**International Bylaws Chapter Bylaws Honor Society Bylaws**

This document outlines the differences between the three sets of Sigma bylaws:

* The International Bylaws serve the overall international organization.
* The chapter bylaws serve Sigma’s official chapters.
* A third set is based on the chapter bylaws and serves developing honor societies prior to official chartering.

Changes to the International Bylaws are voted on at each Biennial Convention during the House of Delegates, and are then ratified by the International Board of Directors. The chapter bylaws are adapted from the International Bylaws, and the honor society bylaws are adapted from the chapter bylaws. Each biennium, the new sets of chapter and honor society bylaws are made available in February or March following a Biennial Convention.

While the chapter bylaws are adapted from the International Bylaws, the two documents are not exact replicas of each other. Some sections of the International Bylaws do not appear in the chapter bylaws and likewise, some areas of the chapter bylaws do not appear in the International Bylaws. The same is true in comparing the chapter bylaws and the honor society bylaws.

Differences in each set of bylaws per article and section are highlighted throughout. International Bylaws differences are highlighted in yellow and chapter differences are highlighted in blue. Differences between the chapter bylaws and honor society bylaws are further distinguished—chapter bylaws are in blue and honor society bylaws differences are highlighted in pink.

***\*This document is based on the 2017-2019 bylaws.***

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| 2017-2019 International Bylaws **Article I. Name, Key, Seal and Headquarters**  The name of this organization shall be the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Inc. (Sigma Theta Tau International), and it shall have an official key and corporate seal. The Headquarters of the organization and the management of the organization shall be located at the Center for Nursing Scholarship in Indianapolis, Indiana. | **2017-2019 Chapter Bylaws**  **Article I. Name, Key and Seal**  The name of this chapter of the international honor society of nursing is Chapter of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Inc. located at  It shall use the official key and seal of the Society. | **2017-2019 Honor Society Bylaws**  **Article I. Name**  The name of this honor society of nursing is the (Institute(s) of Higher Education/Practice Setting(s)) Honor Society of Nursing. |
| **Article II. Purposes**  The purposes of this Society shall be to:   1. Recognize superior achievement. 2. Recognize the development of leadership qualities. 3. Foster high professional standards. 4. Encourage creative work. 5. Strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession. 6. Provide support, including funding, to other organizations exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. 7. Assist and engage in any other activities which are permitted to be carried on by organizations exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. | **Article II. Purposes**  The purposes of this Society shall be to:   1. Recognize superior achievement. 2. Recognize the development of leadership qualities. 3. Foster high professional standards. 4. Encourage creative work. 5. Strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession. 6. Provide support, including funding, to other organizations exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. 7. Assist and engage in any other activities which are permitted to be carried on by organizations exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. | **Article II. Purposes**  The purposes of this Society shall be to:   1. Recognize superior achievement. 2. Recognize the development of leadership qualities. 3. Foster high professional standards. 4. Encourage creative work. 5. Strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession. 6. Provide support, including funding, to other organizations exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. 7. Assist and engage in any other activities which are permitted to be carried on by organizations exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. |
|  | **Article III. Status**  **Section 1. Nonprofit Organization**  This organization is a nonprofit corporation and does not contemplate the distribution of gains, profits or dividends to the members.  **Section 2. Limitation of Activities**  No substantial part of the activities of this chapter shall consist of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the chapter shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. | **Article III. Status**  **Section 1. Nonprofit Organization**  This organization is a nonprofit corporation and does not contemplate the distribution of gains, profits or dividends to the members.  **Section 2. Limitation of Activities**  No substantial part of the activities of this honor society shall consist of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the honor society shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. |
| **Article III. Membership**  **Section 1. Categories of Membership**  a. Regular Member  b. Honorary Member | **Article IV. Membership**  **Section 1. Categories of Membership**   1. Regular Member | **Article IV. Membership**  **Section 1. Category of Membership**  a. Regular Member |
| **Article III. Membership**  **Section 2: Qualifications for Membership**   1. Sigma Theta Tau International does not discriminate. Candidates are qualified for membership so long as eligibility requirements are met. 2. Student candidates shall have demonstrated superior academic achievement, academic integrity and professional leadership potential. 3. Regular Member 4. Students in Basic Program    1. Definition – Basic program is defined as an accredited baccalaureate or equivalent nursing degree program that leads to the first professional nursing degree.    2. Academic Achievement – Students shall be eligible for membership if they have achieved excellence according to the standards approved by the Society.    3. Rank in class – Students shall rank not lower than the highest 35 percent of their class in scholarship.    4. Curriculum – Students shall have completed at least one-half of the required nursing curriculum.    5. Exceptions – Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the chapter’s governance committee following the guidelines adopted by the International Board of Directors.   2) Students in Graduate Programs   1. Definition – Graduate program is defined as an accredited program of graduate study in nursing including master, post-master, doctoral and post-doctoral. 2. Academic Achievement – Students shall be eligible for membership if they have achieved excellence according to the standards approved by the Society. 3. Curriculum – Students shall have completed a minimum of one-quarter of the required graduate curriculum. 4. Students in graduate programs who are registered nurses, legally recognized to practice in their country and have a minimum of a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent in any field, shall be eligible to be considered as a nurse leader at any point in the program. 5. Exceptions – Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the chapter’s governance committee following the guidelines adopted by the International Board of Directors.   3) Nurse Leader  A nurse leader, who is a registered nurse legally recognized to practice in his/her country with a minimum of a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent in any field, and who has demonstrated achievement in nursing, shall be eligible for membership.   1. Honorary Member   An honorary member is any person who is not eligible for regular membership in Sigma Theta Tau International but who has gained national and/or international recognition in the field of nursing or in any field contributing to nursing. | **Article IV. Membership**  **Section 2. Qualifications for Regular Membership**  a. Sigma Theta Tau International does not discriminate. Candidates are qualified for membership so long as eligibility requirements are met.  b. Student candidates shall have demonstrated superior academic achievement, academic integrity and professional leadership potential.  c. Regular Member  1) Students in Basic Program  a) Definition – Basic program is defined as an accredited baccalaureate or equivalent nursing degree program that leads to the first professional nursing degree.  b) Academic Achievement – Students shall be eligible for membership if they have achieved excellence according to the standards approved by the Society.  c) Rank in class – Students shall rank not lower than the highest 35 percent of their class in scholarship.  d) Curriculum – Students shall have completed at least one-half of the required nursing curriculum.  e) Exceptions – Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the chapter’s governance committee following the guidelines adopted by the International Board of Directors.  