

56th Grand Council Convention

Constitution & By-Law Changes

Created by:
Robert Mancini, Grand Counselor

Presented by:

Article VII, Section 2

- New Language

- All Local Province and Chapter Ordinances must be submitted in electronic format, within seven (7) days of adoption, to the Grand Counselor and the Central Office, for approval or rejection by the Grand Counselor or Legislative Committee. Failure of the Grand Counselor and/or Legislative Committee to act within ninety (90) days on any Ordinance, submitted in accordance with the above requirements, shall constitute automatic approval. **Upon receipt by the Chapter or Province of any rejections or recommendation to the proposed Local Ordinances by the Grand Counselor or Legislative Committee, the Chapter or Province must act, within ninety (90) days, on these rejections or recommendations and submit a response. Failure to do so shall constitute an automatic approval of the Legislative Committee recommendations.**

- Changes

- Highlighted language added to clarify how long Chapters/Provinces have to respond to recommendations from the Legislative Committee.

- Impact

- Moderate: Chapters & Provinces need to understand that if they don't respond within 90 days, the changes recommended by the legislative committee become effective changes.

- Action

- Make sure you return ordinance responses with 90 days!

By-Law V, Section 4

- New Language
 - All Delegates or proxies shall be determined in accordance with Chapter or Province By-Laws and Local Ordinances thereof, and shall be admitted to the Grand Council only upon presentation of proper credentials issued by the represented Chapter or Province. In the case of Delegate representation, the credentials must be in writing and signed by the Regent, Satrap, or Secretary of the Chapter or Province being represented. In the case of proxy representation, the credentials must be in writing and signed by the Regent or Satrap and Secretary of the Chapter or Province being represented. This form must be sent to The Central Office and postmarked at least one (1) month prior to the start of the Grand Council Convention. **These Proxy forms must be notarized.**
- Changes
 - Highlighted language was changed to specify that only PROXY forms need to be notarized as they represent transfer of voting rights. Delegate form notarization has never been required or enforced.
- Impact
 - Minimal: This language simply updates the C&BL to meet current processes in place.
- Action
 - None required. This language is specific to the Grand Council. The UPB (By-Law V, Sec. 5) do not require proxies at Province meetings to be notarized and proxy is not permitted at the Chapter level.

By-Law VII, Section 7

- New Language
 - The Grand Regent is the Chief Executive Officer of the Fraternity and shall preside at all meetings of the Grand Council; shall announce the time of the meetings of the Grand Council; shall visit each Chapter of the Fraternity ~~biannually~~ every two (2) years either in person or through another Grand Officer or representative; shall, if possible, install new Chapters but may delegate that duty to another Member of the Fraternity; shall appoint the Official Representative in Delaware; shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees of the Grand Council; and shall have authority to speak and act for the Fraternity on all matters and is accountable to the Grand Council.
- Changes
 - Biannually was changed to “every two (2) years” to eliminate ambiguity.
- Impact
 - Minimal, removes ambiguity.
- Action
 - None required.

By-Law IX, Section 15

- New Language
 - The Executive Committee, standing committees, and special committees are authorized to meet by electronic communication media so long as all members have the ability to participate.
- Changes
 - This section was added as it previously did not exist.
- Impact
 - Moderate: although this has been done, it has not been explicitly permitted. According to RRNOR, electronic meetings are permitted provided the C&BL or Local ordinances permit it. This language is in context of the Grand Council and thus only gives permission in context to International Committees.

By-Law IX, Section 15

- Action
 - If you utilize electronic communication media (phone, online meeting, Skype, etc) for meetings at either the Province or Chapter level, you need to ensure that your ordinances permit it.
 - **Province:** Add language to Ordinance VII, Sec 5.
 - **Collegiate Chapters:** In person meetings strongly recommended (if absolutely necessary, Add to Ordinance VII, Sec 6).
 - **Graduate Chapters:** Add language to Ordinance VII, Sec 6.

By-Law XV, Section 2

- New Language
 - In session of the Grand Council, motions to amend shall require a two-thirds ($2/3$) majority vote of the Grand Council for passage, a quorum being present. No motion to amend, made in session, may be acted upon unless a written **or electronic** copy of such motion is submitted to the Legislative Committee at least twenty-four (24) hours before it is to be acted upon and also a written **or electronic** copy is distributed to each Member of the Grand Council prior to the time of voting.
- Changes
 - Adds the option of submitting an electronic copy of the report.
- Impact
 - Minimal: most submissions are electronic, this updates the C&BL to be more up to date with the technology.
- Action
 - None required.

