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### **Delphic, Constitution By Laws**

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CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS

AND RULES OF ORDER

OF THE

EPSILON CHAPTER

DELPHIC FRATERNITY



State Normal and Training School,

CORTLAND, N. Y.

ROOM NO. 305, NORMAL BUILDING.

# ORDER OF EXERCISES.

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The order of exercises at a regular meeting shall be as follows, except when ordered otherwise by a two-thirds vote of the members present:

- 1—Heralds receive pass word.
- 2—Roll call.
- 3—Chaplain.
- 4—Literary work.
- 5—Parliamentary discussion.
- 6—Reading of minutes of preceding meeting.
- 7—Election of members.
- 8—Applications for membership.
- 9—Election of officers.
- 10—Treasurer's report.
- 11—Fines and excuses.
- 12—Reports of committees.
- 13—Miscellaneous business.
- 14—Reading of minutes of meeting.
- 15—Debate.
- 16—Report of critic.
- 17—Arrangements for next debate.
- 18—Adjournment.

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS

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OF THE

EPSILON CHAPTER  
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State Normal and Training School,

CORTLAND, N. Y.

ROOM NO. 305, NORMAL BUILDING.

CORTLAND, N. Y.:  
PRESSES OF THE CORTLAND DEMOCRAT.

1901.

# CONSTITUTION.

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## ARTICLE I.

This society shall be known as the Epsilon Chapter of the Delphic Fraternity.

## ARTICLE II.

The motto of this chapter shall be

*“Καιρὸν Γνωθι.”*

## ARTICLE III.

### MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. Any male member of the Normal or Academic Departments, whose name shall have been proposed by the Membership committee and who shall have been duly elected, may become a member of this Fraternity by paying into the treasury one dollar and by signing the constitution and by-laws within four weeks from the date of his election.

§ 2. Any eligible person wishing to become a member of this Fraternity shall make an application in writing, which shall be read by the Secretary at the first business meeting after the date of said application, provided the applica-



tion has been favorably acted upon by the Membership committee.

§ 3. All proposals for membership shall lie upon the table until the next regular meeting, when they shall be separately voted upon by the Society.

§ 4. In balloting on candidates for membership, three (3) dissenting votes shall constitute a non-election.

§ 5. It shall be the duty of every active member to attend all the meetings; to yield implicit obedience to the Constitution and By-Laws; to behave on all occasions with order and decorum; to perform all duties legally imposed upon him; and, except the President, to vote on all questions. The President may vote when the vote is taken by ballot, and in case of a tie he shall vote if he has not previously voted.

§ 6. Any male person connected with this school may become an honorary member of this Fraternity by being elected in the same manner as an active member; but he shall not be allowed to vote.

§ 7. All active members upon honorably leaving school become honorary members. Any honorary member who has been an active member, and who shall pay all the dues and taxes of an active member shall be entitled to the same privileges and subject to the same restrictions as an active member.

§ 8. Any active member who shall be absent from four (4) consecutive regular meetings with-

out presenting an excuse satisfactory to a majority of the active members of the Fraternity present, shall be tried, as hereinafter provided for, and if found guilty, shall be expelled as hereinafter provided for.

## ARTICLE IV.

### MEETINGS.

The regular meetings of this chapter shall be held on Friday evening of each week at 7 o'clock, unless otherwise determined by the members of the Fraternity present.

## ARTICLE V.

### OFFICERS.

§ 1. The officers of this Fraternity shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Critic, Librarian and Chaplain.

§ 2. The election of all officers shall occur at the second regular meeting each half term of the school year, except that of Corresponding Secretary, which shall occur at the second regular meeting of each school year. They shall be nominated by acclamation and chosen separately by ballot.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Fraternity; to announce in its proper order, the business before the Society; to state all questions that are in

order and to put them to vote at the proper time—he may rule out questions obviously frivolous; to announce the result of each vote; to certify, when necessary, to the papers and proceedings of the Fraternity; to enforce implicit obedience to the Constitution and By-Laws and to decide all questions of order; to appoint all committees not otherwise provided for and to fill vacancies *pro tem.*; to call special meetings at his own discretion, or at the written request of five acting members. Any decision of the President may be appealed from and may be reversed by a majority vote.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of the Vice-President in the absence of the President, to perform the duties of the President, and he shall be chairman of the committee on Literary Exercises, and shall notify those to whom literary work has been assigned.

§ 5. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to call the roll at the opening of each regular meeting; to keep the minutes of the proceedings and report the same to the Fraternity for acceptance; and, when accepted, to record the same in the Secretary's book; to preserve all books, papers and documents belonging to the Fraternity; to present to the Treasurer at the close of each regular meeting a list of the names of all members subject to fines and the amount of each fine.