2) Students in Graduate Programs  a) Definition – Graduate program is defined as an accredited program of graduate study in nursing including master, post-master, doctoral and post-doctoral.  b) Academic Achievement – Students shall be eligible for membership if they have achieved excellence according to the standards approved by the Society.  c) Curriculum – Students shall have completed a minimum of one-quarter of the required graduate curriculum.  d) Students in graduate programs who are registered nurses, legally recognized to practice in their country and have a minimum of a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent in any field, shall be eligible to be considered as a nurse leader at any point in the program.  e) Exceptions – Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the chapter’s governance committee following the guidelines adopted by the International Board of Directors.  3) Nurse Leader  A nurse leader, who is a registered nurse, legally recognized to practice in his/her country with a minimum of a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent in any field and who has demonstrated achievement in nursing, shall be eligible for membership. | **Article IV. Membership**  **Section 2. Qualifications for Regular Membership**  a. Sigma Theta Tau International does not discriminate. Candidates are qualified for membership so long as eligibility requirements are met.  b. Student candidates shall have demonstrated superior academic achievement, academic integrity, and professional leadership potential.  c. Regular Member  1) Students in Basic Program  a) Definition – Basic program is defined as an accredited baccalaureate or equivalent nursing degree program which leads to the first professional nursing degree.  b) Academic Achievement – Students shall be eligible for membership if they have achieved excellence according to the standards approved by the Society.  c) Rank in class – Students shall rank not lower than the highest 35 percent of their class in scholarship.  d) Curriculum – Students shall have completed at least one-half of the required nursing curriculum.  e) Exceptions – Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the honor society’s governance committee following the guidelines adopted by the International Board of Directors.  2) Students in Graduate Programs  a) Definition – Graduate program is defined as an accredited program of graduate study in nursing including master, post-master, doctoral, and post-doctoral.  b) Academic Achievement – Students shall be eligible for membership if they have achieved excellence according to the standards approved by the Society.  c) Curriculum – Students shall have completed a minimum of one-quarter of the required graduate curriculum.  d) Students in graduate programs who are registered nurses, legally recognized to practice in their country and have a minimum of a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent in any field, shall be eligible to be considered as a nurse leader at any point in the program.  e) Exceptions – Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the honor society’s governance committee following the guidelines adopted by the International Board of Directors.  3) Nurse Leader  A nurse leader, who is a registered nurse, legally recognized to practice in his/her country with a minimum of a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent in any field, and who has demonstrated achievement in nursing, shall be eligible for membership. |
| **Article III. Membership**  **Section 3. Selection of Members**   1. Regular Members: 2. Student member candidates are required to be enrolled in an institution of higher education where the chapter is located to be considered for membership in that chapter. If there is no chapter at the institution of higher education in which the student attends, student member candidates may be considered for membership in another chapter. 3. The nurse leader candidate may be selected for membership by any chapter.   b. Honorary Members:   1. Honorary membership is awarded only by the Board of Directors of Sigma Theta Tau International. 2. Any active member, through a chapter or the Board of Directors, may nominate persons for honorary membership. 3. Each member of the Board of Directors shall have one vote for each nominee based on established criteria. A favorable vote of three-fourths of the Board of Directors shall be necessary for election to honorary membership. | **Article IV. Membership**  **Section 3. Selection of Members**   1. Regular Members   1) Student member candidates are required to be enrolled in an institution of higher education where the chapter is located to be considered for membership in that chapter. If there is no chapter at the institution of higher education in which the student attends, student member candidates may be considered for membership in another chapter.  2) The nurse leader candidate may be selected for membership by any chapter. | **Article IV. Membership**  **Section 3. Selection of Members**   1. Regular Members   1) Student member candidates are required to be enrolled in an institution of higher education where the honor society is located to be considered for membership in that honor society. If there is no honor society at the institution of higher education in which the student attends, student member candidates may be considered for membership in another honor society.  2) The nurse leader candidate may be selected for membership by any honor society. |
| **Article III. Membership**  **Section 4. Membership Status**  Members may be designated as honorary, active or inactive. Members may also formally request to discontinue membership. Active members pay annual chapter and international fees. Honorary members are designated as active without payment of fees. Inactive members have not paid annual chapter and international fees, but shall become active at any time by paying current renewal fees. | **Article IV. Membership**  **Section 4. Membership Status**  Members may be designated as active or inactive. Members may also formally request to discontinue membership. Active members pay annual chapter and international fees. Inactive members have not paid annual chapter and international fees, but shall become active at any time by paying current renewal fees. | **Article IV. Membership**  **Section 4. Membership Status**  Members may be designated as active or inactive. Members may also formally request to discontinue membership. Active members pay annual honor society fees. Inactive members have not paid annual honor society fees, but shall become active at any time by paying current renewal fees. |
| **Article III. Membership**  **Section 5. Rights and Responsibilities of Active Members**   1. Regular Members 2. Active regular members shall make a commitment to the purposes of the Society. 3. Active regular members shall receive:   a) official Society publications;  b) priority for education programs; and  c) priority for research funding.   1. Active regular members are eligible:   a) to vote (as outlined in the Sigma Theta Tau International Bylaws and Chapter Bylaws); and  b) to hold elective and appointive office.   1. Active regular members may hold membership in more than one chapter by remitting multiple chapter fees and the Society fee annually. 2. Active regular members may transfer from one chapter to another.   b. Honorary Members   1. Honorary members shall:   a) be inducted and awarded the official key in locations and times decided upon by the international board of directors;  b) receive the Society’s publications; and  c) be responsible for promoting and supporting the purposes of Sigma Theta Tau International. | **Article IV. Membership**  **Section 5. Rights and Responsibilities of Active Members**   1. Regular Members 2. Active regular members shall make a commitment to the purposes of the Society. 3. Active regular members shall receive: 4. official Society publications; 5. priority for education programs; and 6. priority for research funding. 7. Active regular members at the chapter level shall be eligible to: 8. receive all communications and announcements; 9. attend meetings; 10. participate in activities; 11. be considered for awards; 12. vote; and 13. hold elective and appointive office as outlined by the chapter bylaws.   4) Active regular members may hold membership in more than one chapter by remitting multiple chapter fees and the Society fee annually.  5) Active regular members may transfer from one chapter to another | **Article IV. Membership**  **Section 5. Rights and Responsibilities of Active Members**  a. Regular Members   1. Active regular members shall make a commitment to the purposes of the Society. 2. Active regular members at the honor society level shall be eligible to:   a) receive all communications and announcements;  b) attend meetings;  c) participate in activities;  d) be considered for awards;  e) vote; and  f) hold elective and appointive office as outlined by the honor society bylaws. |
