

The Constitution of  
KAPPA MU EPSILON

**Article I - The Society and Its Objectives**

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be Kappa Mu Epsilon, Mathematics Honor Society.

Its Greek Motto, 'αναπτυσσετε την 'εκτιμησιν του καλλουζ των μαθηματικων, may be translated, "Develop an appreciation for the beauty in mathematics."

Section 2. The Society is incorporated as a non-profit organization for educational purposes as of May 14, 1951, in the State of New York.

Section 3. The objectives of the Society shall be

- A. to further the interests of undergraduate mathematics;
- B. to help the undergraduate realize the important role that mathematics has played in the development of civilization;
- C. to develop an appreciation of the power and beauty possessed by mathematics, due, mainly, to its demands for logical and rigorous modes of thought; to provide a society for the recognition of outstanding achievement in the study of mathematics in the undergraduate level;
- D. to disseminate the knowledge of mathematics and to familiarize the members with the advances being made in mathematics.

Section 4. If for any reason the Society ceases to function as a corporate body, all assets remaining after all financial obligations have been met shall be donated to the Mathematical Association of America.

**Article II - Membership**

Section 1. The active members shall consist of those who have been duly initiated by the individual chapters.

Section 2. Qualifications for undergraduate membership. A member

- A. must be a regularly enrolled student at an institution where a Kappa Mu Epsilon chapter is installed;
- B. must have completed at least three semesters (or five quarters) of the college course and rank in the upper 35% of his/her class;

C. must have completed at least three college courses in mathematics including at least one semester (or two quarters) of calculus and attained an average of B or better in all mathematics courses;

D. must have completed at least one semester (one quarter) at the institution, if having transferred from another institution, and have completed at least one mathematics course with a B or better at the institution prior to induction into membership.

Section 3. At an institution where a Kappa Mu Epsilon chapter is installed, the following qualify for membership:

A. any mathematical sciences faculty member;

B. any mathematics graduate student in good academic standing.

Section 4. Election to membership shall be irrespective of membership in any other organization, and no person shall be excluded on the basis of gender, color, religion, age, national origin, ancestry, disability, veteran status, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or any other federally protected classification.

Section 5. Members of chapters upon moving to the locality of another chapter may become affiliated therewith by presenting credentials of membership in good standing from the secretary of the initiating chapter.

### **Article III - Insignia**

Section 1. The badge of this Society shall be a pentagon with the sides slightly concave; on the upper half shall be a five-leaf rose, and on the lower half the letters K.M.E. The badge may be worn as a pin, key, or pendant.

Section 2. The seal shall be a five-pointed star enclosing a five-leaf rose, and being encircled by the legend "Kappa Mu Epsilon, founded 1931."

Section 3. The crest shall be a shield enclosing the five-pointed star; in the star shall be the rose  $\rho = \alpha \sin 5\theta$ , the symbol of pure mathematics. Around the star shall be the symbols for the sciences which apply mathematics: at the upper left a book of knowledge, for students and teachers; in the lower left a shamrock and a slide rule, for the engineers; at the upper right a conventionalized butterfly, for the biological sciences; at the lower right a moon and three stars, for the physical sciences; at the bottom the symbol  $S^{-n}$ , for the business world. Above the shield proper is the design of the badge of the Society, and below it is a streamer upon which is printed the Greek motto.

Section 4. The colors shall be a rose-pink and silver; the flower shall be the wild rose.

