit institution of higher education, or (2) Individuals who qualify as honorary members.

Section 3.3 Nominations for Induction

3.3.1 General Nomination Provisions: Student members shall be enrolled in undergraduate or graduate programs in a Jesuit institution at the time of their induction into the Chapter. Undergraduate students shall have achieved junior or senior standing or have completed not fewer than one-half (1/2) of the credit requirements for their undergraduate degree at a Jesuit institution at the time of their nomination are eligible for nomination to the Society. They shall be nominated for induction according to procedures determined by each Chapter, subject to the requirements of this Sub-section and Sub-sections 3.3.2 and 3.3.3. Graduate students shall be nominated for induction according to the procedures set forth in this Sub-section and Sub-sections 3.3.4 and 3.3.5. Honorary members shall be nominated for induction according to the procedures set forth in Section 3.4. The President of the institution must approve the list of nominees, and upon the President's approval, the nominees shall be deemed candidates for induction into the Society. In addition, each year the institution's President is accorded the privilege of selecting up to three (3) additional candidates who meet the respective requirements in Sub-sections 3.3.2 and 3.3.4. Candidates shall become members of the Society upon induction according to Section 3.7.

Total student enrollment, where relevant, shall mean the sum of (a) of full-time students attending the institution, plus (b) the full-time equivalent of part-time students attending the institution.

3.3.2 Requirements for Undergraduate Nomination: Students nominated for

membership in the Society must have a scholastic rank between the top fifteen (15%) and twenty (20%) percent of their class and have distinguished themselves in displaying qualities of loyalty and service as defined in Section 3.1. In addition to achieving junior or senior standing, undergraduate transfer students shall have completed not fewer than one and one-half (1-1/2) semesters at a Jesuit institution by the time of their nomination. In addition to achieving junior or senior standing, part-time undergraduate students shall have completed at least one-half (1/2) of their degree program by the time of their nomination.

Where the institution has separate colleges, schools, or academic units (e.g., Arts & Sciences, Nursing, Business, etc.), between the top 15% and 20% percent of students in each such college, school or academic unit is eligible for nomination. At the institutions where there are no such academic divisions, between the 15% to 20% threshold should be understood to apply to the junior or senior class as a whole.

3.3.3 Undergraduate Nomination Procedure: The University Chapter may recommend those students eligible under Section 3.3.2 and selected from the junior and senior classes for nomination to the Society. The list of nominees is submitted to the dean of each college, school or academic unit in the Jesuit institution with undergraduate students. The dean may delete any name from the list if he or she believes that the candidate is not qualified for membership. The dean may recommend additional nominees subject to Chapter approval. The Chapter will forward the final list of nominees to the institution's President for approval.

The maximum number of undergraduate nominees that a Chapter may nominate in a single scholastic year shall be equal to or fewer than the sum of (a) five (5%) percent of the full-time enrollment of the junior class, plus (b) five (5%) of the enrollment of the senior class.

3.3.4 Requirements for Graduate Nomination: Graduate students ranked scholastically between the top fifteen (15%) and twenty (20%) percent of their college, school, program or department, who have distinguished themselves in displaying qualities of loyalty and service as defined in Section 3.1, may be nominated for membership to the Society. Graduate student nominees shall have completed not fewer than one-half (1/2) of the credit requirements for their graduate degree at a Jesuit institution at the time of their nomination.

3.3.5 Graduate Nomination Procedure: The Chapter shall cause the list of

scholastically eligible graduate students in each graduate school, program or department, as the case may be, to be forwarded to the graduate school dean or department chair, who shall select from the list those students he or she believes are qualified to be nominees. The resulting list shall then be forwarded to the Chapter for inclusion in the final list. The Chapter will forward the final list of nominees to the institution's President for approval. No more than five percent (5%) of the total enrollment of a given graduate program or department may be nominated in any single academic year.

3.3.6 Exceptions: Upon petition from a member University's Chapter Adviser, the Board of Directors may approve temporary exceptions to the foregoing requirements and procedures.

Section 3.4 Nomination of Honorary Members

A Chapter may nominate for honorary membership alumni of its own institution, alumni of another Jesuit institution of higher education, or other persons who have distinguished themselves in scholarship, loyalty and service, as defined in Section 3.1, in intellectual, civic, religious, or professional pursuits.

The Board of Directors may recommend qualified persons to a Chapter for its nomination to honorary membership or induct honorary members independently of the University chapters.

All Chapter nominations for honorary membership under this section must be approved by the President of the Chapter's institution. No Chapter may induct more than a combined total of five (5) honorary nominations each year.