| **Article III. Membership**  **Section 6. Revocation of Membership**  Membership in the Society may be revoked at any time by a chapter to which the member belongs for just cause and after due process. Revocation of membership shall be determined at a meeting of the chapter, at which a quorum is present, by at least three-fourths vote for revocation by those present. | **Article IV. Membership**  **Section 6. Revocation of Membership**  Membership in the Society may be revoked at any time by a chapter to which the member belongs for just cause and after due process. Revocation of membership shall be determined at a meeting of the chapter, at which a quorum is present, by at least three-fourths vote for revocation by those present. | **Article IV. Membership**  **Section 6. Revocation of Membership**  Membership in the society may be revoked at any time by an honor society to which the member belongs for just cause and after due process. Revocation of membership shall be determined at a meeting of the honor society, at which a quorum is present, by at least three-fourths vote for revocation by those present |
| **Article IV. Chapters**  **Section 1. Definition of Chapter**  A chapter is an organized division of nurse scholars and leaders that has met all of the requirements for establishment and has been granted a charter in accordance with the procedures required by the Society. An at-large chapter is an organized division of nurse scholars and leaders from two or more institutions of higher education or institutions of higher education and practice settings that has met all of the requirements for establishment and has been granted a charter in accordance with the procedures required by the Society.All chapters shall have regular members.  **Section 2. Organization of a Chapter**   1. Criteria for Chapter Development   A chapter may be established in an educational unit that is an integral part of an institution of higher education and that grants a basic degree, which leads to the first professional nursing degree, and/or a graduate nursing degree.The basic or graduate degree nursing program within the institution ofhigher education shall be accredited by a recognized accrediting body. In the event there is no nursing education accreditation system in place in the potential chapter’s country, evidence confirming the program’s quality shall be provided by the developing honor society. The group desiring a chapter shall petition the Sigma Theta Tau International Board of Directors and comply with approved policies and regulations.   1. Chapter Models 2. One (1) institution of higher education without a chapter   One institution of higher education meeting the criteria listed in Article IV. Section 2. a. establishes an honor society under the Society’s guidelines.   1. Two (2) or more institutions of higher education without a chapter   Two or more institutions of higher education, each meeting the criteria listed in Article IV. Section 2. a., establish an at-large honor society under the Society’s guidelines. The at-large honor society will apply to become an at-large chapter.   1. One (1) or more institutions of higher education and (1) or more practice settings   One or more institutions of higher education meeting the criteria listed in Article IV. Section 2.a. and one or more practice settings establish an at-large honor society under the Society’s guidelines. The at-large honor society will apply to become an at-large chapter.   1. Amending an established chapter’s charter: 2. An existing chapter may form an at-large chapter by adding one or more institutions of higher education or practice settings. 3. Two or more established chapters may merge to form an at-large chapter following established guidelines. 4. An established at-large chapter may further amend its charter to add one or more institutions of higher education or practice settings. 5. An existing at-large chapter may split into separate chapters following established guidelines. 6. Alumni Chapter   An established chapter may become an alumni chapter when an institution of higher education no longer offers an eligible degree. Active members must agree to meet all of the requirements for a chapter in good standing with the exception of inducting members a minimum of one time annually.  6) Other models may be considered by the Board of Directors.  **Section 3. Definition of Region**  Sigma Theta Tau International shall be organized into areas called regions.   1. Each region shall be composed of chapters. 2. Each region has a Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee chaired by the elected Regional Chapters Coordinator and composed of at least three members focusing on activities identified by the Regional Coordinator.   **Section 4. Powers, Duties, Responsibilities**   1. Each chapter shall function under bylaws, policies and regulations that are not in conflict with these bylaws, policies and regulations. 2. Chapters are independent, autonomous organizations affiliated with the Society. Chapters determine the amounts of their fees and assessments. Chapters have control of their income, expenses, contracts, accounting systems and internal reports. |  |  |
|  | **ARTICLE V. CHAPTER ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES**  **Section 1. Organization**  This chapter is a constituent of the organization of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International, Incorporated. It shall function under bylaws, policies and procedures which are not in conflict with those of the Society. |  |
| **Section 5. Chapter Officers**   1. Each chapter elects at least a chapter president, a vice president, a secretary, a treasurer and a counselor. Duties and terms of office shall be outlined in the chapter bylaws. 2. Officers shall assume their duties at a date determined by the chapter bylaws in the year in which they are elected. |  |  |
| **Section 6. Chapter Committees**  Each chapter shall have the following standing committees: an elected/appointed Governance Committee and an elected Leadership Succession Committee. |  |  |

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| **Section 7. Chapter Meetings**  Each chapter shall have at least one (1) business meeting each year. Each chapter will also sponsor at least two (2) events or programs supporting the purposes and goals of the Society. | **ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS**  **Section 1. Regular Meetings**  This chapter shall have at least one (1) business meeting and will sponsor at least two (2) events or programs that support the purposes and goals of the Society each year. The annual business meeting, where officers and committees present written annual reports to the membership, may be held in conjunction with an event or program.  **Section 2. Special Meetings**  Special meetings may be called by the president or upon request of six (6) members of the chapter. | **Article V. Meetings**  **Section 1. Regular Meetings**  This honor society shall have at least one (1) business meeting and will sponsor at least two (2) events or programs that support the purposes and goals of the Society each year. The annual business meeting, where officers and committees present written annual reports to the membership, may be held in conjunction with an event or program.  **Section 2. Special Meetings**  Special meetings may be called by the president or upon request of six (6) members of the honor society. |
| **Section 8. Chapter Responsibilities**  Chapters shall fulfill the following requirements:   1. Support the purposes of this Society. 2. Observe the provisions of these bylaws and comply with the Society's policies and regulations. 3. Participate in the biennial convention House of Delegates and other business brought forth before the House of Delegates during the term. 4. Select and induct eligible members a minimum of one time annually. 5. Meet all financial obligations. 6. File required reports according to established guidelines. | **ARTICLE V. CHAPTER ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES**  **Section 3. Chapter Responsibilities**  Chapters shall fulfill the following requirements:   1. Support the purposes of this Society. 2. Observe the provisions of these bylaws and comply with the Society's policies and regulations. 3. Participate in the biennial convention House of Delegates and other business brought forth before the House of Delegates during the term. 4. Select and induct eligible members a minimum of one time annually. 5. Meet all financial obligations. 6. File required reports according to established guidelines. |  |
