

CONSTITUTION
The Appalachian State University
Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies Honor Society
Iota, Iota, Iota
Zeta Theta Chapter



ARTICLE I
Name of Organization

Section 1: The name of the organization shall be the Appalachian State University Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies Honor Society, Iota, Iota, Iota (Triota).

ARTICLE II
Purpose of Organization

Section 1: The purpose of this organization shall be to encourage and support scholarship and excellence in gender, women's and sexuality studies, as well as foster community among organizations with shared objectives at Appalachian State University, in addition to the greater feminist community.

ARTICLE III
Qualifications for Membership

Section 1: Membership shall be open to declared or intended majors in Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies; minors in Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies, LGBT Studies, or Girls' Studies; and graduate students with a certificate or minor in Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies at Appalachian State University. Prospective members must submit an application and have an overall GPA of at least 3.0 *or* submit an application with a one to two-page cover letter explaining their interest in GWS. Members who maintain a 3.0 during the time of membership remain in good standing; if a member's GPA is below 3.0 during the time of membership, the member may submit a written appeal to the officers remain in good standing in consideration of their personal circumstances.

Section 2: All who meet approved academic criteria are invited to become members without regard to gender, sex, race, ethnicity, religion, ability, economic class, or nationality.

Section 3: Officers shall be elected from the general membership. No one officer shall serve more than 2 years and not more than one year in any given office unless there are no qualified candidates who choose to run for election.

Section 4: All active members shall complete one community project—either as individuals or as a group—during membership. Community projects must focus on supporting minoritized communities with positive social impact and a focus on dismantling systems of oppression.

ARTICLE IV

Officers of the Organization

Section 1: The elected officers of this organization shall be as follows: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Section 2: The term of office shall be for the academic year; students should run with the intention and ability to serve for the entire academic year.

Section 3: Elections shall be held during the spring semester prior to the end of the academic year.

Section 4: It shall be the duty of the President to preside over meetings of the organization.

Section 5: It shall be the duty of the Vice President to serve in the capacity of President during an absence of the President.

Section 6: It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to administer the financial affairs of the organization and to present the status of finances at organization meetings for approval and inclusion in the minutes of the organization.

Section 7: It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep the minutes of the organization's meetings and to present them for approval; to be responsible for the correspondence of the organization, and to manage social media.

Section 8: It shall be the duty of all officers to represent the organization and its members in a respectful, inclusive, and considerate manner.

Section 9: The requirement for any officer position includes sophomore standing as well as an active membership.

Section 10: Officers in training may be implemented to shadow either President, Vice-President, Treasurer, or Secretary during the Spring semester before elections to create confidence, knowledge, and transparency within the society.

ARTICLE V Council

Section 1: The governing body of this society shall be known as the Council.

Section 2: Council shall be composed of positions as follows: 1) President; 2) Vice-President; 3) Secretary; and 4) Treasurer.

Section 3: Meetings of the Council shall be open to all voting members but only members of the Council will have a vote.

ARTICLE VI Meetings

Section 1: Meetings will be held once each month.

Section 2: Special meetings shall be called by email by the Secretary of the organization at least one week prior to the special meeting.

Section 3: The national Iota, Iota, Iota business meeting shall be conducted annually at the National Women's Studies Association conference.

Section 4: A motion may be proposed by any member of the organization. A vote will be held, and a simple majority will win.

ARTICLE VII Quorum

Section 1: A simple majority of the elected officials and members in attendance may transact business and shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII Amendments

Section 1: Amendments must be presented to the Executive Board for approval before they may be submitted to the organization for vote. Amendments must pertain to the purpose of the honor society.

Section 2: Provisions and amendment changes may be proposed by all organization members, including other chapters, and must first be approved by the Executive Committee, and then approved by the Faculty Advisor before changes can be ratified.

ARTICLE IX
Enacting Clause

Section 1: This Constitution shall become effective upon approval of the membership.

BYLAWS
The Appalachian State University
Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies Honor Society
Iota, Iota, Iota
Zeta Theta Chapter



ARTICLE I
Definition of Name

Section 1: The Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies Honor Society, Iota, Iota, Iota is named for the ancient goddesses Inanna, Ishtar, and Isis.

ARTICLE II
Description and Purpose

Section 1: This organization shall be a non-secret, egalitarian national society of scholars dedicated to excellence in Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies.

