

University of Hartford

Hartford, CT

Chartering Petition



Hartford Colony and additional brothers from other Alpha Sigma Phi Chapters and Colonies

Addendum to the Petition:

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October 9, 2001

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Dear Brother Gibson & The Grand Council,

As I look over the fine petition my brothers and I have put together, I find myself troubled by certain things that have been omitted. You will notice that we have no official IFC recognition. Furthermore, you will notice that we have neither a history of Greek culture on this campus nor a definitive average of Greek membership. I ask you to take into consideration that we desperately tried to acquire these things from our IFC, but were unable to do so. This shows me just how poorly organized the IFC on our campus is.

You may ask yourselves then why we bothered to turn in a petition for chartering. I have asked myself this many times and could only come up with one distinct answer; we are ready to become brothers of Alpha Sigma Phi. The members of other fine Greek organizations on this campus do not see the joy we get in being part of Alpha Sigma Phi, but rather see us as a group that will take numbers away from them. They sneer at the amount of philanthropy and service events we do, asking us if we are trying to make them look bad. IFC attempts to reprimand us for our unique recruitment ideas such as campus radio advertisements and service recruitment events. Primarily, they fear us because they know once we are on this campus we will make necessary changes to the Greek system. This is why IFC has voted to not to let us on campus.

Currently we are in the process of reaching out to fraternities and sororities so that they may understand our situation in greater detail. I personally have sat down with presidents of fraternities in order to explain what our group stands for and why we feel we should be part of this campus community. My hope is that by the end of this fall semester, we will confidently petition IFC and become a recognized Fraternity on this campus.

So the question "why now?" still comes up, and I feel I have an appropriate answer. I look at the petition that was put together by my brothers and I am amazed. We had less than two weeks to put together such a big document, and we banded together and accomplished it. With the completion of this petition, I now understand that we can accomplish whatever goals we set for ourselves. We are no longer the interest group that was struggling to start a fraternity two years ago, but rather a brotherhood of 25 gentlemen whose ideas and actions can forever change the campus we live on.

Whenever I consider our group, I see 25 gentlemen who are ready to become brothers of Alpha Sigma Phi. As I write this letter to you, I know that whatever you decide, in our hearts we will always be Alpha Sigs. Thank you for allowing us to present you with this petition.

Fraternally,

Brett Evan Lassoff,
Colony President

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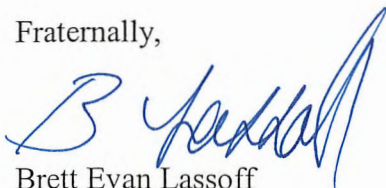
Dear Brother Gibson & The Grand Council,

The brothers of the University of Hartford Colony are proud to present our Chartering petition to you. This petition represents all that we've been through as a group, and outlines our plans for the future. This petition is the closest relation to understanding our group and the unique way in which we developed. By presenting this petition to you, my brothers and I hope you will understand why we feel we are ready to become a fully chartered chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi.

Since the day we were founded, our group has consistently attempted to discover the meaning of Fraternity. As you will read, we have taken part in service projects, organized festivals and learning retreats that have broadened our understanding of brotherhood and ourselves. Throughout our experiences as a newly formed group, we found that we would often discover the meaning of Alpha Sigma Phi's core values within our actions and achievements as a group. Essentially, we were preparing ourselves to learn the teachings of Alpha Sigma Phi by emulating many of its practices. We now feel we are ready to take that learning to the next step and truly bond ourselves as brothers of Alpha Sigma Phi. Furthermore, we wish to spread the values of Alpha Sigma Phi throughout our community.

I am often told that when a new member is taught well enough, he should not be surprised at anything that goes on during ritual. Knowing nothing about the ritual, I can still confidently say that when our turn comes, every man in our group will know exactly what Alpha Sigma Phi is about and there will be no surprises. We have bonded ourselves to the values and beliefs that encompass Alpha Sigma Phi and act on them every day. This is why we feel we are ready to become brothers of Alpha Sigma Phi.

Fraternally,



Brett Evan Lassoﬀ
Colony President

Beyond Brotherhood: A History of Alpha Sigma Phi at the University of Hartford

In early October of 1999, five young men had an idea. Adam Babb, Paul Brand, Marty Corbelli, Jeremy Lutin, and Raman Singh decided, in the early hours of the morning, to bring something better to the University of Hartford, something the campus community had never seen.

A band of their friends quickly joined them in their quest to create a new fraternity at the University of Hartford; no, not just a fraternity, but a brotherhood. Soon, the group was growing quickly and by the time a name was decided upon a few weeks later, their numbers were at 17.



From the very beginning, the young men were molding themselves into a brotherhood unlike anything at their University. The first organized activity of the group was its work with the AIDS Project Hartford organization for its annual fundraising walk in Hartford. In just four days, brothers of the newly named Kappa Psi Omega Fraternity raised over five hundred dollars for the cause, proudly walking the full distance of the walk in their new letters.

The next two months in the brotherhood's existence were extremely busy, as brothers meticulously researched, emailed, phoned, and interrogated national organizations they were interested in affiliating with. The brothers took their time making such an important decision, until finally, after a meeting with Alpha Sigma Phi Director of Expansion, Drew Thawley, the members of Kappa Psi Omega decided unanimously to affiliate with Alpha Sig...before Thawley even got to his car.

The next year in the life of the new Interest Group of Alpha Sigma Phi at the University of Hartford would be an intense, sometimes harrowing, but altogether extraordinary time in the lives of the now twenty-four men who had joined the brotherhood.

