**THETA TAU PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING FRATERNITY CONSTITUTION**

**ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION**

The name of this organization is Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity. This organization will utilize the abbreviated name “Theta Tau” in all publicity materials and correspondence. Theta Tau is affiliated with the national organization Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity operating in Austin, TX**.** The website of Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity is <http://www.thetatau.org/>.

**ARTICLE II. PURPOSE STATEMENT**

The purpose of Theta Tau is to develop and to maintain a high standard of professional interest among its members, and to unite them in a strong bond of fraternal fellowship.

**ARTICLE III. COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**

Upon approval by the Department of Student Activities and Involvement, Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, as well as all University of Florida regulations, policies, and procedures. Such compliance includes but is not limited to the University’s regulations related to Non-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment (including sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking), Hazing, Commercial Activity, and Student Leader Eligibility.

**ARTICLE IV. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS**

Section A. Non-Discrimination

Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity agrees that it will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act.

Section B. Sexual Harassment

Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity agrees that it will not engage in any activity that is unwelcome conduct of sexual nature that creates a hostile environment.

Section C. Hazing

Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity agrees that it will not initiate, support, or encourage any events or situations that recklessly, by design, or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health or safety of a student for any purpose including but not limited to initiation or admission into or affiliation with any student group or organization.

Section D. Responsibility to Report

If this organization becomes aware of any such conduct described in this article, Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity will report it immediately to Student Activities and Involvement, the Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, or the University’s Title IX Coordinator.

**ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in this organization is open to all enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-enrolled students, spouses, faculty, and staff may be associate members; however, they may not vote or hold office. All members and associate members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

**ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS**

Section A: The officers of Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity shall be: Regent, Vice Regent, Marshal, Scribe, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, Housing Liaison, Inner Guard, Outer Guard, and BEC Sam. Each officer shall be elected by majority secret vote of all the student members.

Part 1: The Regent shall preside at all meetings, initiate all new members, appoint all committees and non-elected officers, cosign all disbursements from the treasury, and fulfill such other obligations as may be imposed upon him by the fraternity.

Part 2: The Vice Regent shall take the place of the Regent when he is unable to officiate. The Vice Regent shall appoint committee chairs.

Part 3: The Marshal is responsible for overseeing the entire pledge process. He or she conducts each pledge meeting, administers and grades all pledge tests, and determines the schedule for all pledge events. The Marshal is the liaison between the pledges and brothers.

Part 4: The Scribe shall keep the fraternity records, keep minutes of the meetings, and perform such other duties as prescribed by the Regent or by the fraternity. The scribe is responsible for controlling the chapter listserv.

Part 5: The Treasurer shall keep the fraternity funds and financial records, collect fees and dues, make a monthly written report to the fraternity listing any delinquent members, and make disbursements with the Regent or Scribe as cosigner from the fraternity treasury.

Part 6: The Corresponding Secretary shall carry on such correspondence as required by the Regent or by the fraternity, and shall keep a current card file on all student and alumnus members of the fraternity.

Part 7: The Housing Liaison is to serve as the primary mode of communication between the housing corporation and the active chapter. He or she will report directly to the Board of Directors (BOD) on all chapter room discussions related to housing.

Part 8: The Inner Guard maintains order in the chapter room and admits late brothers into chapter meetings. He or she is responsible for keeping track of the Schraeder points throughout the semester.

Part 9: The Outer Guard maintains order in the chapter room and admits late brothers into the chapter meetings. He or she is responsible for maintaining and updating the Zeta Gamma Customs and Bylaws manual as well as the Tom Poekert Award packet.

Part 10: The BEC representative attends all Benton Engineering Council meetings and reports on all events and topics in the chapter

Section B: Officers shall assume their official duties at the close of the last general meeting of the academic year.

Part 1: The Regent, Vice Regent, Marshal, Scribe, Housing Liaison, Inner Guard, Outer Guard, and BEC Representative shall serve for a term of one semester and/or until their successors are elected/appointed.

Part 2: The Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary shall serve for a term of two semesters and/or until their successors are elected/appointed.

Section C: Any officer of Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity may be removed from office through the following process:

Part 1: When a charge is brought up against an officer’s character, it is usually referred to a committee of investigation or discipline, or to some standing committee, to report upon. The committee will investigate the matter and report to the fraternity members. This report need not go into details, but should contain their recommendations as to what action the fraternity should take, and should usually close with resolutions covering the case, so that there is no need for anyone to offer any additional resolutions upon it. The ordinary resolutions, where the officer is recommended to be impeached, are (1) to fix the time to which the fraternity shall adjourn; and (2) to instruct the clerk to cite the officer to appear before the fraternity at this adjourned meeting to show cause why he should not be impeached, upon following charges with should then be given.