## **Article IV - Chapters**

- Section 1. An organized group of at least ten members from an accredited (by the appropriate regional accrediting agency) four-year college or university may petition for a chapter.
- Section 2. A request for the establishment of a chapter shall be referred to the National Council by the National President. This request shall include such information concerning the school and the mathematics faculty as required by the petition. If the Council endorses the request, the National President shall then direct the National Secretary to notify the chapters of this application, giving only the pertinent details. If, within 30 days, one-fourth of the chapters have not filed disapproval with the National Secretary, the National President shall, with the approval of the National Council, grant a charter to the petitioning group.
- Section 3. Chapters may be approved by the voting delegates at the biennial convention, as provided in Article VII, Section 1. A three-fourths vote of the voting delegates shall be required to approve all motions to establish a new chapter.
- Section 4. Each chapter shall be governed by chapter bylaws, which shall not be in variance with the National Constitution. However, this shall not prevent a chapter from adding additional requirements. Copies of chapter bylaws shall be filed with the National President and the National Secretary prior to the biennial convention following the date of approval of said bylaws by the chapter.
- Section 5. Chapters shall be designated by state and by Greek letters. The Greek letter assigned to each chapter shall be the Greek alphabetical order in which the chapter was granted, i.e., Kansas Alpha, Kansas Beta, Kansas Gamma, etc.
- Section 6. If a chapter fails to comply with the constitution or receives an indictment from two other chapters for failure to fulfill the purpose of the Society, its charter may be withdrawn by a two-thirds vote of the chapters upon a report of the National Council including the charge against the chapter and the chapter's defense.
- Section 7. A. A chapter, upon its request presented to the National Council, may become inactive.
- B. A chapter that has not reported an initiation during two successive biennia shall be so notified by the National President. If no members are initiated by that chapter during the next biennium, the chapter shall again be notified by the National President. This notification will specify a date on which the chapter's active membership status will be changed to inactive unless the chapter formally requests an extension in time. An inactive chapter may be reinstated by approval of the National Council and payment of a reinstatement fee equal to the current national membership fee.
- C. A chapter shall be expelled by the methods of Article IV, Section 6. A chapter that is inactive shall not be permitted to have membership cards or pins, nor shall it be allowed to participate in any of the benefits of the Society such as defraying of expenses of a

delegate to the biennial convention or any other expenditures of money. Inactive chapters have no vote in society matters.

### **Article V - National Officers**

Section 1. The National Officers of the Society shall be President, President-elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian, and they shall be members of Kappa Mu Epsilon. The term of office shall be four years. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian shall be eligible for election to a second term. The President-elect and Historian shall be elected in 1981 and every fourth year while the Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected in 1983 and every fourth year. A majority of those voting shall be sufficient for election.

A ballot with at least two candidates for each of the appropriate offices shall be presented to the Convention by a Nominating Committee appointed by the President. If the Secretary, Treasurer or Historian is a candidate for election to a second term, the Committee need not present a second candidate for that office. This Committee shall be appointed so that they have sufficient time to solicit suggestions from the chapters. This Committee shall consist of at least three members including a student member. Any additional names may be added to the ballot at the Convention if the nomination is made and seconded by certified delegates from different chapters and the proposed candidate has indicated a prior willingness to serve (or if present at the Convention, indicates a willingness to serve at the time the individual is nominated).

If for any reason a biennial convention is not held, the Nominating Committee shall present the ballot to the local chapters for their vote. Failure to reply to the chairperson of the committee within thirty days after the date on which the convention was scheduled shall be considered an abstention. A nominee shall be considered elected upon receiving a plurality of the votes cast for that candidate.

Section 2. No office shall be filled by the same chapter for more than two successive terms.

Section 3. The duties of the President shall be to preside at the biennial conventions and meetings of the National Council, to provide for the installation of new chapters, to approve all bills before they are paid by the Treasurer, and to perform other duties as usually pertain to this office.

Section 4. The duties of the President-elect shall be to assist the President, and to succeed to the Presidency.

Section 5. The Secretary shall take charge of the records of the Society, as provided, and shall perform those duties that usually pertain to this office.

Section 6. The duties of the Treasurer shall be to pay all bills upon the approval of the President, and to perform such other duties as usually pertain to this office. The Treasurer shall be

responsible for the financial activities of the Society according to policy set by National Council.

Section 7. The Historian shall be the official historian of Kappa Mu Epsilon, shall be an associate editor of the official publication of Kappa Mu Epsilon, and shall keep a file of interesting news notes about chapters or members.

Section 8. The above officers shall constitute the National Council. The duties of the National Council shall be to investigate petitioning groups and their institutions as a field of expansion, to fill any vacancies for the unexpired term, and to serve as general executive committee in the interim between conventions. Any four members of the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Society.

#### **Article VI – Regional Directors**

Section 1. The National Council shall maintain an appropriate partition of the Society's chapters into geographical regions. Each region will have a Regional Director appointed by the National Council.