| **Section 9. Probation, Revocation, Dissolution and Reinstatement of a Chapter**   1. A chapter may be placed on probation by the Board of Directors of Sigma Theta Tau International for failure to comply with these bylaws or policies and regulations. 2. A chapter may be removed from probation by action of the Board of Directors. 3. If a chapter fails to be removed from probation, the Board of Directors may revoke the charter of a chapter. 4. Any chapter may vote to dissolve itself. 5. Upon revocation of a charter, or dissolution of a chapter, all cash and other assets remaining after the chapter’s outstanding debts are paid should be returned to the Sigma Theta Tau International Foundation for Nursing, or any other appropriate non-profit organization approved by the chapter Board of Directors. Or, if a majority of the dissolved chapter’s members transfer to the same chapter, remaining funds may be contributed to that chapter. The chapter’s charter and coat-of-arms shall be returned to Headquarters. All members of the chapter have the opportunity to transfer their membership to a chapter of their choice. 6. A chapter may be reinstated following revocation of its charter by meeting all the requirements of a newly organizing chapter. If approved, the chapter shall receive a new charter but retain its original name. | **ARTICLE V. CHAPTER ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES**  **Section 4. Probation or Revocation**   1. This chapter may be placed on probation by the Board of Directors of Sigma Theta Tau International for failure to comply with the Sigma Theta Tau International Bylaws, this chapter's bylaws, or Society policies and regulations. 2. If a chapter fails to be removed from probation, the Board of Directors of Sigma Theta Tau International may revoke the charter of this chapter.   **Section 5. Removal from Probation and Reinstatement of a Chapter**  a. A chapter may be removed from probation by action of the Sigma Theta Tau International Board of Directors.  b. A chapter may be reinstated following revocation of its charter by meeting all the requirements of a newly organizing chapter. If approved, the chapter shall receive a new charter but retain its original name.  **Article XV. Dissolution**  The process for dissolution of a chapter of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International, Incorporated, shall be as follows:  **Section 1. Initial Action**   1. Chapter officers contact Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters to discuss the process of chapter dissolution or other potential options available to the chapter. 2. A resolution for dissolution of the chapter is presented at a regular meeting and must be signed by a majority of active (voting) members present at the meeting. 3. Chapter officers call a special meeting of the chapter to vote on the resolution for dissolution of the chapter. Notice of the special meeting must be provided at least thirty (30) days in advance. 4. All active members shall be provided the opportunity to vote by ballot, which may be delivered by electronic means. Dissolution of the chapter shall occur if three-fourths of voting members support the resolution.   **Section 2. If Chapter Approves Dissolution**   1. The chapter officers shall notify the Sigma Theta Tau International Board of Directors of the chapter's decision and take the necessary steps to conclude the affairs of the chapter in accordance with statutory requirements existing at the date such action is taken. 2. The chapter's charter and coat-of-arms shall be returned to Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters.   **Section 3. Disposition of Chapter Funds**   1. All cash and other assets remaining after the chapter's outstanding debts are paid should be returned to Sigma Theta Tau International Foundation for Nursing or any other appropriate non-profit organization approved by the chapter board of directors. Or, if a majority of the dissolved chapter's members transfer to the same chapter, remaining funds may be contributed to that chapter. The recipient organization shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue law or the governing law of that chapter's country.)   **Section 4. Options for Chapter Members**   1. If the chapter dissolves, all members have the opportunity to transfer their membership to a chapter of their choice. Those members not indicating their choice of where their membership should be transferred will be transferred to a chapter in the area by Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters. Anytime after this transfer by Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters, these members may transfer to any other chapter of their choice.   **Section 5. Reinstatement Following Dissolution**  a. A chapter may be reinstated following dissolution by meeting all the requirements of a newly organizing chapter. If approved, the chapter shall receive a new charter but retain its original name. | **Article XIV. Dissolution**  **Section 1. Initial Action**   1. A resolution for dissolution of the honor society shall be presented at a regular meeting and must be signed by a majority of active (voting) members present at the meeting. 2. The officers shall call a special meeting of the honor society to vote on the resolution for dissolution of the honor society. Notice of the special meeting must be provided at least 30 days in advance. 3. All active members shall be provided the opportunity to vote by ballot, which may be delivered by electronic means. Dissolution of the honor society shall occur if three-fourths of voting members support the resolution.   **Section 2. If Honor Society Approves Dissolution**  The officers shall take the necessary steps to conclude the affairs of the honor society in accordance with statutory requirements existing at the date such action is taken.  **Section 3. Disposition of Honor Society Funds**  After payment or making provision for payment of all debts and liabilities incurred by the honor society, the officers shall dispose of all assets of the honor society. The assets may be sent to the Sigma Theta Tau International Foundation for Nursing or any other appropriate non-profit organization approved by the honor society board of directors. [The recipient organization shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue law) or the governing law of that honor society’s country.] |
| **Article V. House of Delegates**  **Section 1. Membership**   1. Membership of the House of Delegates shall be composed of two (2) delegates from each chapter, the members of the Board of Directors, chairs of standing committees, the Regional Chapters Coordinators and the past presidents of the Society. 2. The term of the delegates shall be from the opening of the convention for which the delegate is selected to serve until the opening of the next convention.   **Section 2. Meetings**   1. The House of Delegates shall hold biennial conventions at a time and place determined by the Board of Directors of Sigma Theta Tau International. 2. The Board of Directors may call the House of Delegates into special sessions. 3. Each member of the House of Delegates has the right to cast one (1) vote; or, if any chapter has only one (1) delegate attending, that delegate shall have two (2) votes. 4. Three (3) members of the Board of Directors who are not officers, together with four (4) members of the Board of Directors who are officers of the Society and delegate representation from three-fourths of the chapters constitute a quorum.   **Section 3. Powers**   1. The legislative and judicial powers of the Society shall be vested in the House of Delegates. 2. The House of Delegates shall be vested with the following powers in addition to such other powers as may be given in these bylaws to: 3. Revise and amend the bylaws. 4. Elect officers and other members of the Board of Directors and elected committees. 5. Make nominations from the floor for officers and committees. 6. Adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its proceedings as may be determined by a two-thirds vote of the House of Delegates at biennial convention. 7. Receive and act upon recommendations and matters referred to it. 8. Receive reports and the Board of Directors’ approved biennial budget. 9. Levy special assessments when approved by a three-fourths vote. 10. Amend and repeal the Articles of   Incorporation.  **Section 4. Electronic Voting**   1. Chapter delegates may vote electronically on Articles of Incorporation. 2. The procedures and time limitations for electronic voting shall be set by the Board of Directors. | **ARTICLE V. CHAPTER ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES**  **Section 2. House of Delegates**   1. There shall be two (2) official delegates to represent the chapter at the House of Delegates of the Society. If the chapter is represented by only one (1) delegate, that delegate shall have two (2) votes. If the chapter has a nominee for an officer in the Society, it should consider sending this individual as a delegate to the House of Delegates. A delegate is required to be an active member of this chapter. 2. The term of the delegates shall be from the opening of the convention for which the delegate is selected to serve until the opening of the next convention. 3. Electronic voting   1) Chapter delegates may vote electronically on Articles of Incorporation.  2) The procedures and time limitations for electronic voting shall be set by the International Board of Directors. |  |