Section 3.5 Ex-Officio Members

The President, Executive Academic Officer or Provost, Executive/VP of Mission Officer, Rector of the Jesuit community, and the Chapter Adviser of the institution having an Alpha Sigma Nu Chapter are, by reason of their office, eligible to be active members of this Society with all rights and privileges pertaining thereto. Keys and certificates for these individuals may be awarded by the Board of Directors upon petition by the Chapter.

Section 3.6 Equal Opportunity Statement

Alpha Sigma Nu is committed to equal opportunity for all qualified candidates in light of criteria established above.

Section 3.7 Induction and Pledge

Each member shall be inducted in accordance with the procedures applicable at the time of induction, and shall take the following pledge:

As a member of Alpha Sigma Nu, I promise to do everything in my power
To carry out the ideals of Scholarship, Loyalty and Service.
I promise to be committed to intellectual integrity and the pursuit of wisdom.
I promise to be loyal to the moral, social, and religious ideals of my education.
I promise to be genuinely committed to the well-being of others and active in serving them.
I will do all this in light of the Jesuit concern for the greater honor and glory of God.

Section 3.8 Privileges of Membership

Names of those nominated for student or honorary memberships shall be submitted to the central headquarters of Alpha Sigma Nu for inscription on the Society's records and for the proper issuance of keys and certificates.

So long as they remain in good standing, all members who have been initiated into Alpha Sigma Nu or Gamma Pi Epsilon (the former national society for women in Jesuit colleges and universities) enjoy lifetime membership in the Society and may participate in the activities as alumni members.

Section 3.9 Induction Fee

The current induction fee, as established by the Board, shall be charged for each new member payable by the Chapter to the Central Office in advance of the induction ceremony. The fee shall be reviewed each year by the Treasurer.

Article 4 – University Chapters

Section 4.1 Organization

This Society shall consist of University Chapters organized in accordance with the Society's Constitution and Bylaws. Each Chapter and Club shall have its own Officers and be self-governing, enacting rules for its own organization consistent with the Society's Constitution and Bylaws. Dues shall be determined by each Chapter/Club.

Section 4.2 University Chapters

A University Chapter may be established at an accredited Jesuit institution of higher

education through a petition in writing from the President of that institution addressed to the Board Secretary. A majority vote of the Board of Directors shall be required for approval.

A University Chapter shall consist of duly inducted student members of the institution and a Chapter Adviser.

Section 4.3 Active and Inactive University Chapters

To be considered active, a University Chapter must induct at least four (4) qualified new members each year, elect/appoint officers, send at least one (1) representative to the Alpha Sigma Nu conferences, and if requested, submit an annual report to the Central Office.

If a University Chapter does not meet these requirements, the President of the institution will receive a written notice from the Central Office in the next academic year. If the University Chapter does not meet the requirements for the second academic year after such warning, the Board may designate the University Chapter as “inactive.” Inactive University Chapters may not induct new members unless they are reinstated by the Board. Petitions for reinstatement must include a specific explanation as to how the Chapter proposes to continuously meet the requirements for active University Chapters.

Section 4.4 Meetings and Activities

Each University’s Student Chapter shall hold regular meetings and establish its own quorum. Each University’s Student Chapter shall undertake activities to promote the tenets of scholarship, loyalty to Jesuit ideals, and service when setting Chapter goals and planning programs, keeping in mind the mission and purpose of Alpha Sigma Nu.

Section 4.5 University Student Chapter Officers

University Student Chapter officers shall consist of the Chapter President, and two additional officers which may include Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and any other Officers designated by the Student Chapter. University chapters shall have a Chapter Adviser appointed by the institution’s President.

Article 5 – Triennial Conference

Section 5.1 Meetings

The Triennial Conference shall meet every three years (3) at a time and place chosen by the Board of Directors. For extraordinary reasons, and on a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board, the Triennial Conference may be deferred for a period not exceeding one (1) year, or a Special Conference may be called. A Special Conference shall have all the powers of a Triennial Conference.

Section 5.2 Powers and Duties

Officers of the Board shall serve as Officers of the Triennial Conference. The Board Treasurer shall make available to the membership a certified statement of the financial condition of the Society. The President shall appoint an official parliamentarian for the Triennial Conference.

Article 6 – Amendments to the Constitution

Amendments to these Chapter Bylaws/Constitution shall be proposed by the Chapter Advisers and must be approved by two-thirds vote by the Board of Directors.

Article 7 -- Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 6.1 Insignia

The Society's official insignia shall be a gold pin or key bearing the Greek letters Alpha Sigma Nu for $_A\delta_λ\phi_τ_ς$ Σχολαστικ_ν Νικηφ_ρων (Company of Honor Students).

The Society's official colors shall be maroon and gold.

Official banners for the Society shall be provided by the Central Office, the design and fabrication of which shall be approved by the Board of Directors