



Interfraternity Council

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE *of* TECHNOLOGY

The Constitution of the Interfraternity Council of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

October 13, 2016

Article I: Name of Organization

The name of this organization shall be the Interfraternity Council of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Article II: Terms and Abbreviations

Section 1: MIT

Abbreviation for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Section 2: IFC

Abbreviation for the Interfraternity Council of MIT.

Section 3: Petitioning Group

A group that is seeking admission to the IFC.

Section 4: Fraternity

A group that is affiliated with the IFC.

Section 5: Probationary Member

A member of the IFC that is in their initial period.

Section 6: Associate Member

A member of the IFC that has completed their initial period but is not yet a full member.

Section 7: Full Member

A member of the IFC that has been granted full membership.

Section 8: IFC Executive Board

The Board consisting of the officers of the IFC.

Section 9: IFC Presidents' Council

The primary legislative body of the IFC.

Section 10: Living Group

Any group established at MIT that provides housing to MIT students.

Section 11: FSILG

Abbreviation for Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups.

Section 12: New Member

A new member of an IFC member organization.

Article III: Preamble

Fraternities provide MIT students with non-dormitory living options, a sense of community, and many other tangible and non-tangible benefits. The IFC is herein created to provide for the longevity of its constituent groups by acting as a collective voice for Fraternities, facilitating the survival and improvement of each Fraternity as well as the Fraternity system as a whole, and promoting positive Fraternity relations with MIT, the communities of Boston, Cambridge, and Brookline, and within the Fraternities themselves.

Article IV: Purpose of Organization

Section 1:

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- a. To uphold the Preamble.
- b. To serve as the student government that manages the Fraternity system.
- c. To provide accountability mechanisms for the Fraternity community.
- d. To assist in providing a total educational experience for the IFC community by emphasizing and acting as a resource to support community participation and responsibility.
- e. To serve as the voice of the Fraternity community in discussions with the administration of MIT.

Article V: Membership

Section 1: Establishment of Membership

Members of the IFC shall be the MIT Fraternities established according to the procedures outlined in Article V, §3 and in the FSILG Recognition Policy.

- a. Any member of the IFC shall retain its membership status upon ratification of this Constitution, if it chooses.

Section 2: Student Status

All members of each IFC member organization shall be MIT students. A member organization may restrict its membership further, but may not allow non-MIT students to become members.

- a. A member organization shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sexual orientation, religion, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, ancestry, or national or ethnic origin.
- b. A student that is an initiated member of a Fraternity for at least 12 academic weeks may not join another Fraternity if the student's organization is expelled from the IFC due to a conduct-related incident. Exemptions may be decided at the discretion of the IFC Executive Board.
- c. An organization may not allow its members to simultaneously be a part of two Fraternities that reside at different addresses.

- d. Any student may not simultaneously be an initiated member of a Sorority and a Fraternity.

Section 3: Procedure for Recognition of Petitioning Groups

- a. In order to petition for recognition on campus, a Petitioning Group shall submit all necessary documents by the deadlines stated in the FSILG Recognition Policy.
- i. If the organization is seeking recolonization, the Petitioning Group must submit a letter to the IFC Executive Board stating why the organization should be allowed back. It should also address what practices and policies will be in place to avoid behavior that led to the chapter's closure.
- b. Once all petitioning documents have been submitted, the Petitioning Group may request for the Presidents' Council to hold a vote to be recognized as a member and begin formal activities, a minimum of one year after the submission of necessary documents.
- c. The Presidents' Council may, by a three-quarters vote of all present and voting members, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council, admit a Petitioning Group as a Probationary Member of the IFC.
- i. If the Petitioning Group gains admittance to the IFC as a Probationary Member, it will enter an initial period set by the Presidents' Council, not to be less than one year.
- ii. Should the Petitioning Group fail to receive recognition from the MIT Vice President of Student Life or designee, its status as a Probationary Member will be revoked.
- d. Probationary Members shall be non-voting members of the IFC and shall pay one-half of the dues paid by Full and Associate Members.
- e. Probationary Members shall follow all rules and regulations of the IFC outlined by this Constitution and any supporting documents in Article X.
- i. Probationary Members shall not be able to host a social event unless the event's purpose is stated and a formal safety plan is approved by the Associate Dean and Director of the FSILG Office and the IFC Executive Board two weeks before the event will be held.
- f. Probationary Members shall be required to submit a report to the Presidents' Council at the beginning of each academic term containing the following information:
- i. Financial Statement: a statement of the financial situation of the group.

