

Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Inc.
2022 Grand Conclave
Constitution and Laws Committee

Proposal No. 22.03

Proposed amendments to the Constitution related to the relationship statement contained in the Constitution.

The Constitution and Laws Committee hereby recommends that the following amendments be made to the Constitution of the Fraternity (deletions in strike through; additions underlined):

To amend ARTICLE XI, Sections 1 and 2 as follows:

SECTION 1. Relationship Defined: Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity is a non-profit corporation. It is incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri.

Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity is formed for the purposes of fostering fraternity, and as an educational and service resource for collegiate chapters of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, and for persons associated with those chapters.

~~Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity has a limited staff. It has limited funding sources which necessarily limit the size of its staff.~~

Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity maintains and processes membership and other records for collegiate chapters associated with it. These chapters are located throughout the United States.

Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity also serves as an educational resource ~~and service organization~~ for affiliate groups, for members associated with those chapters, and for local alumni who volunteer their time on an independent basis to assist a collegiate chapter and its associated collegiate members. ~~Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity provides education through conferences, written materials, and periodic staff visits to collegiate chapters. Staff visits result in advisory recommendations for chapter operations. Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity strives through these educational efforts to enhance life skills, leadership skills, and ethical traits for those who take advantage of these educational opportunities, and to assist through education and consultant recommendations the success of chapters associated with it.~~

No chapter of and no member of any chapter or affiliate group of Sigma Tau Gamma is an agent of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity Headquarters. No chapter and no member of any chapter have been appointed as an agent of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity Headquarters.

SECTION 2. Chapter Operations: Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity is not involved in the day-to-day activities of a chapter. Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity does not and cannot control or supervise the day-to-day operations or activities of a chapter.

Each collegiate chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity is a self-governing, financially self-sufficient ~~association~~ separate legal entity comprised of students of the institution at which they are enrolled. Each affiliate group of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity is a self-governing, financially self-sufficient ~~association~~ separate legal entity comprised of alumni members residing in a specific geographic location. Under the Constitution and Laws, each collegiate chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity selects and initiates its own members, elects its own officers, establishes its own rules, operates and determines its methods of operation, and governs its own affairs, subject only to those rules and operations being in harmony with the policies, Constitution, and Laws of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity. The autonomy of a collegiate chapter in organizing and determining and conducting its operations through a democracy is part of an educational process which association with the chapter adds to collegiate life and the development and refining of life skills.

If a collegiate chapter's operations are not in harmony with the policies, Constitution, and Laws of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Fraternity Headquarters has the right after the fact to determine whether that chapter will continue to be recognized by Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity Headquarters as a chapter associated with it. In some situations, after an action by a chapter has occurred that is not in harmony with the policies, ~~or~~ Constitution, ~~and~~ Laws of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, a "not in good standing" status may be implemented for the chapter by Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity. In "not in good standing" situations, the chapter continues to be a self-governing, financially self-sufficient ~~association~~ separate legal entity of collegiate students. If a chapter ceases to be recognized by Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity Headquarters as a chapter associated with it, but that group of collegiate students nonetheless continues its operations, they do so without any affiliation with Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity.

Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity does not have the right to suspend or affect the membership status of a collegiate student associated with a chapter other than in those situations and accordance with the procedures specifically set forth in the policies, Constitution, and Laws of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity.

Note on rationale for this legislation:

In conjunction with outside counsel, an audit of the Constitution, Laws, and Policies of the Fraternity was conducted to determine whether any amendments should be made for legal or other reasons. The above changes were recommended by outside counsel as part of that process.

This legislation was originally proposed by the Board of Directors.

Passage of this legislation requires an affirmative three-quarters vote of the House of Delegates.

Six minutes have been allocated for the discussion of Proposal 22.03.