Part 2: After charges are preferred against the officer, and the assembly has ordered that he be cited to appear for trial, he is theoretically under arrest, and is deprived of all the rights of his office until his case is disposed of. The clerk should send the accused a written notice to appear before the fraternity at the time appointed, and should at the same time furnish him with a copy of the charges. A failure to obey the summons is generally cause enough for impeachment.

Part 3: At the appointed meeting, what may be called the trial takes place. No officer shall be impeached by less than a two-thirds vote (quorum).

**ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS**

Section A. Election of officers shall be held during the last quarter of each semester.

Section B. If a vacant office arises during the term, a majority secret vote of all the student members will take place at the next meeting to fill the vacant office.

Section C:  Nominations for all officers will take place semesterly at the chapter meeting prior to the beginning of elections.  Any member may nominate any other member, including himself or herself. Nominations may also be made during the election chapter meeting(s) prior to closing of nominations.

Section D: Voting will occur by silent paper ballot and a simple majority vote is required to elect an officer. If there are more than two candidates running and no candidate receives a majority vote, there shall be an immediate run-off vote between the top two vote recipients.

Section E: The current Regent shall preside over the elections meeting and shall ensure that all candidates running for a particular office receive equal time and consideration.  Elections for officer positions that have not yet begun may be tabled to the next chapter meeting by the Regent in the interest of time.

Section F: The counting of ballots shall be conducted by the current Scribe.

**ARTICLE VIII. FACULTY ADVISOR**

Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity shall have an advisor that is a professor of the University of Florida. The professor shall oversee the fraternity’s activities to see that they are in accordance with the University of Florida’s policies concerning student organizations and that they follow the guidelines set forth by the national fraternity. Election of the faculty advisor may take place at any necessary time. The faculty advisor must receive a unanimous vote to be issued the position by its members. The faculty advisor’s term is one year.

**ARTICLE IX. FINANCE**

Each member must pay promptly all fees, dues, and special assessments established by the members of the fraternity, and the additional charges made by Theta Tau at such time as a chapter charter may be granted by that fraternity.  Each member shall pay all national dues are required by national bylaws, as well as any local dues that is required by the fraternity. These local dues will be voted upon twice at the beginning of each semester, and a two-thirds vote of student members is required to put these dues into effect. Dues shall not exceed $2000 per semester.

**ARTICLE X. DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION**

In the event this organization dissolves, all monies left in the treasury, after outstanding debts and claims have been paid, shall be donated to the Theta Tau Education Foundation. <http://www.thetatau.org/#_p.Foundation>

**ARTICLE XI: MEMBERSHIP CLARIFICATIONS**

Section A: Membership into this fraternity shall be limited to engineers at least eighteen years of age who possess the qualities of brotherhood, as determined by its student members, and who demonstrate a professional attitude beneficial to the organization. A younger student may be pledged.

Section B: Student membership in this fraternity shall be limited to students regularly enrolled and pursuing a bachelor’s or higher degree in engineering at the University of Florida. To be eligible for membership, a student must have the overall grade point average required for graduation. Upon graduation, a student member will be classed as an alumnus unless they continue in graduate school, in which case they may elect to remain a student member.

Section C: Any active member requesting early alumni status must submit and gain approval by the chapter/executive council of all required forms and paper work before or no later than the second chapter meeting of the semester in which they will be granted such alumni status. If this is not met by the student member, he or she will be considered fully active and responsible for all dues and chapter obligations for the semester.

**ARTICLE XII: NON-HAZING CLARIFICATION**

Theta Tau shall not conduct hazing activities. Hazing activities are defined as:

“Any action taken or situation created, intentionally, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol; paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities; wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts and buffoonery; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; and any other activities which are not consistent with fraternal law, ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution.”

**ARTICLE XIII: MISCELLANEOUS**

Section A. Each member, upon joining this fraternity, agrees to obey all parts of the Constitution.

Section B: Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity will adhere to the Student Guide and the laws, rules, and regulations governing the University of Florida and its students.

Section C. The constitution shall be reviewed and revised at least once a year prior to Fall Registration.

**ARTICLE XIV: AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

Amendments to these Bylaws may be adopted by three-fourths majority vote of all the student members at a meeting following the one in which they are first proposed in writing. Amendments are subject to final approval by the Department of Student Activities and Involvement.