Over the course of the next year, Alpha Sigma Phi at the University of Hartford worked hard to solidify a positive image on campus, among students, faculty, and administration alike. Overall, they were incredibly successful, continuing their now well-known commitment to community and campus service, running programs, and exuding an air of confidence, maturity and responsibility. During this year, however, they also continued what would become the greatest struggle they would face.



Despite the positive reputation and openness of the brotherhood, they continued to receive negative backlash from the University's Inter-Fraternity Council, who constantly rejected their wishes to become a part of the organization. Then, in March of 2001, after 15 months of being an Interest Group, the national office of Alpha Sigma Phi approved, at long last, the colonization of the brotherhood. With the help of the Stevens Technical Institute chapter and the CW Post and Albright Colonies, Josh Orendi, Drew Thawley and the new Hartford Grand Chapter Advisor, Adam Silver (Theta, 98), the brotherhood at the University of Hartford, after more than a year as an official interest group, became Alpha Sigma Phi's newest colony.

The evening of colonization, twenty-six of the brightest, most promising students at the University of Hartford became official pledges of Alpha Sigma Phi. Since their pledge pinning ceremony, these 26 brothers, though some have graduated and others have moved on to other schools, have stayed together as a collection of everything Alpha Sigma Phi stands for. They have redefined the meaning of "values-based" organization. They have, more than ever, committed themselves to the improvement of the environment and community in which they live. And they have learned the true value of what it means to be able to call oneself Alpha – Sigma – Phi.

Our Purpose

For nearly a year and half, the members of our colony have striven to maintain the purity of our purpose: to perpetuate brotherhood through the promotion of academic excellence, community service, and the installation of high ideals such as honor, integrity, and leadership. Our colony is dedicated to strengthening the image of Greek Life on this campus and as a result, supplementing membership in all of the Greek organizations on campus. Since our inception under the local moniker of Kappa Psi Omega in the Fall Semester of 1999, we have worked hard under the ideal that action is the greatest tool in changing the impression on campus of Greek Life. We have tried to accomplish this many ways including being extremely active in community service both on and off campus and by maintaining our strength in academic endeavors. We hope to continue what has been our mission thus far, and create a chapter with the proper attitude and appreciation for earning the goodwill of those around them through continued action.

Over the course of the past year, our organization has worked hard to lay the groundwork for the bright future we know is ahead for our brotherhood. Alpha Sigma Phi has devoted itself to academics; the last GPA survey taken by the group indicated that our collective GPA was a 2.9. Currently we require four study hours a week per person and have secured two faculty advisors, Dr. Charles Ross of the English Department and Dr. James McBryar of the Politics and Government Department, dedicated to promoting academic excellence throughout our chapter. Our national organization requires a minimum GPA of 2.3 but we strongly encourage our members to strive towards much higher marks. During our time on this campus, we have been very active in committing ourselves to community service. We have worked on several occasions with the University's Newman Club to feed breakfast and dinner at local men's shelters. We have participated in the AIDS Project Hartford walk where we raised over \$400 dollars for the cause. We have also been extremely active with Habitat for Humanity, staffing four work

details and were the only student group to attend the University of Hartford's Day of Caring program hosted by President Walter Harrison.

The men of Alpha Sigma Phi are committed to continuing and strengthening this stellar example of community service. Alpha Sigma Phi is also intent on promoting unity between Greek organizations both on and off campus. Our colony has attempted to promote friendships with other Greek organizations through the intramural sports program as well as social activities with other groups. We are also committed to leadership on campus and boast heavy involvement of our members across the broad spectrum of clubs, organizations, honor societies and professional organizations.

Challenges and Successes

It has been a long and hard road since we were founded back in 1999. Starting out, we had very little knowledge of organization and even less knowledge of how to run meetings. In our first year, we ended up having four presidents. When events didn't go well or just failed completely, we were frustrated. However, we began to learn what worked and have since tried to stick to what we know best.

This had lead to us succeeding more and more. Our social and recruitment events continually get higher attendance. The fundraisers we hold generate the highest profit margins of any held on our campus, thanks to our unique fundraising ideas. With every passing semester, our involvement on our campus significantly increases. We are considered an ally of the Women's center and were recommended for campus recognition by the President himself. Furthermore, we have participated in many campus run philanthropy events.



Hartford Colony Photo, *Taken at our colonization ceremony on March 11, 2001.*



Statement on Academics

The Alpha Sigma Phi Colony at the University of Hartford has consistently stressed diversity in academics. Our brotherhood has noticed that many Greek organizations on campus tend to focus on a similar course of study. Our group reaches out to the campus community in order to perpetuate a group of gentleman that grow together in different academic careers. The colony feels this position encourages scholarship and keeps our group diverse. It also allows us to develop in unique ways.



We have always understood the need for studying. Every week, a brother is required to do at least 4 hours of studying. Our hope is that consistent and patterned studying will improve a brother's GPA. The most important thing in college is a person's studies and we will never criticize a brother if they need to devote most of their time to studying. Reading and studying is the only way in which we can truly become scholars.

The Hartford Colony has been able to achieve the following Academic achievements

Colony Cumulative GPA as of 10/7/2001: **2.9**
Colony Spring 2001 Semester GPA: **2.9**

Our campus GPA requirement for Greek organizations is a 2.1, however Alpha Sigma Phi requires a 2.3 for membership. Over the past semester, we have discussed increasing that requirement once a year in order to increase the GPA of our brothers. This does not mean we will exclude a brother for a low GPA, it means that we will all work with that brother so that he may improve his GPA. Our group takes the phrase "to better the man" quite literally and feels that by occasionally increasing the academic requirements of the group, we are bettering the members of our group. We also plan on providing a support system for brother's who are having trouble academically. When a brother has a GPA that is under the requirements, it is all of our duties to help him in any way we can.