Section 2: It shall be the purpose of this society to promote interest in Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies, research in social problems affecting all women, men, and other genders, and other social and intellectual activities that will lead to improvement in the condition of all people.

Section 3: It shall be the goal of this society to create a supportive space for students to connect, research, and implement ideas around dismantling systems of oppression.

ARTICLE III
Membership

Section 1: Those persons who have been approved for membership shall be accorded the status of life member.

Section 2: Members who maintain active status within the chapter shall be granted the status of voting member.

Section 3: Alumni of Triota will have the opportunity to attend alumni events and activities that will be hosted by the chapter at Appalachian.

Section 4: Dues, if required, shall be determined by each respective chapter of Triota.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Section 1: Officers of this society shall be four in number and shall be elected by voting members by electronic ballot. The officers of this society shall be as follows: 1) President; 2) Vice President; 3) Secretary; and 4) Treasurer.

Section 2: Candidates shall be named by the nominating committee.

Section 3: Officers of this society shall be qualified for their positions by being voting members at the time of their candidacy for office and during their term of office.

Section 4: If the President is unable to serve a full term of office, the Vice-President shall automatically assume the office of President for the unexpired portion. If the Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer is unable to serve a full term of office, first right of refusal shall be given to the current officers. If a replacement cannot be secured, the officers will choose by a majority vote.

Section 5: The duties of the officers of this society shall be as follows:

- a. The **President** shall act as the chair of the Council at all meetings and perform all functions as executive officer of this society consistent with the policies of Council. The President shall handle administrative duties, such as processing new member applications, sending out welcome letters, and organizing officer meetings.
- b. The **Vice-President** shall coordinate at least one group community project, assist the President in administrative duties, assume the chair of the Council in the absence of the President, and fill the unexpired term of the President if that office is vacant, upon confirmation by the Council.

- c. The **Secretary** shall be the archivist for the society, assisting other officers as need arises. It is the duty of the secretary to record the meetings of the Council, manage social media sites, send email updates, and maintain and update historical records (e.g. member alumni contacts, event documentation, etc.).
- d. The **Treasurer** shall be the fiscal officer for the society, performing such duties as the Council may assign. It is the duty of the treasurer to receive, disburse, and otherwise properly manage and record all financial transactions for this society consistent with the policies of the Council.

Section 6: Additional officers desired by the Council shall be appointed by action of the Council.

Section 7: Removal of Officers:

- a. An officer may be removed from the office only for cause by a two-thirds vote of members of the Council present and voting either in person or by proxy at meeting where charges are studied by the Council.
- b. Cause for removal from office shall consist of such matters as persistent failure to perform duties of office.

ARTICLE V

Advisor

Section 1: The faculty advisor shall serve as a resource for feminist theory and practice, actively engage where assistance is needed or requested, assist members with accessing campus and community resources, and set up channels for mediation and conflict resolution in case of dispute.

Section 2: The faculty advisor will be elected by the Council through a majority vote. The faculty advisor will hold said position for a period of at least one year or until the advisor resigns or the Council votes in a new faculty advisor.

ARTICLE VI

Council

Section 1: The official actions and policies of this society shall be set by a plurality of members voting when a quorum is present at annual meetings or at specially called meetings, except for

proposed constitutional amendments which will require a two-thirds vote consistent with Article VIII.

Section 2: The Council shall receive reports of the nominating committee, review qualifications of nominees, approve the slate or return it to the nominating committee, and set dates by which the Secretary must send and receive ballots.

Section 3: The Council shall receive committee reports and proposed budgets, review recommendations, and vote to approve them.

ARTICLE VII

Meetings

Section 1: The annual membership meeting will include discussion of inherent contradictions of elitism in honor societies versus the inclusionary principles and values consistent with feminist thought.

ARTICLE VIII

Amendments

Section 1: Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by members of the Council or the Executive Committee. Proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to Council for study.

Section 2: Ratification of amendments to this Constitution shall require a three-fourths vote of chapter representatives casting ballots.

ARTICLE IX

Committees

Section 1: The Council will create standing and ad-hoc committees to conduct the affairs of the Society. This will include a nominating committee, and other committees as needed.

Section 2: The Executive Council will recruit committee members for one-year terms, which can be repeated as appropriate.