§ 6. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to conduct all correspondence of the Fraternity; to notify all persons of their



election as members of the Fraternity; to transmit at least twice a year to each of the other chapters, a fraternal letter containing such information regarding its own condition, methods of work and prosperity as shall tend to promote the fraternal spirit among the chapters; and to transmit, within fifteen days after the commencement of his term, a list of the officers and all active members of such chapter to each of the other chapters and assist the Secretary in his duties.

§ 7. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to take charge of all the moneys belonging to the Fraternity; to collect all dues and fines, to pay all bills on the order of the President, to keep in the Treasurer's book, an account of all moneys received and paid by him; and at the expiration of his term of office, or when called upon by the Fraternity to present to the Fraternity his report duly certified to by the President.

§ 8. It shall be the duty of the Chaplain to read a suitable selection from the bible and to conduct prayer.

§ 9. There shall be a Committee on Criticism consisting of one member, elected on the evening of the regular election of officers, whose duty it shall be to criticise the action of the members of the Society at each regular meeting in regard to promptness, deportment, performance of duty, observance of parliamentary rules, and such other items as he may deem proper, and to read the report of such criticism at the same meeting.

§ 10. There shall be a Committee on Parliamentary Law consisting of one member appointed by the President at the beginning of each quarter, to continue in office one quarter, whose duty it shall be to present for the consideration of the Fraternity, the fundamental principles of parliamentary law having a direct bearing on the work of the Fraternity.

## ARTICLE VI.

§ 1. This chapter shall have a Membership Committee consisting of five active members of one year's standing in the Fraternity, who shall be elected at the last regular meeting of the term.

§ 2. The members of this committee shall succeed to the chairmanship in the order of their election.

§ 3. Any vacancy occurring in this committee, shall be filled by the executive authority. The members thus appointed shall serve until the next regular meeting of the Fraternity.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of the Membership Committee to ascertain the ability and moral character of all persons brought to their notice as desirable candidates for membership, and with the consent of a majority of the members of the committee, to propose the names of such persons to the Fraternity for membership.

## ARTICLE VII.

## POWER OF FRATERNITY.

This chapter may by a two-thirds vote fine, reprimand, or suspend any member committing an offense; and it shall have power to resolve itself into a tribunal, and by a majority vote, impeach or expel any member guilty of a misdemeanor, but no member shall be expelled without a trial.

## ARTICLE VIII.

## AUTHORITY.

Roberts' Rules of Order shall be regarded as authority on all questions not provided for in the Constitution and By-Laws.

## ARTICLE IX.

## RECONSIDERATION.

Any resolution adopted by this society may be reconsidered at any regular meeting.

## ARTICLE X.

## AMENDMENTS.

This Constitution may be revised, enlarged or amended, provided two-thirds of the acting members consent thereto; and provided such revision, enlargement, or amendment has been presented in writing and has lain upon the table at least two weeks.

# BY-LAWS.

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## ARTICLE I.

### MEETINGS.

A special meeting may be called at any time by the President upon a written request signed by three active members, notice to be given from the Normal Chapel desk, or from the club bulletin.

## ARTICLE II.

### QUORUM.

Ten active members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

## ARTICLE III.

### ONLY MEMBERS PRESENT.

Members only will be allowed to be present at the meetings of this Fraternity.

## ARTICLE IV.

### EXERCISES.

The literary exercises of this Fraternity shall consist of essays, declamations, select readings, and the like, the programme of which shall be arranged by the Committee on Literary Exercises, hereinafter provided.



## ARTICLE V.

## DEBATE.

The regular debates of this Fraternily shall be conducted by a chief disputant and colleagues on each side. They shall be opened by the chief on the affirmative, and he shall be followed by the chief on the negative, then by the colleagues on each side speaking alternately.

## ARTICLE VI.

## ORDER OF MEETING.

- 1—Heralds receive pass word.
- 2—Roll call.
- 3—Chaplain.
- 4—Literary work.
- 5—Parliamentary discussion.
- 6—Reading of minutes of preceding meeting.
- 7—Election of members.
- 8—Applications for membership.
- 9—Election of officers.
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- 14—Reading of minutes of meeting.
- 15—Debate.
- 16—Report of critic.
- 17—Arrangements for next debate.
- 18—Adjournment.



## ARTICLE VII.

## VOTING.

When three or more members are candidates for the same office, if no election shall occur on the second ballot, the name of the one receiving the lowest number of votes on said ballot shall be dropped; and on each succeeding ballot the name of the one receiving the lowest number of votes on the previous ballot shall be dropped until the number of candidates shall not exceed two.