| **Article VI. Annual Meeting of Members**  **Section 1.** Annual meetings of members shall be on a date and at a place set by the Board of Directors of Sigma Theta Tau International.  **Section 2.** The agenda of the annual meeting is the presentation of annual reports and other appropriate items.  **Section 3.** Active members shall receive notice of annual meetings through publications and may register their intent to attend.  **Section 4.** In odd-numbered years, the annual meeting is the reporting session of the House of Delegates.  **Section 5.** In even-numbered years, the annual meeting is the reporting session of the Board of Directors and committee chairs’ meeting. |  |  |
| **Article VII. Board of Directors**  **Section 1. Membership**  The Board of Directors of Sigma Theta Tau International shall consist of the president, president-elect, vice president, secretary and treasurer comprising the five (5) elected officer directors, five (5) elected non-officer directors, the elected Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee Chair and the chief executive officer who is a non-voting director. | **ARTICLE VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  **Section 1. Membership**  The members of the Board of Directors of this chapter shall consist of the elected officers and one or more elected directors (optional). The elected members of the Board of Directors are the voting members. | **Article VI. Board of Directors**  **Section 1. Membership**  The members of the Board of Directors of this honor society shall consist of the elected officers and one or more elected directors (optional). The elected members of the Board of Directors are the voting members. |
| **Article VII. Board of Directors**  **Section 2. Focus**  The Board of Directors’ predominant focus is goal-setting, planning, policy development, resource development, corporate oversight, evaluation and decision-making. | **ARTICLE VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  **Section 2. Focus**  The elected members of the Board of Directors have the authority and responsibility to manage the chapter consistent with these bylaws and in an appropriate legal manner. | **Article VI. Board of Directors**  **Section 2. Focus**  The elected members of the Board of Directors have the authority and responsibility to manage the honor society consistent with these bylaws and in an appropriate legal manner. |
| **Article VII. Board of Directors**  **Section 3. Administration**  The property, business and corporate affairs of the Society shall be managed by the Board of Directors. The executive and administrative powers of the Society shall be vested in the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall supervise and manage the Society and its committees and publications; shall determine its policies or changes therein; shall carry forward its objectives and monitor the disbursements of its funds. The Board of Directors adopts such policies for the conduct of its business as shall be deemed advisable. |  |  |
| **Article VII. Board of Directors**  **Section 4. Functions**  The functions of the Board of Directors of Sigma Theta Tau International include:   1. Reviewing applications for the establishment of new chapters. 2. Granting approval for chapter charters and charter amendments. 3. Transacting necessary business of this Society between meetings of the House of Delegates. 4. Making and enforcing rules and regulations for its own actions. 5. Filling any vacancy on the Board of Directors or on a committee occurring between meetings of the House of Delegates, except for the office of president. These appointments terminate at the following meeting of the House of Delegates. 6. Overseeing elected committees, board advisory councils and board task forces. 7. Ratifying changes in the bylaws of the Society when approved by the House of Delegates, as provided in Article XIV. Amendments to Bylaws**.** 8. Revoking the charter of a chapter. 9. Adjusting the fees of the Society in accordance with Article XI. Finance, Section 8. 10. Exercising fiduciary responsibilities including adopting a budget, setting the appropriate bonding level and selecting the auditor. 11. Investigating and recommending to the House of Delegates any matter pertaining to the welfare of this Society. 12. Electing persons for honorary membership. 13. Appointing a chief executive officer. 14. Submitting an annual report to chapters and a biennial report to the House of Delegates. 15. Deciding appeals concerning revocation of membership. 16. Providing criteria for affiliate relationships and granting affiliation to legally organized groups. | **ARTICLE VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  **Section 3. Functions**   1. Carry forward the Society's objectives. 2. Manage the business and fiscal affairs of the chapter. 3. Monitor the income and disbursement of funds. 4. Make policies for its own actions and the actions of its committees. 5. Appoint chairs of elected committees and appoint members and chairs of non-elected committees. 6. Oversee elected committees, board advisory councils and board task forces. 7. Supervise and manage the committees and publications. 8. Act as a liaison between the chapter and institution of higher education or practice setting. 9. Assure appropriate eligibility process for selection of candidates for membership. 10. Assure that the chapter fulfills the requirements of the Society. | **Article VI. Board of Directors**  **Section 3. Functions**   1. Carry forward the Society's objectives. 2. Manage the business and fiscal affairs of the honor society. 3. Monitor the income and disbursement of funds. 4. Make policies for its own actions and the actions of its committees. 5. Appoint chairs of elected committees and appoint members and chairs of non-elected committees. 6. Oversee elected committees, board advisory councils and board task forces. 7. Supervise and manage the committees and publications. 8. Act as a liaison between the honor society and institution of higher education or practice setting. 9. Assure appropriate eligibility process for selection of candidates for membership. 10. Assure that the honor society fulfills the requirements of the Society. |
| **Article VII. Board of Directors**  **Section 5. Meetings**   1. The Board of Directors of Sigma Theta Tau International shall meet as necessary to conduct the business of the Society between meetings of the House of Delegates. 2. Three (3) members of the Board of Directors who are non-officers together with four (4) members of the Board of Directors who are officers shall constitute a quorum. | **ARTICLE VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  **Section 4. Meetings**  The Board of Directors of this chapter shall meet as necessary to conduct the business between meetings of the general membership.  **ARTICLE XII. QUORUM**  **Section 2. Board of Directors**  A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of three (3) members. | **Article VI. Board of Directors**  **Section 4. Meetings**  The Board of Directors of this honor society shall meet as necessary to conduct the business between meetings of the general membership. |
| **Article VII. Board of Directors**  **Section 6. Removing an International Board of Director Member from Office**  A member of the board of directors who demonstrates behavior, as determined by the Board of Directors, that is not consistent with the mission, values or expectations of the honor society may be removed by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the remaining members of the board, provided that notice of the intent to take such action is given to all board members at least 30 days in advance of the regular or special meeting at which the motion to remove is introduced. Such board member shall have the right to be present and to speak on his/her behalf, but shall not be allowed to be present during deliberation nor to vote. Voting shall be by ballot, which may be delivered electronically if a face-to-face meeting is not possible. | **ARTICLE VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  **Section 5. Removing a Board of Director Member from Office**  A member of the Board of Directors who demonstrates behavior, as determined by the Board of Directors, that is not consistent with the mission, values or expectations of the honor society may be removed by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the remaining members of the board, provided that notice of the intent to take such action is given to all board members at least 30 days in advance of the regular or special meeting at which the motion to remove is introduced. Such board member shall have the right to be present and to speak on his/her behalf but shall not be allowed to be present during deliberation nor to vote. Voting shall be by ballot, which may be delivered electronically if a face-to-face meeting is not possible. | **Article VI. Board of Directors**  **Section 5. Removing a Board of Director Member from Office**  A member of the board of directors who demonstrates behavior, as determined by the Board of Directors, that is not consistent with the mission, values or expectations of the honor society may be removed by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the remaining members of the board, provided that notice of the intent to take such action is given to all board members at least 30 days in advance of the regular or special meeting at which the motion to remove is introduced. Such board member shall have the right to be present and to speak on his/her behalf, but shall not be allowed to be present during deliberation nor to vote. Voting shall be by ballot, which may be delivered electronically if a face-to-face meeting is not possible. |
