CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I
NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. The name of this association is Alpha Sigma Lambda, Tau Chapter.

Section 2. Its purpose is to provide for:

a. An association of outstanding students of University of Maryland University College (UMUC).

b. The initiation and conduction of activities which shall be of benefit to, and to provide support for, the University in general.

Section 3. Alpha Sigma Lambda Tau Chapter is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Student members shall be comprised of University of Maryland University College students who meet the criteria in section 2 below.

Section 2. This chapter shall satisfy the following requirements for election of students to membership:

a. Members must be matriculated in an undergraduate degree program in UMUC and must have completed a minimum of twenty four semester hours in regular credit courses conducted through UMUC. Students who have already received a baccalaureate degree are ineligible for membership.

b. At least twelve credits of the student's total credits should be earned in courses in Liberal Arts/Sciences, not including applied Arts/Sciences courses. These credits may be earned at UMUC or accepted as transfer credit from another institution.

c. Members shall be selected only from the highest twenty percent of the class who have twenty-four graded credits and are matriculated in an undergraduate degree program.

d. Those selected must have a minimum UMUC cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.7 on a 4.0 scale.

Section 3. This chapter or the Executive Committee may elect faculty, administrative officers, and staff to membership, provided that the number of such active members at any time shall not exceed twenty members or ten percent of the total membership of the chapter, whichever is larger. Faculty, staff, and administrative personnel shall be exempt from all student membership criteria as outlined in Section 2 of this article.

ARTICLE III
REPRESENTATION AND LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY
Section 1. A staff member at UMUC will be appointed the Tau Chapter Councilor. The Chapter Councilor shall be registered with the Society’s Executive Director. If the Tau Chapter Councilor has to step down, UMUC will appoint a replacement.

Section 2. Except as otherwise specifically stated in this constitution, in the absence of a standing rule to the contrary, Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern any meetings of this organization.

ARTICLE IV
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Section 1. The chapter will be managed by the Executive Committee, which consists of the following positions: Chapter Councilor, Treasurer, President, Vice-President, and Secretary. The Executive Committee requires a minimum of a Chapter Councilor and Treasurer. The other positions are optional.

Section 2. The Tau Chapter Councilor will be a UMUC full-time employee. The Tau Chapter Councilor shall appoint the Treasurer and Executive Secretary, and such persons shall also be full-time staff employees at UMUC.

Section 3. The chapter shall operate as an honorary unless or until sufficient student interest has been shown to warrant the election of student officers. As an honorary, the Tau Chapter Councilor will be responsible for maintaining member communications and activities. Activities will be determined by membership interest.

Section 4. The Executive Committee may create committees within the membership and appoint committee chairs.

Section 5. The positions of President, Vice-President, and Secretary are reserved for students if there is future interest in a student member officer structure. At that time, student members shall elect officers as outlined by the chapter’s by-laws.

Section 6. All officer positions represent all UMUC locations.

ARTICLE V
FINANCES

Section 1. The Tau Chapter is a self-sustaining organization.

Section 2. The fiscal year shall begin on July 1 of each year.

Section 3. The annual dues to the Society Organization shall be payable upon notification by the Home Office.

Section 4. Dues for new members shall be charged in accordance with an amount specified in the by-laws.

Section 5. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, directors, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable
compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in
furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article 1 above.

No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of
propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall
not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements)
any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the organization shall not carry on
any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from
Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or the
corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by an
organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal
Revenue Code (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal
Revenue Law).

Section 6. Upon dissolution of the organization, the Treasurer shall, after paying or making provision
for the payment of all of the liabilities of the organization, dispose of all the assets of the
organization to the Tau Chapter Scholarship Fund, the endowed chapter scholarship
within UMUC’s Office of Institutional Advancement.

ARTICLE VI
AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Constitutional amendments for this chapter will be drafted by the Chapter Councilor
and/or the Executive Committee of the chapter.

Section 2. A draft of the proposed amendment will be submitted for approval to the Society
Executive Director of the Alpha Sigma Lambda Home Office.

Section 3. Upon approval by the Society Executive Director, the amendment shall be considered
ratified and a finalized copy placed in both the files of the chapter and the Home Office.
Section 1. The chapter will process new members twice a year, in the fall (August-October) and spring (January-March) semesters. During these times, eligible students can receive applications through
(a) E-mail invitation.
(b) Inquiry and verification of eligibility.

Section 2. To obtain membership into the Tau Chapter, eligible students must submit a new member application and a one-time membership fee of $35 during one of the open membership periods.

Section 3. Online induction ceremonies will be conducted by one or more representatives of the Executive Committee at a minimum of once a year. Attendance is encouraged but not a prerequisite for membership.

ARTICLE II
OFFICER DUTIES

Section 1. The duties of the Chapter Councilor shall be to:
(a) Serve as head of the Executive Committee and the point of contact for the chapter.
(b) Coordinate the new membership process.
(c) Maintain all communications with the membership.
(d) Maintain a record of chapter members.
(e) Communicate with the Society’s National Office as needed.
(f) Ensure the payment of annual dues.
(g) Chair the Alpha Sigma Lambda Tau Chapter Scholarship Committee.
(h) Advise the student officers and committees (if applicable).

Section 2. The duties of the Treasurer shall be to:
(a) Maintain records for the chapter bank account.
(b) Process all checks going into and out of the bank account.
(c) Process necessary tax and audit documents to comply with federal regulations.
(d) Advise the Executive Committee on financial matters.

Section 3. The duties of the Executive Secretary shall be to support the Chapter Councilor in the administrative tasks of the new membership process.

Section 4. Should there be interest in adding student officer positions, the duties of the positions of President, Vice-President, and Secretary will be determined by the Executive Committee with input from membership at that time.

ARTICLE III
ELECTIONS

Section 1. Should the members decide to have student officers, then officers will serve for a one-year term, with no term limits.
Section 2. A nomination period will be designated and members can nominate or self-nominate.

Section 3. Once the nomination period ends, a ballot will go out to the membership with the candidates. The members with the highest percentage of the votes for each position will become the officers.

ARTICLE IV
TAU CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP

Section 1. The Tau Chapter Scholarship shall be supported by a combination of endowment funds and excess chapter funds.

Section 2. The Chapter Councilor will establish and chair a Tau Chapter Scholarship committee to review scholarship applicants twice a year. The committee members can consist of Tau Chapter members and/or UMUC full-time staff employees. Committee members are appointed by the Chapter Councilor.

Section 3. The Tau Chapter Scholarship shall be regulated by its Memo of Understanding (MOU).

ARTICLE V
AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to the by-laws for this chapter will be drafted by the Chapter Councilor.

Section 3. Upon approval by the Executive Committee, the amendment shall be considered ratified.