Statement on Accomplishments

The greatest reflection of our operating history is through the accolades and awards we have received. Last semester we were named an ally of our campuses' Women's Center by assisting them in their "Week of Awareness." At this year's National Leadership Conference, we were honored with awards for brotherhood development and service. For two years in a row, we have also been the Co-Recreational Intramural Champions at the University of Hartford. These accolades remind us that we are making a difference on our campus and motivate us to continue perpetuating brotherhood.

Service

Since we were founded, we have always had a solid commitment to service. Our first official event was participating in the Hartford Aids Walk, which we managed to raise over four hundred dollars for. We also had the privilege of being the only Greek organization on campus that took part in the University of Hartford Day of Caring. Together with faculty and staff of the university, we helped build a house for Habitat for Humanity. Performing service-learning activities brings us closer as brothers while giving us the opportunity to improve the community that we live in.

Educational Activities

Without educational activities, we can never pass on the teachings of Alpha Sigma Phi. In the past, we have invited national leadership consultants to teach us the values and history of Alpha Sigma Phi. With their help, we developed many ways of passing on our values and history to generations of new Alpha Sigs. We have developed our own rituals that have enabled us to pass on this information. Furthermore, we conduct many discussions that enable us to learn what Alpha Sigma Phi means to us.

Operational Improvements

We have had a bumpy road when it comes to the operational aspects of the fraternity. In the beginning, our group was largely isolated and participated in activities amongst ourselves. We did not have many contacts in the Greek community, and therefore we were seen as outsiders. Gaining acceptance on this campus has been a tough challenge.

In the past 2 semesters, we have begun reaching out to the Greek community. We have held social activities with many other Fraternities and Sororities. These activities have helped us gain more acceptance on our campus. It has also helped us gain a greater understanding of our brotherhood and ourselves.

Changing Greek Social Culture

Part of the reason why we were founded was because we were unsatisfied with the Greek culture on our campus. Fraternities were stereotyped as groups that merely held parties and gave out free alcohol. Our goal as a fraternity has been to bring back the notion of a fraternity as an honorable organization that helps change the community. We must do this by leading the way and living up to our values. The only way we can have influence is by our actions, so we must continually show the Greek community what we feel it means to be a fraternity.

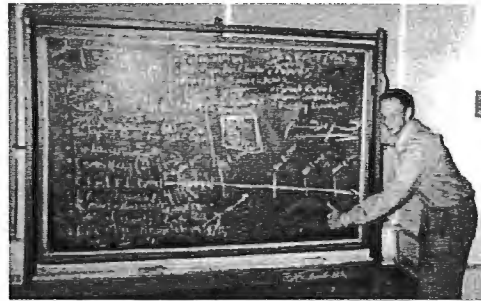
Brotherhood Development

The colony of Alpha Sigma Phi at the University of Hartford has partaken in various activities that promote brotherhood. All of these have helped us grow as individuals as well as a group. These events include poker nights, camping trips, and a large event held at the schools annual Spring Fling called Sausage Fest. Poker nights were used as both a brotherhood event as well as for recruitment. We developed a greater understanding of each other as well as meet some prospective members. The camping trips were very productive and did the most for creating brotherhood amongst the group. As a result we were able to become closer as a group and grow. The sausage fest was probably the biggest event we have held. It got our name all over campus so everyone knows who we are now. Also, as a result of this event being so popular it brought out everyone and brought us all together which is sometimes difficult to do. Examples of other events include trivial pursuit games, intramural activities, Monday night football and wrestling as well as many others. All of these events bring us together and create a heightened sense of brotherhood amongst the members.



Operational Retreat/Training

Without strong leadership training, we can never survive as a group. When we first became affiliated with Alpha Sigma Phi, we had brothers like Matt Mattson and Drew Thawley come to our school and run seminars. The seminars they ran encompassed discussions like "What is brotherhood?" and "How can we empower our group?" With Drew and Matt's strong leadership abilities, we began understanding the importance of continually running discussions and activities that dealt with brotherhood and leadership.



Last November we held our annual retreat in Vermont. Along with the beautiful scenery of Vermont, we were able to share many things. Having been founded for more than a year, we felt that it was important to begin passing on the teachings we had learned from Matt and Drew. We held discussions regarding risk management, recruitment and leadership. Furthermore, we held activities that brought us closer together as a brotherhood. One night, we stayed up till all hours of the morning and performed a reverse candle pass. This candle pass is a way in which each brother gets a way of being honest and open with every other brother. It was a very enlightening experience.

We also see the need to send our brothers to the National conferences. Our brothers that have gone to the National Conference often come back with a vigor that is unmatched. The brothers who have experienced Alpha Sigma Phi on a national level often come back motivated and eager to take on any task. They also return with new ideas and activities that they are eager to try out. Essentially, sending our brothers to the National Conferences invigorates our group.



However, we can't send every one of our brothers to the National Conference and therefore we are trying to bring the national group to us. In November, we are hosting a regional retreat and we hope to get many of our brothers from other chapters, colonies and interest groups to show up. By coming together, we hope to learn from each other and gain new and exciting outlooks on Alpha Sigma Phi.