UCCB By-Law VII, Sec 5, Sub-Sec F

- New Language
 - The Social Committee shall develop a balanced program of activities for the Chapter. The Committee shall plan, promote and supervise all social activities of the Chapter. ~~The Committee shall encourage the planning of a founders day event. and plan an appropriate event celebrating the Fraternity's "Founders Day." The Committee should include in its program selection of a "Chapter Sweetheart" and should encourage the use of the Fraternity's songs at all social functions.~~
- Changes
 - Previous language implied that every Chapter's social committee is responsible for planning the Fraternity Founder's Day Event, selection of a chapter sweetheart and encourage use of Fraternity songs. Many Chapters do not do one or more of those, therefore removal of this language removes the "requirement" and makes it optional. Every Chapter is still encouraged to promote a founder's day event (Fraternity or Chapter specific), thus that language was modified.
- Impact
 - Minimal (Collegiate Chapters Only): As some chapters don't do various of these events this is loosening the requirements. Chapters who wish to make various events mandatory or standing events, they should specify these things in their local ordinances.
- Action
 - As this is the UCCB, you only need to make changes if you WANT to. You can specify the additional events in Ordinance 7, Sec 5, Sub-Sec F if you wish to ensure their continuity, but it is not necessary.
 - If you wish to put the duties of the founder's day event on a different committee or officer, you are welcome to within the rights of ordinances and the UCCB.

UCCB By-Law XIV, Section 1

- New Language

- The quorum necessary for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Chapter shall not be less than one-half (1/2) of the Chapter Membership in good standing. Chapters may elect to increase the requirement for quorum or exclude Members on clinical rotations (APPEs) if specified in By-Law XVII, Ordinance 14. If specified, Members on clinical rotations shall be permitted to vote as part of any required quorum if in good standing, but their absence will not count against quorum.

- Changes

- Highlighted language above was added to give Chapters the ability to modify quorum requirements in extenuating circumstances.

- Impact

- Major: Prior to addition of this language, Chapters could only increase number needed for quorum (i.e. be more strict) than the UCCB. This allows Chapters to account for varying Chapter sizes, especially when a bulk of students may be off campus for rotations, and still conduct business.

By-Law XIV, Section 1

- Action

- Current requirements are 1/2 of active members to conduct business and 2/3 to conduct elections.
- If you chose to implement this, you will need to modify Ordinance 14, Section 1 and submit changes to the Grand Counselor.
- Suggested Language:
 - *Students on clinical rotations (APPEs) shall be permitted to vote as part of any required quorum, if in good standing, but their absence will not count against quorum.*

UPB By-Law V, Section 8

- New Language
 - Each Grand Council Deputy (Chapter Counselor) **not sitting as a Province officer or Graduate Chapter Delegate** shall be a non-voting Member of the Province Assembly and shall have the registration fee for the Assembly waived. Further reimbursements may be made by the Grand Council Deputy's respective Chapter.
- Changes
 - Highlighted language clarifies that GCDs may sit as officers or delegates, but that would negate their right to have their registration fee waived for being a non-voting member of the Province.
- Impact
 - Moderate: This may change your Province's reimbursement or registration processes & procedures. GCDs in attendance at a province meeting are now only entitled to free registration if they are not sitting in a voting capacity.
- Action
 - Province will have to review their policy on this issue. If the province wishes to reimburse even in the case of sitting as a Grad Chapter delegate, the province must specify this in their local ordinances.

UPB By-Law VIII, Section 2

- New Language
 - The Province Delegate shall submit a **written or electronic** report of the Grand Council to the Province Secretary-Treasurer at least one month prior to the next Province Assembly.
- Changes
 - Highlighted language added to allow your Province delegate to submit an electronic report (either soft copy word document or PPT, etc) instead of a written report to your Province records.
- Impact
 - Minimal: Most Provinces utilize electronic record keeping already.
- What do I need to do?
 - Make sure your delegate turns in their report!

UPB Housekeeping

- Several housekeeping changes to UPB
 - By-Law V, Section 4.
 - By-Law V, Section 5.
 - By-Law VII, Section 2.
- All changed from Secretary-Treasurer to Secretary (to clarify for split positions).
- Impact
 - Negligible, all provinces have already split this office, this helps prevent unnecessary revisions within the Province Ordinances.

Questions?

- Feel free to email Robert Mancini at any point:
 - Grandcounselor@kappapsi.org