- ii. Officers: a list of all current officers of the group.
 - iii. Membership: a list of all members of the group.
 - iv. Activities: a list and description of all activities it has held and is planning to hold during the upcoming academic term.
- g. The Presidents' Council may, by a majority vote of all present and voting members, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council, expel a Probationary Member from the IFC.
- h. If the Presidents' Council denies admittance as a Probationary Member to a Petitioning Group, the Petitioning Group may not petition for membership again for at least a year, in accordance with the FSILG Recognition Policy.
- i. After a Probationary Member has finished its initial period, the Presidents' Council may, by a majority vote of all present and voting members, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council, admit the Probationary Member to the IFC as an Associate Member.
- i. If the Probationary Member gains recognition from the IFC as an Associate Member, it shall retain this status for one academic term.
 - ii. Associate Members shall be voting members of the IFC and shall pay full dues.
 - iii. Associate Members shall follow all rules and regulations of the IFC outlined by this Constitution and any supporting documents in Article X.
 - iv. If the Presidents' Council denies admittance as an Associate Member, the Probationary Member may not petition for Associate Member status for at least one academic term.
- j. After an Associate Member has finished its associate period, the Presidents' Council may, by a majority vote of all present and voting members, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council, grant full membership to the IFC.
- i. Full Members shall be voting members of the IFC and shall pay full dues.
 - ii. Full Members shall follow all rules and regulations of the IFC outlined by this Constitution and any supporting documents in Article X.
 - iii. If the Presidents' Council denies admittance as a Full Member, the organization loses its Associate Member status and reverts to Probationary membership for at least one academic term.

Section 4: Loss of Membership and Expulsion

- a. If a member of the IFC loses recognition from MIT or their national organization, it automatically loses its membership in the IFC.

- b. Violation of this Constitution or other documents as given in Article X, or failure to pay dues, may result in expulsion from the IFC.
- c. The Judicial Committee may effect the expulsion of a member from the IFC.
- d. The Presidents' Council may, by a three-fourths vote of all present and voting members, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council, expel a Full Member from the IFC.
 - i. Motions to the Presidents' Council to expel a member of the IFC must be submitted to the Presidents' Council at least two weeks in advance of the meeting at which the vote to expel will occur.
- e. Any group that loses its membership in the IFC must petition the IFC as a new group to gain re-admittance to the IFC.

Article VI: Presidents' Council

Section 1: Membership

- a. All members of the IFC Executive Board shall serve as ex-officio, non-voting members of the Presidents' Council.
- b. Each member of the IFC shall be required to send one representative to each meeting of the Presidents' Council.

Section 2: Duties and Responsibilities

The Presidents' Council shall act as the legislative body of the IFC. Its duties and responsibilities shall include:

- a. Approving new members into the IFC.
- b. Formulating and approving all regulations that are necessary to fulfill the purposes of the IFC.
- c. Electing the members of the IFC Executive Board.
- d. Approving an annual budget to be presented by the second meeting of the Presidents' Council in the spring academic term.

Section 3: Meetings

- a. Regular meetings of the Presidents' Council shall occur at least monthly during the fall and spring academic terms as determined by the IFC Executive Board.
- b. Special meetings of the Presidents' Council may be called by a majority vote of the IFC Executive Board or by a petition of one-fourth of the voting members of the IFC.
- c. The time and location of meetings of the Presidents' Council shall be announced at least one week in advance of the meeting.
- d. Quorum at meetings of the Presidents' Council shall be two-thirds of the voting members of the IFC.
- e. If a member of the IFC fails to send a representative to two consecutive meetings of the Presidents' Council, it shall lose voting rights until it has sent a representative to one meeting of the Presidents' Council and it will be fined \$150 per absence starting with and including the third consecutive absence.

Section 4: Voting

- a. Each voting member of the IFC shall be entitled to one vote on matters brought before the Presidents' Council.
- b. A roll call vote will be granted at the request of a voting representative to the Presidents' Council, except on elections.