Section 2. The regional directors will attempt to organize regional conventions to be held in those years for which there is no national convention. The host chapter for such conventions will be selected by the Regional Director in consultation with the National President-elect.

#### **Article VII - National Conventions**

Section 1. The biennial convention shall consist of members of the National Council and delegates elected by each chapter. Each chapter may send as many delegates as it desires and each delegate shall be entitled to participate in all discussions, and to vote individually on all motions except on motions to amend the constitution or bylaws, or in the election of national officers, or on motions relating to the establishment of new chapters. On all motions relating to the exceptions mentioned above, each chapter shall be entitled to two votes. These votes shall be cast by two special voting delegates whose names and chapter membership must be certified to, in writing, by the corresponding secretary or the faculty sponsor of the chapter represented.

Section 2. The biennial convention shall be held every two years, the time and place of which shall be decided by the National Council, and the chapters shall be notified of their action at least six months prior to the date which is set for the convention. The national organization of the Society pays per-mile travel expenses for one delegate from each chapter on the basis of an amount set by the National Council, provided such a sum does not exceed three-fifths of the amount paid by the chapter during the current biennium as initiation fees for new members.

Section 3. Biennial reports of all national officers shall be made at each biennial convention. A written copy of each report must be presented to the National Secretary for permanent filing.

Section 4. The members present at any regularly announced meeting of the convention constitute a quorum for business purposes.

#### **Article VIII - Publications**

Section 1. The official journal of the Society shall be known as The Pentagon.

Section 2. The National Council shall appoint the editor and the business manager of the official journal. The National Historian shall be an associate editor. The editor and the business manager shall report at each convention.

Section 3. The official journal shall contain material which will tend to achieve the objectives of the Society and which will tend to establish fraternal ties between the chapters.

Section 4. The official journal shall be published at least once a year. "Published" is understood to include electronic publication.

#### **Article IX – Web Site**

Section 1. The society will maintain a home page on the internet which will contain current and historical information pertaining to Kappa Mu Epsilon.

Section 2. The National Council shall appoint a Webmaster to maintain the information on the home page in a timely manner. The Webmaster will report at each national convention.

#### **Article X - Amendments**

Section 1. This constitution may be amended by two-thirds vote of the biennial convention provided that a copy of the proposed amendments shall have been sent to every chapter by the National Council at least one month before the convention meets.

Section 2. Amendments may also be proposed at the biennial convention, and if approved by a two-thirds vote, be submitted to each chapter. Such amendments shall become effective upon ratification by two-thirds of the chapters.

Section 3. Amendments may be proposed at any time by any chapter or by the National Council to each chapter for its approval or disapproval. Such amendments become effective upon ratification by two-thirds of the chapters. Failure of any chapter to report within sixty days shall be considered equivalent to approval.

#### **Article XI – Other Actions by the Society**

Section 1. From time to time, the National Council may desire to propose motions, other than those defined elsewhere in this Constitution, to be voted on between national conventions. In these instances, such motions will be presented to each chapter. A simple majority of the chapters casting votes is required for passage of the motion.

## **BYLAWS**

### **Article I - Finance**

- Section 1. Each new chapter shall pay in advance to the National Treasurer an amount set by the National Council. Expenses incurred by the national organization of the Society incidental to the establishment of a chapter shall be paid by the chapter.
- Section 2. Each chapter shall pay the national organization of the Society an initiation fee of an amount set by the National Council for each subsequent member.
- Section 3. An auditing committee of three members shall be appointed by the National President to audit the accounts of the National Treasurer prior to the convention. At least one member of this committee should have auditing experience.

### **Article II - Ritual**

- Section 1. An official ritual, provided by the National Council, shall be used in all chapter installations and initiations.

### **Article III - Chapter Officers**

- Section 1. The chapter officers shall be President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and Faculty Sponsor.
- Section 2. The Corresponding Secretary shall be a faculty member and have charge of the official correspondence with the National Officers including a report of each initiation.
- Section 3. All of the above chapter officers must be members of the Society.

### **Article IV - Amendments**

- Section 1. These bylaws may be amended in the same manner as prescribed for the amendment of the national constitution.