| **Article VIII. Officers**  **Section 1. Titles**  The officers of this Society are required to be regular members of Sigma Theta Tau International. The elected officers of the Society shall be: the president, the president-elect, the vice president, the secretary and the treasurer. | **ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS**  **Section 1. Titles**   1. The officers of this chapter shall be: president, president-elect (optional), vice president (at-large chapters may have one vice president representing each institution of higher education and practice setting), secretary, treasurer and counselor (at-large chapters shall have one or more counselors from each institution of higher education and practice setting). 2. The president, with the approval of the Board of Directors, when appropriate, shall appoint such other persons as may be necessary to conduct the business of the chapter. | **Article VII. Officers**  **Section 1. Titles**   1. The officers of this honor society shall be: president, president-elect (optional), vice president (at-large honor societies may have one vice president representing each institution of higher education and practice setting), secretary, treasurer, and counselor (at-large honor societies shall have one or more counselors from each institution of higher education and practice setting). 2. The president, with the approval of the Board of Directors, when appropriate, shall appoint such other persons as may be necessary to conduct the business of the honor society. |
|  | **ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS**  **Section 2. Vacancies**  The vice president fills the vacancy of president (at-large chapters shall designate a vice president to fill such vacancies); other offices are filled by appointment of the Board of Directors until the next election. | **Article VII. Officers**  **Section 2. Vacancies**  The vice president fills the vacancy of president (at-large honor societies shall designate a vice president to fill such vacancies); other offices are filled by appointment of the Board of Directors until the next election. |
| **Article VIII. Officers**  **Section 2. Duties**  The duties of the officers shall be as follows:   1. The officers of the Society constitute the executive committee. 2. The executive committee shall conduct essential business of the organization in the interim between Board of Directors meetings as authorized by the Board of Directors. 3. The president shall be the presiding officer and shall administer all business of the Society as provided for by the bylaws. 4. The vice president shall perform the duties of the president in the president’s absence. In the event of the president vacating office during the term, the vice president shall succeed into the presidency until the president-elect takes office at the next meeting of the House of Delegates. 5. The secretary shall serve as the corporate secretary for the Society and fulfill all duties authorized by the Board of Directors. 6. The treasurer shall be the corporate treasurer and fulfill all duties authorized by the Board of Directors. | **ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS**  **Section 3. Duties**  Each officer shall submit a report at each Board of Directors meeting and to members at the annual business meeting. Additionally, the president and treasurer are responsible for submitting required chapter reports to Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters.  The specific duties of the chapter officers shall be as follows and as outlined in the chapter’s policy and procedure manual:   1. The president shall be the executive officer and shall administer all business of the Society as provided for by the bylaws. The president serves as chief representative of the chapter in inter-chapter activities and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except Leadership Succession Committee. 2. The president-elect (optional) shall succeed into the presidency at the end of the term of office and shall promote the purposes of the Society. 3. The vice president shall perform the duties of the president in the president's absence. The vice president, or designee, shall oversee the planning of at least two (2) chapter programs/events annually. (In an at-large chapter, a designated vice president shall perform these duties.) 4. The secretary shall prepare and distribute meeting minutes and correspondence. 5. The treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds of this chapter and may be bonded in an amount equal to three-fourths of the worth of the chapter. The treasurer shall propose a budget to the board. 6. A counselor shall be a member of the faculty at the institution of higher education where the chapter is located, with the exception of counselors within Alumni chapters or practice settings who oversee Nurse Leader inductions and who are not required to be faculty. | **Article VII. Officers**  **Section 3. Duties**  Each officer shall submit a report at each Board of Directors meeting and to members at the annual business meeting. Additionally, the president and treasurer are responsible for submitting required honor society reports to Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters.  The specific duties of the honor society officers shall be as follows and as outlined in the honor society’s policy and procedure manual:   1. The president shall be the executive officer and shall administer all business of the Society as provided for by the bylaws. The president serves as chief representative of the honor society in inter-honor society activities, and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except Leadership Succession Committee. 2. The president-elect (optional) shall succeed into the presidency at the end of the term of office and shall promote the purposes of the Society. 3. The vice president shall perform the duties of the president in the president's absence. The vice president, or designee, shall oversee the planning of at least two (2) honor society programs/events annually. (In an at-large honor society a designated vice president shall perform these duties.) 4. The secretary shall prepare and distribute meeting minutes and correspondence. 5. The treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds of this honor society and may be bonded in an amount equal to three-fourths of the worth of the honor society. The treasurer shall propose a budget to the board. 6. A counselor shall be a member of the faculty at the institution of higher education where the honor society is located, with the exception of counselors within practice settings who oversee Nurse Leader inductions and who are not required to be faculty. |
| **Article IX. Elections**  **Section 1. Elections**  Elections shall take place at biennial House of Delegates meetings. | **ARTICLE IX. ELECTIONS**  **Section 1. Elections**  Elections shall be held annually by ballot, by mail, or by electronic means. | **Article VIII. Elections**  **Section 1. Elections**  Elections shall be held annually by ballot, by mail, or by electronic means. |
| **Article IX. Elections**  **Section 2. Positions**  Elected positions shall be the five (5) officer directors; five (5) non-officer directors; the Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee Chair; and members of Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee, the Governance Committee and Leadership Succession Committee. | **Article IX. Elections**  **Section 2. Positions**  Only active regular members of the chapter can be considered for elected offices or appointed positions.  Chapter officers, directors (optional) and members of the Leadership Succession Committee shall be elected. Members of the Governance Committee may be elected by the chapter membership or appointed by the elected officers | **Article VIII. Elections**  **Section 2. Positions**  Only active regular members of the honor society can be considered for elected offices or appointed positions.  Honor society officers, directors (optional) and members of the Leadership Succession Committee shall be elected. Members of the Governance Committee may be elected by the honor society membership or appointed by the elected officers. |
