

The Samford Chapter, the Alpha Mu of Beta Theta Pi

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Author(s): Mason Kimball

Sponsor(s): Executive Board

On the Clarification of the Sweetheart Position

Whereas, any and all previous resolution(s) on the creation, election process, duties, and requirements of the position(s) of “Sweetheart” are unable to be produced; and

Whereas, without organized resolution or legislation ambiguity has arisen when attempting to understand or change said position; and

Whereas, this resolution seeks to serve as the framework for resolving this ambiguity and establish clear structure to govern and clarify the Sweetheart position;

Therefore, be it resolved, the title of “Sweetheart” may be granted to any female individual who is currently enrolled as a student at Samford University and who meets all the following requirements:

1. The individual shall not be involved in a romantic relationship with any Active Member of Samford Chapter, the Alpha Mu of Beta Theta Pi
2. The individual must be in good standing with Samford University

3. The individual must have demonstrated interest in this chapter prior to election. This may be shown through completing an interest form given out by the Vice President of Administration or by attending chapter-hosted events.

Be it further resolved, the following shall be added under a new Section to Article III (Self-Governance) of the Bylaws of the Samford Chapter the Alpha Mu of Beta Theta Pi, the name of the Section shall be “Section V: Sweethearts”:

“1. A non-member position titled ‘Sweetheart’ shall be established. Eligibility is limited to female individuals who meets the following requirements:

- a) The individual shall not be in a romantic relationship with an Active Member*
- b) The individual must be in good standing with Samford University*
- c) The individual must have shown interest in this fraternal chapter prior to election, either by completing an interest form (as distributed by the Vice President of Administration) or by attending chapter-hosted events*
- d) To be eligible, an individual must not have previously served as Sweetheart two (2), or more, times (i.e., they may not run if they have already held the position two (2) times).*

2. Elections to the position shall take occur during the Fall term and individuals elected by the chapter shall assume this office until the end of the following Spring term.

- a) Elections for this position must take place during a regular chapter meeting*
- b) Candidates may be permitted to briefly attend the meeting to introduce themselves and explain why they would benefit the chapter in this role*

c) Following all candidates presentations and their departure the Vice President of Administration shall organize a vote where the chapter may select up to three (3) of the candidates to serve the position of Sweetheart

3. The process for removal of a Sweetheart is as follows;

a) Should a Sweetheart be referred to the Kai Committee three (3) times for minor offenses or one (1) time for a major offense the Kai Committee shall initiate a removal review

b) If the Kai Committee recommends removal the following procedures apply:

i) The chair of the Kai Committee shall present the charges and any relevant case history to the chapter

ii) A chapter discussion shall take place

iii) A vote shall be conducted. Should 60% or more vote in favor of removal, the Sweetheart is removed. If the vote fails, the Kai Committee may reconvene to consider other sanctions, taking chapter input into account

Be it further resolved, in recognition of the historical tradition wherein Sweethearts were often significant others of Active Members, this resolution charges the Ritual Committee with the creation of a “Pinning Ritual” to recognize such individuals within the chapter.

Be it further resolved, that;

- 1)** Upon the adoption of this resolution — which includes proper notice of the full text of all proposed bylaw amendments — the included amendments shall be incorporated into the Bylaws without the need for a separate vote. Adoption of this resolution shall constitute

adoption of the amendments, provided that the required voting threshold (simple majority or 51%) for bylaw amendments is met; and

- 2) All prior service as Sweetheart — including terms held before the adoption of this resolution — shall be counted toward the eligibility requirements established herein; and

Be it finally resolved, upon completion of the Ritual Committee's charge to develop the "Pinning Ritual," a separate resolution containing the proposed ritual and a corresponding bylaw amendment shall be submitted for approval. The adoption, content, or intent of this current resolution shall not be affected by the future proposal.