Section 5: Legislation and Types of Votes

- a. Bills, which are designed to be temporary directives to the IFC, the IFC Executive Board, and/or other standing and ad-hoc committees, shall require a majority vote of all present and voting members of the Presidents' Council, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council.
- b. Amendments to and ratification of documents as described in Article X shall follow the procedures given in Article X.
- c. Ratification of the annual budget shall require a three-fourths vote of all present and voting members of the Presidents' Council, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council.
- d. Approval of new members to the IFC or approving the expulsion of a member of the IFC shall follow the procedures given in Article V, §3.
- e. Approval of members of the IFC Executive Board shall follow the procedures given in Article VII, §§4 and 5.

- f. Approval of ad-hoc appointments shall require a majority vote of the present voting members of the Presidents' Council, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council.

Article VII: IFC Executive Board

Section 1: Membership

- a. The IFC Executive Board shall only consist of the President, Vice President, Judicial Committee Chair, Risk Manager, Recruitment Chair, Programming & Public Relations Chair, and Executive Assistant & Treasurer.
- b. Members of the IFC Executive Board shall also be members of a Fraternity that is a member of the IFC.
- c. The IFC Executive Board shall be chaired by the President, who shall serve as a non-voting member of the IFC Executive Board, except in the case of a tie vote.
- d. The Judicial Committee Chair shall act as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the IFC Executive Board.
- e. A member of the IFC Executive Board may not act as a representative of their fraternity at meetings of the Presidents' Council.
- f. The term of office for members of the IFC Executive Board shall be one year.

Section 2: Duties and Responsibilities of the IFC Executive Board

The IFC Executive Board shall act as the executive body of the IFC. Its duties and responsibilities shall include:

- a. Making recommendations to the Presidents' Council on matters of major concern.
- b. Deciding matters of minor concern.
- c. Preparing and distributing agendas for meetings of the Presidents' Council.
- d. Approving appointments to the committees, except as described in this Constitution and any supporting documents as described in Article X.
- e. Establishing ad-hoc committees.
- f. Appointing ad-hoc officers to be confirmed by the Presidents' Council.

Section 3: Duties of Elected Officers

- a. The President shall:
 - i. Chair the IFC Executive Board.
 - ii. Preside at all meetings of the Presidents' Council.
 - iii. Coordinate the affairs and business of the IFC.
 - iv. Be responsible for representing the IFC to the MIT administration, faculty, alumni, the communities of Boston, Cambridge, and Brookline, and at all regional conferences.
 - v. Act as a non-voting member of the IFC Executive Board. The President may vote on matters brought before the IFC Executive Board in the event of a tie vote.
 - vi. Be responsible for the satisfactory performance of members of the IFC Executive Board.
 - vii. Be responsible for appointing a Community Service Chair, who will be approved by the IFC Executive Board.

- b. The Vice President shall:
 - i. Act as the President in the event of absence or removal.
 - ii. Aid the President with their duties as necessary.
 - iii. Serve as Chief-of-Staff of the IFC.
 - iv. Act as a resource for IFC member organizations with regard to membership development and New Member education.
 - v. Coordinate standing and ad-hoc committees.

- c. The Judicial Committee Chair shall:
 - i. Chair the Judicial Committee.
 - ii. Act as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the IFC Executive Board.
 - iii. Coordinate the IFC's judicial and disciplinary actions as defined in the Bylaws of the Judicial Committee and other documents as described in Article X.
 - iv. Serve as a liaison between the Judicial Committee and the IFC Executive Board, the Presidents' Council, and the MIT administration.

- d. The Risk Manager shall:
 - i. Make IFC member organizations aware of and assist the min adhering to IFC risk management guidelines, MIT risk management guidelines and policies, and laws concerning legal liability.