| **Article IX. Elections**  **Section 3. Vote**   1. A majority vote shall elect officers. 2. A plurality vote shall elect the non-officer members of the Board of Directors and elected committee members. 3. In the event of a tie, the election shall be determined by lot. | **ARTICLE IX. ELECTIONS**  **Section 3. Vote**  a. A majority vote shall elect officers.  b. A plurality vote shall elect the non-officer members of the Board of Directors, Leadership Succession Committee and members of the Governance Committee, if elected.  c. When there are more than two (2) candidates running for the same office, the candidate with the highest number of votes wins the election.  d. In the event of a tie, the election shall be determined by lot. | **Article VIII. Elections**  **Section 3. Vote**   1. A majority vote shall elect officers. 2. A plurality vote shall elect the non-officer members of the Board of Directors, Leadership Succession Committee and members of the Governance Committee, if elected. 3. When there are more than two (2) candidates running for the same office, the candidate with the highest number of votes wins the election. 4. In the event of a tie, the election shall be determined by lot. |
| **Article IX. Elections**  **Section 4. Terms**  Members shall hold no more than one elected office at a time. A member holding an elected position who has served more than half a term in that position is considered to have served a full term.  a. Officer Directors   1. The president-elect will be elected for a term of two (2) years or until a successor is elected and assumes office, and after which shall succeed to a two-year term as president. 2. The vice president will be elected for a term of two (2) years or until a successor is elected and assumes office. 3. The secretary and treasurer will each be elected for a term of four (4) years or until their successors are elected and assume office. Terms shall be staggered so that the secretary is elected in the same biennium as two non-officer directors and treasurer is elected in the same biennium as three non-officer directors. 4. The terms of office shall begin at the close of the meeting at which the elections take place. The vice president may serve a maximum of two (2) consecutive two-year (2-year) terms and the secretary and treasurer may serve a maximum of one (1) four-year (4-year) term after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer director except as president-elect.   b. Non-Officer Directors  1) The five (5) non-officer directors will be elected for a term of four (4) years or until their successors are elected and assume office. Terms shall be staggered so that three non-officer directors are elected in one biennium and two non-officer directors in the following biennium.  2) Non-officer directors may serve a maximum of one (1) term on the Board of Directors, except in the case of a non-officer director who is elected president-elect.  3) The Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee Chair shall be elected each biennium for a two-year (2-year) term and may not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms on the Board as Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee Chair.   1. Committees   A committee member may not serve longer than six (6) consecutive years.  1) The Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee members’ term of office shall be two (2) years.  2) Two (2) members of the Governance Committee  shall be elected each biennium for a four-year (4-year) term, and three (3) members of the Governance Committee shall be elected each biennium for a two-year (2-year) term.  3) Three (3) members of the Leadership Succession Committee shall be elected each biennium for a four-year (4-year) term, and four (4) members of the Leadership Succession Committee shall be elected each biennium for a two-year (2-year) term. | **ARTICLE IX. ELECTIONS**  **Section 4. Terms**  a. The length of the term of all officers is two (2) years.  b. Terms of office are staggered so that all officers, directors and the Governance and Leadership Succession Committee members do not end their terms at the same time.  c. A chapter may elect a president-elect for a one-year (1-year) term. This term shall occur during the second year of the current president. The president-elect shall then succeed to president for two (2) years. | **Article VIII. Elections**  **Section 4. Terms**   1. The length of the term of all officers is two (2) years. 2. Terms of office are staggered so that all officers, directors and the Governance and Leadership Succession Committee members do not end their terms at the same time. 3. An honor society may elect a president-elect for a one-year (1-year) term. This term shall occur during the second year of the current president. The president-elect shall then succeed to president for two (2) years. |
| **Article X. Committees**  **Section 1. Standing Committees**   1. The standing committees shall be: Governance Committee, Leadership Succession Committee and Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee. 2. Each standing committee will provide consultation to chapters as congruent with its mission. 3. The president and chief executive officer are non-voting, ex-officio members of all committees except the Leadership Succession Committee. 4. Leadership Succession Committee and Governance Committee chairs are appointed by the president. 5. Each standing committee chair shall present a biennial report to the Board of Directors and send an activity report to each Board of Directors meeting. 6. A quorum shall be a majority of members on the committee. 7. A majority vote constitutes approval. | **ARTICLE X. COMMITTEES**  **Section 1. Standing Committees**   1. The standing committees shall be: Governance Committee, Leadership Succession Committee, and others if desired. 2. The term of office shall be two (2) years. A member may be reappointed or elected for a second consecutive term, except for members of the Leadership Succession Committee, who may serve a maximum of two (2) years and are elected according to Article IX. Elections Section 4. 3. Each standing committee shall present a report to the business meetings of the Board of Directors and an annual report to the membership at the annual business meeting. 4. Each committee prepares, reviews and makes recommendations regarding policies corresponding to its area of responsibility for Board of Directors approval. | **Article IX. Committees**  **Section 1. Standing Committees**   1. The standing committees shall be: Governance Committee and Leadership Succession Committee, and others if desired. 2. The term of office shall be two (2) years. A member may be reappointed or elected for a second consecutive term, except for members of the Leadership Succession Committee, who may serve a maximum of two (2) years and are elected according to Article VIII. Elections Section 4. 3. Each standing committee shall present a report to the business meetings of the Board of Directors and a report to the membership at the annual business meeting. 4. Each committee prepares, reviews and makes recommendations regarding policies corresponding to its area of responsibility for Board of Directors approval. |
| **Article X. Committees**  **Section 2. Governance**   1. Mission – The Governance Committee shall oversee bylaws compliance, make recommendations for bylaws changes, and oversee member and chapter eligibility issues. 2. Membership – The Governance Committee shall consist of at least seven (7) elected members. | **ARTICLE X. COMMITTEES**  **Section 2. Governance Committee**   1. The Governance Committee shall oversee bylaws compliance, make recommendations for bylaws changes and oversee member and chapter eligibility issues. 2. The Governance Committee shall consist of at least three (3) elected/appointed members and the elected counselor. The president shall appoint a chair of the committee from those elected/appointed. | **Article IX. Committees**  **Section 2. Governance Committee**   1. The Governance Committee shall oversee bylaws compliance, make recommendations for bylaws changes and oversee member and honor society eligibility issues. 2. The Governance Committee shall consist of at least three (3) elected/appointed members and the elected counselor. The president shall appoint a chair of the committee from those elected/appointed. |