You cannot build a house unless you first have stones: A brief overview of the new member “development” philosophy at Hartford

The University of Hartford Colony of Alpha Sigma Phi is committed to creating an environment for new members where they can thrive academically, personally, socially and professionally. However, the group does not believe in a “teaching” philosophy. We, in the Colony, believe that a new member education program should be designed to allow pledges to further express the values that they already possess. This is in place of attempting to teach values, which is, decidedly, a useless task. We feel that, unlike skills or tasks, values are not something that can be taught, but rather developed, like a talent.

Therefore, the new member education program at the University of Hartford was put together with seven points of the pledge pin in mind. The eight-week program is designed not to “educate” individuals in historical facts and letters they’ll rarely use, but to foster the development of a great respect for that history and those letters. The purpose is to allow new members to develop their own ideas naturally, to use their own distinct personalities and abilities to further the development of brotherhood. Because, it is our belief that with the development of brotherhood, comes the development of those seven principles every Alpha Sig tries to live by. The development of the cornerstones of those ideals, academic, personal, social and professional growth is the key to that process.

During the eight-week pledge program, new members are allowed to discover the different aspects of what being an Alpha Sig at the University of Hartford is all about. Over the course of their pledge period, the new members are asked to plan their own philanthropy activity (with the help of the Service Chair), organize social events with other fraternity and sorority pledge classes (aided by the Social Chair), attend several chapter meetings to become familiar with the way the brotherhood conducts business, and develop strong academic habits through study hours. In addition, the new members are brought on a field trip to Yale University where they will be allowed to explore the historical aspects of the founding of Alpha Sigma Phi more than 150 years ago (a luxury we have due to our close proximity to Alpha Chapter).

More so than anything, the new member development program at the University of Hartford Colony will stress the importance of individuality within a collective community, as well as personal responsibility and the expression of core values. We feel it is a pledge program unlike any other on our campus or that we’ve seen on any other. Much like life, our development program is, at its heart, all about the decisions we make.



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*This petition was written in the middle of our recruitment program. Please note that there are several bids outstanding and we expect our membership to grow significantly.

Biographical Information for Advisors

Our advisors are the guiding hands that lead us towards the future. They have the unique perspective of providing outside criticism while being attached to the group. They are mentors who help us walk the proper path. Furthermore, they proactively step in when they see a developing problem in the group. Without our advisors, we would not be where we are today

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Vision for the Future

Talking to a recruit, he was unsure of whether joining Alpha Sigma Phi or any fraternity would be right for him. He stated, "I don't even really know what fraternity means." This recruit is not abnormal. The image of fraternities has been stained with images of wild parties and drug and/or alcohol abuse. Fraternity means brotherhood. At the University of Hartford, the campus has the perception of a fraternity man as being dishonorable. A lot of the Greeks do not have pride in anything of their fraternity besides their lettered jerseys.

As a colony of Alpha Sigma Phi, we stand united as brothers. The original reason that the original six founders started a group on campus was to be different. They wanted to join a brotherhood, and it was not available on our campus. We believe that Greeks should be leaders of the school community. We want to make the gifts and benefits of brotherhood accessible. On campus we are growing fast. We hope to show other fraternities that there it is meaningful to wear Greek letters. We are active in a lot of community service programs, and continue to find more programs that we can become involved in.

With the current disrespectful state of other fraternity chapters on our campus, we feel it is our obligation to set an example of what a fraternity should be. To accomplish this task, our only barrier is University of Hartford's Inter-Fraternal Council. We know that if on IFC, we could create immediate changes on our campus. We would like to ban all parties with an open guest list. We feel this leads into binge drinking and in general leaves students in a dangerous situation of having alcohol available to them with no one showing them concern. On our campus there have been numerous fraternity parties, where students have passed out or suffered the effects of alcohol poisoning because of the irresponsible dispensing of beer. We also feel it is necessary to raise our schools G.P.A requirement for Greeks. It has recently been lowered to 2.1; we fear it may also be lowered even further.

We want Greeks to be special on campus. We want every person wearing letters to feel honored to be chosen. We will make sure the pride and respect we hold for our own brotherhood will continue to be openly displayed. Most importantly we want to perpetuate the ideals of Alpha Sigma Phi.

We are thrilled with the things we have done so far, but what really matters is how we can lead Alpha Sigma Phi into the future. Our vision is to continue on this path that we started both in service and in brotherhood. We are looking forward to a true coalition of these two attributes as well as the final step in our acceptance into the Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity.

Our goals for next year include the expansion of our presence on campus. This expansion should not include merely the addition of new brothers, but an increase in the number of service activities that we perform, our involvement in the betterment of our campus, and the unity of our brothers.

Our five-year goals on the path to our vision include the creation of an unequalled brotherhood. We want others to see our members and have an immediate respect for the unity and purpose that they embody. Our letters should stand for what is good and wholesome on our campus. Alpha Sigma Phi will not stand as just a brotherhood of its members, but also as a helping friend to all on campus, student and faculty alike.

Although it may seem at times that we are moving fairly slow in accomplishing our goals, we are more concerned with the quality in which we achieve these goals. If it takes us a little longer to finish something the best way that we can, that is how we do it. We look at recruitment under the same scrutiny, we want members that came help make a difference and who believe in the ideals that Alpha Sigma Phi represents. Along these lines we have planned out to have this petition done and submitted as the primary goal of this semester. This petition is the most important thing for us to complete at this time. A lot of time and effort was put into the writing and planning of this petition and now that it's finished we know we can do whatever we set our minds to. If we sit down and come up with cohesive and rational goals for ourselves, we will be a force to be reckoned with on this campus.