- ii. Help IFC member organizations reduce risks by aiding in the organization of socially responsible events.
 - iii. Organize risk management programs for IFC member organizations including alcohol education training.
 - iv. Act as a resource for IFC member organizations with regard to risk management.
 - v. Select and advise Risk Management Consultants (RMCs) to help mitigate risk at IFC member social events.
- e. The Recruitment Chair shall:
- i. Chair the Recruitment Committee.
 - ii. Plan, coordinate, and implement recruitment plans as determined by the Recruitment Committee, the IFC Executive Board, and the Presidents' Council.
 - iii. Coordinate IFC-wide and campus-wide events aimed specifically at recruitment and involving the IFC.
 - iv. Act as a resource for IFC member organizations with regard to recruitment matters.
 - v. Interface with the UAAP, the FSILG Office, and all other relevant organizations to facilitate recruitment for fraternities.
 - vi. Interface with parents as needed in order to ensure that they feel comfortable with their student's decision to join a fraternity. This may include, but is not limited to, the maintenance of a Parent's Guide to Recruitment.
 - vii. Conduct a recruitment evaluation following the end of the formal recruitment period in the fall academic term.
- f. The Programming & Public Relations Chair shall:
- i. Coordinate programs to foster positive relations between IFC member organizations as well as between IFC member organizations and the Sororities, Independent Living Groups, and other living groups at MIT.
 - ii. Coordinate programs to foster positive relations and provide for the personal development of fraternity members.
 - iii. Coordinate the publicity for all IFC-sponsored events.
 - iv. Coordinate the production of various publications on behalf of the IFC.
 - v. Manage outreach programs to the MIT students, staff, faculty, and the broader community.
 - vi. Coordinate the production of any official IFC literature and publicity materials.
- g. The Executive Assistant & Treasurer shall:

- i. Transcribe minutes of meetings of the Presidents' Council and IFC Executive Board and deliver them to members in a timely manner.
- ii. Coordinate the applications for awards that are pertinent to the IFC.
- iii. Be responsible for maintaining the IFC website.
- iv. Maintain the physical and digital records and correspondence of the IFC.
- v. Manage the financial transactions of the IFC.
- vi. Submit the IFC budget for approval by the second meeting of the Presidents' Council after entering office.
- vii. Act as a resource for IFC member organizations with regard to financial matters.
- viii. Identify, at each meeting of the IFC Executive Board and the Presidents' Council, those members that are overdue on payment of dues, and those members that have lost voting rights as a result of non-payment of dues.
- ix. Bill and collect dues from members of the IFC.
- x. Keep accurate and detailed records of the financial status of the IFC and make regular reports to the IFC Executive Board.

Section 4: Election of Officers

- a. Elections for IFC Executive Board officers shall be held no later than the tenth week of the fall academic term and shall be announced at least two weeks in advance.
- b. To be elected, a nominee for an office must receive a majority vote by preferential ballot with instant runoff by the Presidents' Council, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council.
- c. Newly elected officers shall be installed at the last meeting of the Presidents' Council in the fall academic term.

Section 5: Vacancies

- a. If an IFC Executive Board office becomes vacant between annual elections, the President shall open nominations for that office.
- b. Nominations must remain open for at least two weeks.
- c. The Presidents' Council shall vote on all nominees for an office at a meeting of the Presidents' Council, following the procedures given in Article VII, §4.b.
- d. The President may make an appointment to the vacant office to last only until the Presidents' Council has elected a new officer to the vacant office.

Section 6: Removal from Office

IFC Executive Board officers may be removed from office by a three-fourths vote of the present and voting members of the Presidents' Council, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council.

Article VIII: Committees

Section 1: Standing Committees

The standing committees of the IFC shall be:

- a. The Judicial Committee.
 - i. The Judicial Committee shall be chaired by the Judicial Committee Chair.
 - ii. The Judicial Committee shall act as the judicial body of the IFC.
 - iii. The Judicial Committee shall be organized and follow the procedures and guidelines given in the Bylaws of the Judicial Committee and other documents as described in Article X.

- b. The Recruitment Committee.
 - i. The Recruitment Committee shall be chaired by the Recruitment Chair.
 - ii. The Recruitment Committee shall plan, organize, and facilitate plans for formal IFC recruitment periods as directed by the Recruitment Chair, the IFC Executive Board, and the Presidents' Council.
 - iii. The Recruitment Committee shall be composed of the recruitment chairs from all voting members of the IFC. Each member of the IFC shall have only one voting member on the Recruitment Committee.

- c. The Sexual Misconduct Committee
 - i. The chair of the Sexual Misconduct Committee shall be nominated by the IFC Executive Board and confirmed with a majority vote by the Presidents' Council at the start of every academic term.
 - ii. Membership to the Sexual Misconduct Committee shall be voluntary, subject to the approval of the committee chair.

Section 2: Ad-Hoc Committees

- a. Ad-hoc committees shall be formed at the discretion of the IFC Executive Board.
- b. The chair of an ad-hoc committee shall be selected by the IFC Executive Board with the approval of the Presidents' Council.
- c. Each elected officer shall be entitled to chair a committee pertinent to their office without the approval of the Presidents' Council.

