

Constitution of the Michigan State University Chapter of Triangle

Updated 9-25-2012

Part I – Active Organization

Article I – Name and Object

Section 1 – This organization shall be known and designated as The Michigan State University Chapter of *Triangle* Fraternity, by virtue of the charter granted on 8 January 1955 by *Triangle*, a

fraternity of engineers, architects and scientists.

Section 2 – The object of The Michigan State University Chapter of *Triangle* shall be to maintain a fraternity of engineers, architects and scientists at Michigan State University, to develop the best and truest fraternal spirit and to foster the mutual welfare and brotherhood of engineers, architects, and scientists.

Section 3 – Any section or bylaw of this constitution not in accord with the national constitution or the ritual of *Triangle* shall be void, and shall be amended as hereinafter provided.

Article II – Membership and Organization

Section 1 – The membership of the active organization of the Michigan State University Chapter of *Triangle*, hereinafter referred to as the Chapter, shall consist of all members who have been regularly initiated into *Triangle* by the Chapter and meet all qualifications pertaining to active status as defined in Article III of the National Constitution of *Triangle* and who have not obtained alumni status.

Section 2 – To become eligible for membership in this Chapter, any candidate must be in good academic standing with Michigan State University.

Section 3 – The Executive Council may suspend the voting rights of any active member who is absent for three or more chapter meetings in one semester. The suspension of said voting rights requires the unanimous consent of the Executive Council, and can be restored by a simple majority of said council.

Section 4 – A rushee may receive a bid if he receives not more than three unfavorable votes by the quorum of the Chapter. If this vote is taking place after the University designated Rush Week and during the current academic semester, it must have prior unanimous approval from both the Chapter Executive Council and the New Member Educators. The Chapter vote will then proceed as normal.

Section 5 – A minimum of three votes shall be taken on each pledge during his pledge semester. The first two votes will be of type *Gray* and are advisory in nature. Any active casting a *Gray Ball* must afterwards talk to the Member Educator(s) about the reason the *Gray Ball* was given so that an effort can be made to correct the situation. The final vote is of type *Black* and is taken during the week prior to initiation. If any pledge receives negative votes during the type *Black* vote, the number is announced, and discussion shall ensue. A second vote of type *Black* then follows. Should the number of black votes cast, of the second vote, be at least one fifth of the total chapter size, then the pledge in question is considered de-pledged (if one fifth of the total chapter size is less than 3, then 2 votes constitute de-pledging. In the week prior to initiation, 6 votes constitute de-pledging). Only the result of said vote is announced; the actual count is confidential. Any active may call for a vote of either type *Gray* or *Black* at any time. All votes shall be secret ballot.

Article III – Officers

Section 1 – The Government of the Chapter shall be vested in an Executive Council, as hereinafter provided. This council shall meet weekly at a regular time during regularly scheduled classes. Meeting dates may be changed for special occasions at the discretion of the President. These Council meetings are open to all brothers of the Chapter unless its chairman designates it to be closed.

Section 2 – The Executive Council shall consist of the following officers, in order of rank:
President
Executive Vice President
Administrative Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary

The highest-ranking member of the Executive Council present at any meeting shall serve as chairman of that meeting.

Section 3 – The remaining elected officers shall be:
Member Educator(s)
Recruitment Chair
Risk Management Chair

Section 4 – Election for all officers shall begin neither prior to the fall semester initiation, nor later than the last day of fall semester. The elections shall be decided by a majority vote. In the event three or more men are nominated for any office and one man does not receive a simple majority of present quorum during the first vote, a primary vote shall then be taken to limit the number of nominees to two for a final vote. Present quorum, except for the remaining two nominees, may participate in this vote. The order of officers elected shall be listed in sections 2 and 3 of this article.

Section 5 – The Executive Council will hold a special meeting, as defined by the President, at least twice per semester during which the said council will compare the Fraternity as is, to the Fraternity as it should be. A list of goals and suggested methods to attain them will be drawn up and presented to the Chapter. Progress toward these goals shall be part of the President's report at each house meeting.

Section 6 – The Leadership Advantage Liaison shall be the highest ranking active Chapter member on the Leadership Advantage Executive Council.

Section 7 – The following positions may be appointed by the Executive Council, however they shall not take office until approved by a majority vote of the Chapter. Changes in men holding these positions may be made at the discretion of the Executive Council.

Alumni Relations Chair
Webmaster
Sergeant-At-Arms
Caterer
Social Chair
Philanthropy Chair
Academic Chair
Relations Chair

Greek Week Chair
Historian
Student Group Liaison

Section 8 – Newly elected officers shall be installed as outlined in Article III, Section 2, paragraphs 2a through 4c of the National Bylaws of *Triangle* at the first meeting of the following semester.

Section 9 – Election of the Recruitment Chair, Member Educators, and Risk Management Chair shall take place neither prior to initiation, nor later than the last day of each semester.

Article IV – Meetings

Section 1 – Regular meetings shall be held each week in which there are regularly scheduled classes. The day of the week and time of the meetings are to be set by the President. Meeting dates may be changed for special occasions at the discretion of the President. The first meeting of each semester will automatically be the evening prior to the first day of classes unless the President designates otherwise.

Section 2 – A quorum shall consist of a majority of the voting active membership.

Article V – Funds

Section 1 – The Executive Council shall have authority to collect, and distribute dues, parlor fees, fines, and charges as they deem necessary and as outlined in Articles V and VIII of the Bylaws.

Section 2 – The retroactive assessment and collection of dues, fees, fines, and charges will be permitted only upon a three-fourths favorable vote of the Chapter. This vote shall be taken during one regular meeting. Those members absent from this meeting shall have until the beginning of the next regular meeting. The motion shall fail at the beginning of the next regular meeting if it does not have the required three-fourths favorable vote.

Article VI – Amendments

Section 1 – An amendment to this constitution may be submitted in writing and discussed at a regular meeting, but it cannot be voted on until the following regular meeting. During this period the amendment must be posted in some Chapter-sanctioned forum.

Section 2 – An amendment so submitted shall be adopted if it receives a favorable vote of three-fourths of the Chapter and the approval of the National Council. This vote shall be taken during one regular meeting. Those members absent from this meeting shall have until the following regular meeting to vote on said motion. The motion shall fail at the end beginning of the next regular meeting if it does not have the required three-fourths favorable vote.

Article VII – Bylaws

Section 1 – A Bylaw of this Constitution may be submitted in writing and discussed at any regular meeting of the Chapter, however they cannot be voted upon until the following regular meeting. During this period the Bylaw must be posted in some Chapter-sanctioned forum.

Section 2 – A Bylaw so submitted shall be adopted if it receives a favorable vote of two-thirds of the voting members present at a regular meeting.

Article VIII – Standing Rules

Section 1 – A standing rule is proposed in order to dictate policy on anything not specifically outlined in the Constitution. A standing rule is passed by a majority vote by the Chapter. The proposition of said standing rule must include duration for the standing rule to be in effect and must be recorded in the meeting minutes.