## ARTICLE VIII.

There shall be a committee on Literary Exercises, consisting of three members, the Vice-President as chairman of said committee, and two members appointed by the Vice-President on the evening of his election. The duties of this committee shall be to report in writing, at each regular meeting a program of literary exercises for the succeeding regular meeting, assigning the various parts to such members as they may deem it fitting and in the same manner to report a question suitable for discussion by the Fraternity.

## ARTICLE IX.

## TAXES.

§ 1. Should the funds of the Fraternity become exhausted, or inadequate to meet its

demands, an equal tax may be levied upon each active member to make up the deficiency, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting.

§ 2. The dues of this Fraternity as a Chapter of the Delphic Fraternity for each acting member per school term of twenty weeks, shall be seventy-five cents, which shall be due at the first meeting of the school term.

§ 3. No member in arrears for taxes ten weeks or more, or for fines to the amount of fifty cents, shall be allowed to vote or speak on any question or to hold office until the arrearages are paid.

## ARTICLE X.

### FINES AND EXCUSES.

§ 1. Any active member who shall not be present at the roll call of any regular meeting, or shall absent himself from any regular meeting without satisfactory excuse therefor, shall be subject to a fine of ten (10) cents for every offense. The only satisfactory excuses shall be:—

- 1—Out of town.
- 2—Sick.
- 3—Taking care of the sick.

§ 2. Any member who shall fail to perform any assigned literary duty shall be fined twenty-five cents, and his third consecutive failure to perform any assigned literary duty shall be judged a misdemeanor.

§ 3. No excuses for absence or non-performance of literary duties will be received except those in article ten, and provided that all such excuses be sent in writing to the Recording Secretary.

## ARTICLE XI.

### SUSPENSION OF BY-LAWS.

Any By-Law may be suspended *pro tem.* by the consent of two-thirds of the members present.

## ARTICLE XII.

### HONORARY LIST.

The name of any person may be placed upon the Honorary list upon a four-fifths vote of the members present at any regular meeting.

## ARTICLE XIII.

### EXPULSION.

§ 1. Any member withdrawing from the Fraternity without satisfactory reasons, or with unpaid fines or taxes, shall have his name stricken from the roll.

§ 2. A member may be expelled or otherwise punished for misconduct.

§ 3. A motion to expel with the reason therefor shall be made in writing and laid on the table at least one week before acted upon.

## ARTICLE XIV.

## ADJOURNMENTS.

A four-fifths majority of the members present shall be necessary to adjourn.

## ARTICLE XV.

## AMENDMENTS.

These By-Laws may be revised, enlarged or amended, provided such revision, enlargement or amendment be presented in writing and lie on the table at least two weeks, and provided two-thirds of the acting members consent thereto.

**AMENDMENT.**

[Adopted Oct. 19, 1894.]

**ORATORICAL CONTEST.**

The Epsilon Chapter of Delphic Fraternity, with the full consent and approval of the faculty of the Cortland State Normal School, do hereby establish two oratorical prizes on the following conditions:—

1st. The first prize shall consist of a gold medal suitably engraved and mounted; the second shall consist of a silver medal similarly engraved and mounted.

2d. The prizes shall be awarded for excellence in composition and delivery, which points shall have equal rank, and shall be determined by a board of three judges who shall be chosen by the contestants.

3d. The number of contestants shall not exceed six nor be less than four. They shall be chosen by ballot from the members of the Delphic Fraternity, by the society itself, at least three months before the contest.

4th. The orations shall not be less than 700 nor more than 1,100 words in length. These shall be typewritten, and without signatures. Three copies of each oration shall be handed to



the person chosen to deliver the President's address, for transmission to the judges. The orations shall be ready at least three weeks before the time of delivery.

5th. The contests shall occur annually during commencement week in June, in Normal Hall.

6th. The orations awarded prizes shall be published in the "Normal News."

# RULES OF ORDER.

## ARTICLE I.

### PRIVILEGED QUESTION.

#### SECTION 1.

- 1—Motion to adjourn.
- 2—Point of order.
- 3—To amend.
- 4—To refer.
- 5—To lay on the table.
- 6—Previous question.
- 7—Reading of papers.
- 8—Suspension of rules.
- 9—To reconsider.

§ 2. These questions shall have precedence in the order above stated.

## ARTICLE II.

No member shall speak more than twice upon the same question without unanimous consent.

## ARTICLE III.

All questions not herein decided shall be referred to Roberts' Rules of Order.

## ARTICLE IV.

No alteration shall be made in these Rules of Order without a two-thirds vote of the members present, one week's notice being given; neither can they be suspended but by a like vote, and for one evening only.