Background Information

The University of Hartford

The University of Hartford was founded in 1877. The school was chartered in 1957. The main campus encompasses 320 acres. There are nine schools at the University of Hartford. There are 85 undergraduate majors and 61 graduate programs. The two little houses at the entrance to the campus, one of them now serving as the admissions office, are all that is



left of the era before the University's constituent parts moved here from downtown Hartford. New buildings have been added over the years, primarily in two phases, in the 1960s and the 1980s. The University began as an Art School with a purpose of furthering education in America. Late in the 19th century the emerging YMCA began to offer educational courses. In 1937, the Hillyer Institute of the YMCA became Hillyer Junior College and began offering the associate's degree. The first class graduated in 1939. Initially programs were offered only in the evening, though day classes were added in 1939. The bulk of the student body, almost entirely commuters, were men and women who held day jobs and who wished to further their education in their free time in the evenings. The University continued into the 20th century expanding, adding the hart school of music and then more schools. The university has grown from a small school holding night classes for men to a large university offering numerous degree programs for men and women. The university currently has almost 7000 students and over 600 faculty. Going into the 21st century the university is continuing its traditions of academic growth and expanding to meet the growing needs of Americas educational industry.

Closing Statement

As you can see by our petition, we have a well-established base with good membership, good morale, and a very ambitious outlook toward our future. We are petitioning you for chartering because we think that we deserve it. We've been working hard, and will continue to work hard to get this group up and running. Our motto is "To Better the Man," and that's exactly what we intend to do here on campus, and in our everyday lives. You share that same motto with us, and by accepting us you can better us as an organization, and as men. We're sure you'll give us all the consideration we deserve and that your choice will be well thought out. We cannot think of any reason not to accept us, and we are sure you will agree. Thank you for your time, and deliberation.

The Constitution of Alpha Sigma Phi University of Hartford Colony

Preamble:

We the members of Alpha Sigma Phi at the University of Hartford, hereby adopt the ideals expressed within this constitution in order to form a solid foundation from which tradition and brotherhood may prosper.

Article I: Name

This organization shall be known as University of Hartford Colony of Alpha Sigma Phi.

Article II: Purpose

The purpose of this fraternity shall be to perpetuate brotherhood. This purpose extends to the promotion of academic excellence, community service, and to the installation of high ideals such as honor, integrity, and leadership.

Article III: Membership

Section 1: Members of this Colony of Alpha Sigma Phi shall be male students of the University of Hartford. All members accepted prior to chartering shall be known as "Founding Fathers" of Alpha Sigma Phi at the University of Hartford.

Section 2: Membership in the fraternity shall be gained only through the acceptance of an invitation extended by the fraternity in accordance with the By-laws.

Section 3: All members shall receive equal rights and privileges pertaining to the fraternity.

Section 4: The act of discrimination on any basis, including but not limited to, race, creed, religion (or lack thereof), sexual orientation, handicap, or veteran status towards any individual seeking membership shall not be tolerated by the fraternity. Any member proven to be involved in acts of discrimination is subject to judicial sanctions and further action according to university, state, and federal law.

Section 5: Members may be subject to probation, suspension, or expulsion through a judicial process consistent with the constitution and by-laws of this colony and the National Fraternity.

Article IV: Meetings

Section 1: Regularly scheduled meetings of the General Assembly shall occur once a week at a pre-stated time and location throughout the academic year. In the event of a holiday, university-scheduled vacation, or other event conflicting with the predisposed time, the Prudential Board may choose to cancel or reschedule the meeting. With these conditions considered, the fraternity shall not hold less than two (2) full meetings in any complete month of the academic school year. If the fraternity is found to be in violation of this provision, a letter will be drafted by the Corresponding Secretary to be sent to National Headquarters outlining the causes for the violation.

Section 2: There shall be at least one formal meeting each month during the academic school year. The Prudential Board shall designate, at least one week in advance, the time and location of the formal meeting. Advisors and any fraternity related guests are urged to attend.

Section 3: There shall be separate weekly meetings of the Prudential Board and the Executive Board with no less than two (2) full meetings per month during the academic school year. The meetings of the Prudential Board are closed to the general assembly with the exception of guests invited or allowed upon request by the Prudential Board. The meetings of the Executive Board shall be open to all members

with the understanding that they are not to participate in discussion unless recognized by the Executive Board.

Section 4: A meeting of the fraternity, not designated as a regularly scheduled meeting, may be called by the Prudential Board or by petition of the general assembly with signatures of three-fourths (3/4) of all members in good standing with the fraternity.

Section 5: All meetings of the fraternity, whether general assembly or otherwise, shall be governed by parliamentary procedure as outlined in "To Better the Man". When a situation is not covered in "To Better The Man" the fraternity shall reference Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 6: If a member of the fraternity is going to be absent from or tardy for a meeting then it is the responsibility of that member to contact the person who chairs the meeting in question or Sergeant at Arms and notify them at least 4 hours in advance.

Article V: Officers and Elections

Section 1: The elected officers of this Colony shall be the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Two Members at Large, Recording Secretary, Communications Officer, Interfraternal Council Representative, Recruitment Chairman, Social Chairman, Service Chairman, Fundraising Chairman, Scholarship Chairman, Sergeant at Arms, Marshal, Public Relations Director, New Member Educator, Intramural Chairman, Brotherhood Development Chairman, and Risk Management Officer.

Section 2: To be eligible for election for one or more of the said positions of the fraternity, a member must be in good standing according to the by-laws and policies of the fraternity.

Section 3: The privilege of voting in elections shall only apply to members of the fraternity in good standing. If a member wishes to vote but is unable to attend the appropriate meeting they shall place their vote (signed and dated) in a sealed envelope and submit it as instructed by fraternity policy.