Section 3: Chair's Powers regarding Membership

The chair of each committee shall form the membership of that committee with the approval of the IFC Executive Board or as described in this Constitution or any supporting documents described in Article X.

Article IX: Dues

Section 1: Operating Costs

The operating costs of the IFC shall be divided equally among members of the IFC.

- a. Probationary Members shall pay one-half the dues paid by Full and Associate Members.

Section 2: Budget Submission

The Executive Assistant & Treasurer shall submit the annual budget to the Presidents' Council for approval by the second meeting of the Presidents' Council after entering office.

Section 3: Payment of Dues

- a. Dues must be paid within thirty days of the approval of the IFC budget by the Presidents' Council.
- b. Interest shall accrue on any overdue balance at an annual rate of 18%, compounded daily. Interest may be waived by a majority vote of the IFC Executive Board.
- c. Failure to pay dues within 60 days of the approval of the IFC budget shall result in loss of voting rights until the full balance owed, including principal and interest, is remitted.
- d. Failure to pay dues within 120 days of the approval of the IFC budget shall result in loss of ability to register events and participate in formal recruitment until the full balance owed, including principal and interest, is remitted.

- e. The Executive Assistant & Treasurer shall, at each meeting of the IFC Executive Board and the Presidents' Council, identify those members that are overdue on payment of dues and those members that have lost voting rights as a result of nonpayment of dues.

Article X: Documents

Section 1: Constitution

- a. The Constitution shall lay out the foundation of the IFC, its organization, structure, and membership.
- b. The Presidents' Council may, by a three-fourths vote of all present and voting members, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council, amend or ratify the Constitution.

Section 2: Bylaws of the Judicial Committee

- a. The Bylaws of the Judicial Committee shall set forth the policies, guidelines, organization, and membership of the Judicial Committee.
- b. The Presidents' Council may, by a two-thirds vote of all present and voting members, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council, amend or ratify the Bylaws of the Judicial Committee

Section 3: Risk Management Policy

- a. The Risk Management Policy shall set forth the guiding principles for risk management, legal liability, and social responsibility for IFC member organizations. The Judicial Committee shall enforce the provisions of the Risk Management Policy.
- b. The Presidents' Council may, by a two-thirds vote of all present and voting members, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council, amend or ratify the Risk Management Policy.

Section 4: Recruitment Rules

- a. The Recruitment Rules shall set forth the rules, guidelines, and policies to which all IFC member organizations must adhere during periods of formal recruitment. The Judicial Committee shall enforce the provisions of the Recruitment Rules.
- b. The Recruitment Committee may, by a three-quarters vote of all present and voting members, at a meeting of the Recruitment Committee, amend or ratify the Recruitment Rules.

Section 5: FSILG Social Events Policy

- a. The FSILG Social Events Policy shall help Fraternities register, run, and ensure the safety of Fraternity social events. The Judicial Committee shall enforce the provisions of the FSILG Social Events Policy.
- b. The Presidents' Council may, by a two-thirds majority of all present and voting members, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council, propose amendments to or ratify the FSILG Social Events Policy.
- c. Wherever applicable, the FSILG Social Events Policy shall supersede any IFC Risk Management Policy without affecting the rest of the document as a whole.

Section 6: Amendments

The Presidents' Council may, by a two-thirds vote of all present and voting members, at a meeting of the Presidents' Council, enact other permanent and semi-permanent rules and regulations.

Section 7: Constitutional Authority

None of the documents listed in Article X, §2-6 may modify or supersede any provision of the Constitution.

Section 8: Submission of Amendments

Amendments and revisions to any of the documents in Article X must be submitted to the Presidents' Council in written form at least two weeks in advance of the meeting of the Presidents' Council at which the vote on the amendments or revisions will occur.

- a. Amendments to the Recruitment Rules must be submitted to the Recruitment Committee in addition to the Presidents' Council following the same guidelines.
- b. The amendment process may be expedited for changes that are purely logistical in nature (i.e. not policy changes). The Presidents' Council shall determine the appropriate time, which shall be no less than one day and no more than two weeks, required to review such amendments.

Section 9: Conflicts

If, at any time, the policies and guidelines set forth by any document in Article X are in conflict with MIT policies, or federal, state, or local law, the relevant section of the document shall be nullified without affecting the rest of the document. The document should be updated to reflect these changes.