UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
PHI ALPHA HONOR SOCIETY
By-Laws

Chapter Effective Date: August 2, 2004
By Laws Updated: September 7, 2011

Phi Alpha Honor Society
University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work
2108 Cathedral of Learning
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15260

CHAPTER I

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 membership each spring.

Section 2. The President shall preside at meetings of the chapter; appoint such committees as may be provided for by Chapter Constitution or By-Law or by vote of the chapter; call special meetings of the chapter; be responsible for all Chapters report; perform the duties or 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 national initiation fee for each student and faculty initiate prior to his or her acceptance into membership.

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

Section 5. The BASW Program Director shall serve as faculty advisor.

Chapter II

Organization and Procedures

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, and Secretary- Treasurer.

Section 2. The Chapter shall meet in official sessions at least twice each year.
Section 3. Standing Committee 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 July 1 and end on June 30.

Section 6. The Chapter shall maintain adequate and accurate records of its membership activities and finances. Such record shall be kept in such a way as to serve as permanent and historical record. Said record will be coordinated by the BASW Program Director or his or designate.

Section 7. Qualified persons may inducted into membership twice a year, at the beginning of the fall and spring semester.

Section 8. Election of officers shall be held once each year in the fall and at other times when a vacancy occurs.

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:

Phi Alpha National Minimum Requirements for Membership:

a. Declared social work as a major.
b. Achieved sophomore status.
c. Completed 8 semester hours of 12 quarter hours of required social work courses.
d. Achieved an overall grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
e. Achieved a 3.25 grade point average in required social work courses.

University of Pittsburgh Phi Alpha Chapter Requirements for Membership:

a. Admitted to the BASW program as a major.
b. Upon completion of 24 semester hours (2 full time terms) students with a grade point average 3.50 on a 4.0 scale in required social work courses will be recommended for membership.
c. Membership will be contingent upon graduation from the major with a grade point average of 3.50 on a 4.0 scale in required social work courses.

Section 3. A faculty member may be granted membership by invitation of the Executive Committee and approval of the Chapter membership. As stated in the Constitution, the only exception to this process would be for BASW Program
faculty members during the 2003-2004 academic year who shall be granted membership at the time of chapter installation.

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 contribution to the field of social work. Honorary members shall be assessed membership dues.

Section 5. The method of granting membership shall be in accordance 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-fourth vote of the chapter, after a thorough investigation has been made by the Executive Committee, and the members so charged has been made by the Executive Committee, and the members so charge has been granted an impartial hearing before the Executive Committee. Dismissal from the Social Work program or College/University is a 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 (as of July 2004, this is $20.00)
   b. A chapter initiation fee of $2.00 is also required.

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 may be levied by the Executive Committee with a three-fourth vote of the chapter membership presence.

CHAPTER IV

Amendments

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

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT
Membership shall be available to all eligible people without regard to age, gender, color, race, creed ethnic or nation origin, political or sexual orientation, or disability.