Section 4: A member who wishes to run for an elected position must nominate themselves at the time when nominations are considered. First party nominations are the only ones recognized and do not need a second. If a member wishes to run for one or more positions and is unable to attend the appropriate meeting then they shall draft a letter of intent (signed and dated) in a sealed envelope and submit it as instructed by fraternity policy therefore being eligible for election.

Section 5: Elections are decided by a simple majority vote. The nominee with the most votes is the winner. The acting President only votes to break a tie.

Section 6: Upon election in to office, the officer prior to election has two weeks to turn over all pertinent documents, notes, etc. to the newly elected officer.

Article VI: Committees

Section 1: Standing committees of this fraternity shall consist of the Prudential Board, Executive Board, Judicial Board, Recruitment Committee, Social Committee, Service Committee, Brotherhood Development Committee, and Fundraising Committee. An officer who desires a committee may appoint members or accept volunteers upon approval of the Executive and Prudential Boards.

Section 2: The Prudential Board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Two Members at Large. The President shall act as the chair of the Prudential Board. The responsibilities of the Prudential Board include, but are not limited to, the financial and operating aspects of the fraternity.

Section 3: The Executive Board shall consist of the Vice President, Treasurer, Social Chair, Recruitment Chair, Service Chair, Brotherhood Development Chair, Fundraising Chair, and the Intramural Chair. The Vice President shall act as the chair of the Executive Board. The responsibilities of the Executive Board include, but are not limited to, the planning and execution of activities and events of the fraternity.

Section 4. The Judicial Board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Two Members at Large, Sergeant at Arms, and the Risk Management Officer. The President shall act as the chair of the Judicial Board. The responsibilities of the Judicial Board include, but are not limited to, reviewing of members found to be in violation with fraternity policies and recommend sanctions such as probation, suspension, and expulsion.

Section 5: Special Committees can and shall be created by the Prudential Board to perform specific tasks.

Article VII: Finances

Section 1: The revenues of this fraternity shall be derived from member's dues, fundraising activities, and any donations or endorsements given in good faith and are deemed consistent with laws regarding non-profit organizations.

Section 2: Finances shall be handled through a combined effort of the Prudential Board, Executive Board, and the Treasurer.

Section 3: A budget, outlining the prospective expenditures and revenues of the fraternity shall be drafted and presented to the general assembly before the assessment of dues can take place.

Article VIII: Hazing

Section 1: No member or prospective member shall tolerate, take part, or be subjected to any action that is deemed hazing. Actions deemed as hazing include but are not limited to, physical and psychological abuse and participation in any activity that violates the University of Hartford and Alpha Sigma Phi National Fraternity's policies and local, state, and federal law. For more information on actions that are considered hazing please reference the University of Hartford's student handbook "The Source", the National Fraternities risk management policies and stands on issues in "To Better the Man", and local, state, and federal law.

Section 2: If any member or prospective member feels that they have been subject to hazing then it is their right and duty to consult the Prudential Board and contact an authority such as the Greek Advisor, Dean of Students, President of the University, and/or Public Safety to report such actions/activities.

Article IX: Suspension of the Constitution

Section 1: This constitution may be suspended, in full or in part, by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the members in good standing with the fraternity.

Section 2: Upon suspension of this constitution, the Prudential Board will guide the actions of the fraternity with the aid of active advisors. An advisor shall be present at every Prudential Board meeting until such time as the cause of the suspension can be corrected.

Section 3: The suspension of this constitution shall last no longer than six (6) weeks and during the suspension the constitution shall be reaffirmed or rejected by the general assembly at the every meeting. After the six (6) week suspension has concluded, if no viable solution can be found, a re-drafting of the constitution under supervision of an advisor is required.

Article X: Amendments to the Constitution

Section 1: Amendments may be brought to vote in the general assembly by action of the Prudential Board or by any member in good standing accompanied by a petition signed by fifty percent (50%) of all members in good standing with the fraternity.

Section 2: Amendments to this constitution shall be ratified and adopted upon receiving a three-fourths (3/4) vote of all members in good standing with the fraternity.

Section 3: An activation date for the amendment must be stated within the amendment before ratification or the activation of the amendment will take place immediately.

Article XI: Ratification of the Constitution

Section 1: Ratification of this constitution requires the signatures of three-fourths (3/4) of all members in good standing with the fraternity. In addition to space provided for approving signatures, there must be an equal space allotted for members who wish to sign against the ratification of the constitution.

Section 2: Upon ratification, copies of this constitution shall be forwarded and filed to the necessary parties at the University of Hartford and with Alpha Sigma Phi National Headquarters. This constitution shall be made available to anyone upon request

We, the members of the University of Hartford Colony of Alpha Sigma Phi National Fraternity hereby adopt these Bylaws.

Article I: Membership

Section I

Gaining Membership

- A. In order to gain membership into this Fraternity, a man must receive a bid invitation to join a 6-week pledge program conducted by the new member educator.
- B. In order to receive a bid, the gentleman must be presented at a general meeting of the assembly by the recruitment chair and given a $\frac{3}{4}$ or higher vote.
- C. After the 8-week pledge period, the general assembly must vote to make the new member a full brother of the fraternity. A $\frac{3}{4}$ or higher vote of the general assembly will grant the new member full status as a brother of Alpha Sigma Phi.

Section II

Pledging

- A. The pledge period of any new member will be in accordance with the constitution and by laws of Alpha Sigma Phi National Fraternity as well as University of Hartford rules and regulations.
- B. The new member educator is responsible for conducting the new member education program.

