

Lambda Pi Eta Constitution

Preamble:

We, the students at the University of Delaware, do hereby form the organization known as the Lambda Pi Eta for the purpose of recognizing outstanding achievement and fostering interest in the field of communication.

Articles:

- I. The organization shall be known as Lambda Pi Eta, the Communication Honor Society, Rho Alpha chapter.
- II. The goals of Lambda Pi Eta are to
 - a. Recognize, foster, and reward outstanding scholastic achievement
 - b. Stimulate interest in the field of communication
 - c. Promote and encourage professional development among communication majors
 - d. Provide an opportunity to discuss and exchange ideas about the field of communication
 - e. Establish and maintain close relationships and understanding between faculty and students
 - f. Explore options for further graduate studies
 - g. Foster relationships between the Communication Department and various non-campus communities, promoting the importance of community outreach within the Department.
- III. Lambda Pi Eta will be affiliated with the National Communication Association and will be known as the Rho Alpha chapter of Lambda Pi Eta, the National Communication Honor Society.
- IV. Members must meet the following criteria:
 - a. Have completed at least 60 semester hours
 - b. Have completed at least 12 semester hours of communication study
 - c. Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5
 - d. Have a Communication Studies GPA of at least 3.25
 - e. Currently enrolled as a student in good standing
 - f. Display commitment to the field of communication
 - g. Pay a one-time fee of \$30
 - h. Pay yearly fees of \$20
- V. The organization agrees to adhere to all policies and procedures of the University and all local, state, and federal laws. Members will become acquainted with policies and procedures in the Official student handbook and other policies and procedures provided by the University. This organization is a viable, functioning organization, composed of at least six full time undergraduate students and we do not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, veteran, handicap status, or sexual orientation.
- VI. Becoming a member of Lambda Pi Eta guarantees several benefits for students, including the rights to list membership on their resume, to attend the Rho Alpha chapter meetings as well as Lambda Pi Eta annual business meetings, to vote on issues, and to hold national officer positions.
- VII. Each year an honorary member may be selected from Communication Department faculty or outstanding community members who display an interest in the field of communication.

- VIII. Attendance at Lambda Pi Eta functions and meetings is expected and encouraged; however, attendance is not mandatory.
- IX. Members shall not be removed from the national Lambda Pi Eta. Paying the one-time fee of \$30 will guarantee that member membership in Lambda Pi Eta for life. However, members may be removed from the Rho Alpha chapter if the yearly dues are not paid. In addition, in the instance a member does not comply with University of Delaware rules and regulations, that member will be subject to judiciary action and punishment deemed by University policy.
- X. Officers:
- a. Section 1: President – The president shall announce all meetings, preside in the conducting of business, and actively promote the purposes of Lambda Pi Eta in the University of Delaware community.
 - b. Section 2: Vice President – The Vice President shall be responsible for special programs and projects and serve in the absence of the President.
 - c. Section 3: Scholarship Officer: The Scholarship Officer shall be responsible for encouraging academic excellence and stimulating intellectual inquiry among the members through activities such as inviting guest speakers, informing members of opportunities for research and involvement in professional associations, determining the eligibility of and recruiting new members, and presenting awards for outstanding contributions.
 - d. Section 4: Treasurer – The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting annual chapter dues, collecting and transmitting initiation fees and information, establishing a yearly budget, disbursing funds for appropriate organizational expenses, and accounting for all funds.
 - e. Section 5: Secretary – The Secretary shall keep a complete set of minutes of the business of the chapter, deposit the minutes with the faculty advisor at the expiration of the term in office, assure adequate media coverage of the activities of Lambda Pi Eta, and keep a good record of chapter activities.
 - f. Section 6: Public Relations Chair - The Public Relations Chair shall be responsible for promotion of Lambda Pi Eta and our events. This includes making posters, flyers, and brochures, updating the web page information, entering information on to the University Events web page, and submitting press releases to the appropriate media.
 - g. Section 7: Web Master - The Web Master shall be responsible for the monthly upkeep of the Lambda Pi Eta web site and have it approved by the officers.
 - h. Section 8: Qualifications for Officers - All Officers must be full time matriculated undergraduate students at the University of Delaware. Any potential officer must be able to complete a full calendar year.
 - i. Section 9: Any member choosing to run for an office may submit his or her name to the advisor at the beginning of each school year. The advisor will compile a list of nominees, and voting will occur by secret ballot at the first meeting. All members may vote as well as run for office. The new officers will take effect immediately.
 - j. Section 10: Procedure for Discipline – Any Lambda Pi Eta member found in violation of University of Delaware policy will be subject to University judicial procedure and punishment.
 - k. Section 11: Resignations – If any officer resigns, a new election will be held to fill the position according to the aforementioned election rules in Section 9.

- I. Section 12: Officer Transition – An officer will hold his / her position from fall semester through spring semester. The following fall, new officers will be elected.
- XI. Meetings will be held on a monthly basis for general updates. If an event is occurring, meetings will be added accordingly. The advisor and all members are encouraged to attend all meetings, but attendance is not mandatory. Meetings will be held in the Communication Department, unless otherwise noted, and will be announced through e-mail.
- XII. Dues are to be paid when joining Lambda Pi Eta in the spring semester. This includes a one-time \$30 fee as well as a yearly \$20 fee. The next yearly fee will be collected at the beginning of the next school year (fall semester). Dues may be paid by check or cash. A member must pay the initial \$50 (the one-time fee and the first yearly fee) in order to join Lambda Pi Eta. If a member fails to pay subsequent yearly fees, they will have the remainder of the year to pay the fee. If the due is not paid by the end of the year, the member will be removed from the Rho Alpha chapter of Lambda Pi Eta. The policies, activities, and finances of Lambda Pi Eta are subject to the control of the majority of its voting membership.
- XIII. Lambda Pi Eta shall establish by-laws to carry out the policies set forth in this constitution. A simple majority is required to approve by-laws or changes in existing by-laws.
- XIV. Decisions will be made according to the provisions in this constitution. If a by-law or amendment is proposed, a simple majority is required for a by-law and a 2/3 majority is required for an amendment to enact the proposed changes. If ratification of the constitution is proposed, the proposed ratification requires a simple majority of the members of Lambda Pi Eta as well as approval by the Student Advisory Board. Decision making will then follow the constitution and any and all by-laws, amendments, and ratifications.
- XV. Committees shall be created if certain events require the breakdown of responsibility into smaller groups. Members may volunteer to join committees, but will not be forced. The committee will be responsible for the event for which it has been created.
- XVI. The advisor shall be chosen from a list of self-nominated Communication faculty. Lambda Pi Eta members will select the advisor from this list of nominees by secret ballot.
- XVII. The University of Delaware shall inherit the assets of any Registered Student Organization should the group become defunct.
- XVIII. A minimum of 30% of the members of Lambda Pi Eta must be present at a meeting in order for the organization to conduct business and make decisions.
- XIX. Ratification to this constitution requires a simple majority of the members of Lambda Pi Eta as well as the approval by the Student Advisory Board.
- XX. Amendment to this constitution requires a 2/3 majority as well as advance notification of the proposed amendment to all members of Lambda Pi Eta.
- XXI. Signatures:


President, LPH


Advisor, LPH


Program Coordinator for
Leadership Development

4/18/05
Date

4/18/05
Date

4/22/05
Date