Section III

Active Membership

- A. Active membership shall be in accordance with the rules and regulations stated in the constitution of this fraternity.
- B. Active membership shall be in accordance with the rules and regulations of Alpha Sigma Phi National Fraternity.

Section IV **Advisory Membership**

- A. An advisor shall be elected by a majority of the general assembly
- B. An advisor of this fraternity can but does not have to be a brother of Alpha Sigma Phi.
- C. An advisor shall have all rights and privileges of active membership except those of voting or holding office in the Fraternity.
- D. Advisory membership cannot be conferred upon an undergraduate student.

Section V **Alumni Membership**

- A. Any member who held active membership in the Fraternity but has left the university shall hereby be an alumni member.
- B. Alumni members have all the rights and privileges of this Fraternity, but may not vote or hold any office.

Section VI **Inactive Membership**

- A. Any member who has had their active status removed by the judicial process of the Fraternity as stated in the constitution, will be considered inactive members.
- B. Inactive members of this Fraternity cannot hold office, vote or participate in rituals of the Fraternity.
- C. After six months, an inactive member may petition the prudential board to become active members.
- D. In order for an inactive member to become an active member, there must be a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote from the general assembly.

Article II: Officers

Section I **Elected Officers**

- A. The elected officers of this Colony shall be the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Two Members at Large, Recording Secretary, Communications Officer, Interfraternal Council Representative, Recruitment Chairman, Social Chairman, Service Chairman, Fundraising Chairman, Scholarship Chairman, Sergeant at Arms, Marshal, Public Relations Director, New Member Educator, Intramural Chairman, Brotherhood Development Chairman, Risk Management Officer.

Section II

Duties of the Officers

A. President

1. Is the chief governing officer of the Fraternity
2. The President must always act to ensure the welfare of the Fraternity
3. Will be responsible for scheduling meetings of the general assembly
4. Will act as the chair during the meetings of the general assembly and prudential board
5. Will serve as primary delegate in all external relations

B. Vice President

1. The Vice President will be responsible for the internal workings of the fraternity
2. Will be responsible for scheduling weekly meetings of the executive board
3. In the absence of the President, will take on the duties of the President

C. Treasurer

1. Shall stand as the chief financial officer of the Fraternity
2. Shall be responsible for conducting all financial matters of the Fraternity
3. Shall draft a budget for the fraternity at the beginning of each semester
4. Shall be responsible for assessing and collecting membership dues

D. Two Members at large

1. Shall be responsible for hearing and voicing the concerns of the general assembly, serving as its delegates to the prudential board.

E. Secretary

1. Shall be responsible for recording minutes of each regularly and specially scheduled meetings unless deemed otherwise
2. Shall maintain a file of all minutes of brotherhood meetings
3. Shall maintain the historical documents, a photo file, an accurate list of all members, and biographical data on all members
4. Shall keep records of all awards given and received by the Fraternity

F. Communications Officer

1. Shall be responsible for maintaining a working relationship with the national office of Alpha Sigma Phi and all advisor of the Fraternity
2. Shall keep on file and distribute and information provided by the national office of Alpha Sigma Phi
3. Shall be responsible for keeping a file of alumni contact information

G. Recruitment Chair

1. Shall schedule and oversee all recruitment events.
2. Shall make information regarding prospective members to all brothers of the Fraternity available

H. Social Chair

1. Shall schedule and plan at least 5 social events per semester

I. Marshal

1. Shall be responsible for maintaining and securing all ritual materials of the fraternity
2. Shall oversee all rituals conducted

J. Sergeant at Arms

1. Shall maintain order at all brotherhood meetings
2. Shall be responsible for overseeing the conduct of members at all brotherhood events
3. Shall be responsible for issuing reprimands for misconduct

K. Service Chair

1. Shall plan at least six service projects per semester
2. Shall be responsible for planning one major philanthropy event

- L. Fundraising Chair
 - 1. Shall plan and oversee all fundraisers
 - 2. Shall plan at least five fundraisers per semester
- M. Scholarship Chairman
 - 1. Shall be responsible for keeping records regarding the academic standing of each member
 - 2. Shall be responsible for maintaining a file which contains information on scholarships and financial aid offered by the fraternity, school and state
- N. New Member Educator
 - 1. Shall oversee and run the new member education program
- O. Public Relations Chair
 - 1. Shall be responsible for publicizing all events and fundraisers conducted by the fraternity
 - 2. Shall create and maintain an up to date recruitment brochure
 - 3. Shall attend at least four interfraternal council meetings a semester and report all pertinent information of the Fraternity to their governing body
- P. Interfraternal Council Representative
 - 1. Must attend at least 85% of IFC meetings each semester
- Q. Intramural Chair
 - 1. Shall be responsible for organizing at least two sports teams per semester
- R. Brotherhood Development Chair
 - 1. Shall plan at least one brotherhood event every month
 - 2. Shall plan one retreat per semester
- S. Webmaster
 - 1. Shall be responsible for maintaining the Fraternities web page
 - 2. Shall create and maintain an email address for the Fraternity

Section III

Terms of Office

- A. The officers of this Fraternity shall hold their positions for one full academic year
- B. Officer positions will be voted on at the end of the academic year and their terms will begin the following academic year
- C. There will be a two week turnover period during which an officer's predecessor is responsible for turning over all pertinent documents and training the new officer

Section IV

Elections

- A. To be eligible for election for one or more of the said positions of the fraternity, a member must be in good standing according to the by-laws and policies of the fraternity
- B. The privilege of voting in elections shall only apply to members of the fraternity in good standing. If a member wishes to vote but is unable to attend the appropriate meeting they shall place their vote (signed and dated) in a sealed envelope and submit it as instructed by fraternity policy
- C. A member who wishes to run for an elected position must nominate himself at the time when nominations are considered. First party nominations are the only ones recognized and do not need a second. If a member wishes to run for one or more positions and is unable to attend the appropriate meeting then they shall draft a letter of intent (signed and dated) in a sealed envelope and submit it as instructed by fraternity policy therefore being eligible for election
- D. Elections are decided by a simple majority vote. The nominee with the most votes is the winner. The acting President only votes to break a tie

Section V
Removal from Office

- A. An Officer shall be removed from office if:
 - 1. He loses active status with the Fraternity
 - 2. Is on Probation from the University
 - 3. Is in violation of the risk management policies of Alpha Sigma Phi
- B. A 3/4 vote of the general assembly is required to remove an officer from his position for any other reason. A justifiable cause must be provided to the prudential board.

Section VI
Vacancy of an Office

In the event a position is vacated, an election for the position will take place at the next scheduled meeting.

Article III: Meetings

Section I
General Assembly

- A. Regularly scheduled meetings of the General Assembly shall occur once a week at a pre-stated time and location throughout the academic year. In the event of a holiday, university-scheduled vacation, or other event conflicting with the predisposed time, the Prudential Board may choose to cancel or reschedule the meeting. With these conditions considered, the fraternity shall not hold less than two (2) full meetings in any complete month of the academic school year. If the fraternity is found to be in violation of this provision, a letter will be drafted by the Communications officer to be sent to National Headquarters outlining the causes for the violation
- B. No business shall be conducted unless there is quorum. Quorum consists of at least 50% of active members
- C. In order for a motion to be passed, it requires a clear majority of quorum unless otherwise stated by these bylaws
- D. The President of this Fraternity will be the chair at the meeting of the general Assembly
- E. All meetings will be governed by Robert's Rules of Order
- F. The passing of flatulent gas at any meetings is hereby prohibited

Section II
Prudential Board and Executive Boards

- A. There shall be separate weekly meetings of the Prudential Board with no less than two full meetings per month during the academic school year. The meetings of the prudential board are closed to the general assembly with the exception of guests invited or allowed upon request by the Prudential Board
- B. The President will be the chair at the meeting of the prudential board
- C. The executive board will conduct separate weekly meetings with no less than two full meetings per month during the academic year. The meetings of the Executive Board shall be open to all members with the understanding that they are not to participate in discussion unless recognized by the executive board
- D. The Vice President will be the chair at the meeting of the executive board

Section III
Other Meetings

- A. The prudential board may call a special meeting of the general assembly at any time
- B. The general assembly may call a meeting by submitting a petition with $\frac{3}{4}$ of active members signatures

Article IV: Committees

Section I:
Prudential Board

- A. The prudential board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Two Members at Large
- B. The responsibilities of the prudential board are:
 - 1. To be the governing body of the fraternity
 - 2. To assist in the operating and financial aspects of the Fraternity
 - 3. If necessary, to issue judicial charges
- C. The President will be the chairman of the prudential board

Section II:
Executive Board

- A. The executive board shall consist of the Vice President, Treasurer, Social Chair, Recruitment Chair, Service Chair, Brotherhood Development Chair, Fundraising Chair, and the Intramural Chair
- B. The responsibilities of the executive board are to plan and execute the activities of the Fraternity
- C. The Vice President is the chairman of the executive board.

Section III:
Judicial Board

- A. The judicial board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Two Members at Large, Sergeant at Arms, and the Risk Management Officer
- B. The responsibilities of the Judicial Board include, but are not limited to, reviewing of members found to be in violation with fraternity policies and recommend sanctions such as probation, suspension, and expulsion

Section IV:
Special Committees

The President can form a special committee with a majority vote of the general assembly

Article V: Judicial Regulations

Section I:
Risk Management

- A. The Alpha Sigma Phi Colony of the University of Hartford hereby adopts the risk management policies of Alpha Sigma Phi National Fraternity as specified in "To Better the Man"
- B. Violations of the risk management policies will be assessed by the judicial committee

Section II:
Hazing

- A. Hazing, as outlined by state and national laws, shall never be conducted in the Fraternity
- B. Any member found in the act of hazing shall be immediately expelled from the Fraternity pending deliberation by the judicial committee

Section III:
Charges

- A. A majority of the prudential board must vote for a member to be brought up on judicial charges
- B. Once a member is brought up on judicial charges, the judicial board will be assembled to assess the charges. The member will be called to the judicial board to defend himself
- C. The judicial board must vote unanimously for a judgment to be passed
- D. In the case of expulsion from the Fraternity, the judicial board may only recommend expulsion to the general assembly. In order for a member to be expelled a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote by the general assembly must take place

Article VI: Miscellaneous

On every Thursday during the academic year, Alpha Sigma Phi apparel must be worn

Article VII: Amendments

Section I: Amendments

- A. Amendments may be brought to vote in the general assembly by action of the Prudential Board or by any member in good standing accompanied by a petition signed by fifty percent (50%) of all members in good standing with the fraternity.
- B. Amendments to this constitution shall be ratified and adopted upon receiving a three-fourths (3/4) vote of all members in good standing with the fraternity.
- C. An activation date for the amendment must be stated within the amendment before ratification or the activation of the amendment will take place immediately.

Article VIII: Ratification

Ratification of these bylaws requires a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the general assembly in good standing. After such time, these bylaws will take effect.