| **Article X. Committees**  **Section 3. Leadership Succession Committee**   1. Mission – The Leadership Succession Committee shall develop members in organizational leadership roles across the span of their careers and mentor members to assume organizational board and officer positions at all levels of organizations. The committee shall select nominees and prepare the biennial ballot. The ballot will be sent to the Board of Directors of Sigma Theta Tau International at least two (2) months prior to the biennial meeting and to the chapters at least one (1) month prior to this meeting. 2. Membership – The Leadership Succession Committee shall consist of ten (10) elected members. 3. The Leadership Succession Committee members shall be ineligible for any elected office on the ballot prepared by the Committee. | **Article X. Committees**  **Section 3. Leadership Succession Committee**   1. Mission – The Leadership Succession Committee shall develop members in organizational leadership roles across the span of their careers, and mentor members to assume organizational board and officer positions at all levels of the organization. The committee shall select nominees and prepare the ballot. The ballot will be sent to the Board of Directors at least four (4) weeks prior to a scheduled election. 2. Membership – The Leadership Succession Committee shall consist of three (3) elected members. The president shall appoint a chair of the committee from those elected. 3. The Leadership Succession Committee members shall not be eligible for any elected office of the current ballot. | **Article IX. Committees**  **Section 3. Leadership Succession Committee**   1. Mission – The Leadership Succession Committee shall develop members in organizational leadership roles across the span of their careers, and mentor members to assume organizational board and officer positions at all levels of the organization. The committee shall select nominees and prepare the ballot. The ballot will be sent to the Board of Directors at least four (4) weeks prior to a scheduled election. 2. Membership – The Leadership Succession Committee shall consist of three (3) elected members. The president shall appoint a chair of the committee from those elected. 3. The Leadership Succession Committee members shall not be eligible for any elected office of the current ballot. |
| **Article X. Committees**  **Section 4. Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee**   1. Mission – The Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee shall facilitate the work of the chapter leaders by advancing initiatives that meet the needs of the chapters and fulfill the mission of the Society. 2. Membership – The Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee shall consist of the chair and each region’s Regional Chapters Coordinator, elected by the delegates at the meeting of the House of Delegates. Delegates from each region shall elect their Regional Chapters Coordinator at the House of Delegates. Each Regional Chapters Coordinator serves as chair of the Regional Committee appointed in his/her respective region. |  |  |
|  | **Article X. Committees**  **Section 4. Additional Standing Committees**  Additional standing committees, advisory councils, and task forces may be appointed by the Board of Directors if deemed appropriate. The purpose of these groups will be to carry out the work of the chapter. | **Article IX. Committees**  **Section 4. Additional Standing Committees**  Additional standing committees, advisory councils, and task forces may be appointed by the Board of Directors if deemed appropriate. The purpose of these groups will be to carry out the work of the honor society. |
| **Article X. Committees**  **Section 5. Board Advisory Councils**   1. Mission – Board Advisory Councils shall inform the Board of current and future issues, directions and priorities of the Society. 2. Membership – Board Advisory Councils shall be appointed by the Board of Directors for a term through the close of the biennial convention unless reappointed. | **Article X. Committees**  **Section 5. Board Advisory Councils**   1. Mission – Board Advisory Councils shall inform the board of current and future issues, directions and priorities of the chapter. 2. Membership – Board Advisory Councils shall be appointed by the Board of Directors for a term through the next chapter election unless reappointed. | **Article IX. Committees**  **Section 5. Board Advisory Councils**   1. Mission – Board Advisory Councils shall inform the board of current and future issues, directions, and priorities of the honor society. 2. Membership – Board Advisory Councils shall be appointed by the Board of Directors for a term through the next honor society election unless reappointed. |
| **Article X. Committees**  **Section 6. Task Forces**   1. Mission – Task Forces are formed to complete an assigned task within a specified time frame. 2. Membership – Task Forces are formed by the Board, Standing Committees, Board Advisory Councils and staff. They are made up of members who bring expertise, interest and commitment to complete an assigned task. | **Article X. Committees**   1. Mission – Task Forces are formed to complete an assigned task within a specified time frame. 2. Membership – Task Forces are formed by the Board, Standing Committees and Board Advisory Councils. They are made up of members who bring expertise, interest and commitment to complete an assigned task. | **ARTICLE IX. COMMITTEES**  **Section 6. Task Forces**   1. Mission – Task Forces are formed to complete an assigned task within a specified time frame. 2. Membership – Task Forces are formed by the Board, Standing Committees and Advisory Councils. They are made up of members who bring expertise, interest, and commitment to complete an assigned task. |
| **Article XI. Finance**  **Section 1. Fiscal Year**  The fiscal year shall be July 1 through June 30. | **ARTICLE XI. FINANCE**  **Section 1. Fiscal Year**  The fiscal year shall be July 1 through June 30. | **Article X. Finance**  **Section 1. Fiscal Year**  The fiscal year shall be July 1 through June 30. |
|  |  | **Article X. Finance**  **Section 2. Assets**  All assets of the honor society shall become assets of the chapter when a charter is granted. |
| **Article XI. Finance**  **Section 2. Chapter Fees and Assessments**   1. The annual fee shall be collected from each chapter each fiscal year. For new chapters, fees shall be collected during the year following the granting of a charter. This fee will be based on the number of regular members excluding inactive members in the chapter for the prior membership year ending 30 June 30. 2. The House of Delegates may levy special assessments by a three-fourths vote. | **ARTICLE XI. FINANCE**  **Section 2. Chapter Fees and Assessments**   1. A fee shall be levied on this chapter annually, in accordance with the Sigma Theta Tau International Bylaws, Article XI, Section 2.a. 2. Special assessments may be levied on this chapter by the House of Delegates, by a three-fourths vote. |  |
| **Article XI. Finance**  **Section 3. Fees**   1. Membership Fee: Each member shall pay an annual fee to maintain active member benefits. 2. Induction Fee: Each new member shall pay a Society membership fee and a chapter induction fee as described in the chapter bylaws. This fee covers the cost of induction and active membership for one (1) twelve-month (12-month) period. | **ARTICLE XI. FINANCE**  **Section 4. Induction Fee**  Each new member shall pay a Society induction fee and a chapter induction fee as determined by the chapter Board of Directors. This shall entitle the new member to active membership with all its benefits from the date of induction for one (1) year to the member’s anniversary date of induction.  **Section 5. Renewal Fee**   1. Membership Status – Following the first year of membership, members are designated as active or inactive. Each member shall pay an annual renewal fee as designated by the chapter board of directors and the society renewal fee as designated by the International Board of Directors for active member benefits. 2. Retired members and full-time students are eligible to pay half of the renewal fee for regular members. 3. Renewal Fee Collection - Chapter and Society fees are collected by Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters unless another agreement has been negotiated with headquarters. | **Article X. Finance**  **Section 4. Induction Fee**  Each new member shall pay an honor society fee as determined by the honor society Board of Directors. This shall entitle the new member to active membership with all its benefits from the date of induction for one (1) year to the member’s anniversary date of induction.  **Section 5. Renewal Fee**   1. Membership Status – Following the first year of membership, members are designated as active or inactive. Each member shall pay an annual renewal fee as designated by the honor society Board of Directors for active member benefits. 2. Retired members and full-time students are eligible to pay half of the renewal fee for regular members. 3. Renewal Fee Collection – Honor society fees are collected by the honor society. |
| **Article XI. Finance**  **Section 4. Honorary Membership Fee**  There shall be no induction or renewal fee for an honorary member.  **Section 5. Expenses – Board of Directors**  The expenses for the members of the International Board of Directors shall be paid by the Society treasury when they attend the meetings of the House of Delegates or the meetings of the Board of Directors.  **Section 6. Expenses – Committee**  Authorized expenses of standing and special committees, board advisory councils and task forces shall be reimbursed by the Society treasury.  **Section 7. Expenses – Chartering of Chapters**  The Society treasury shall pay for the charter, coat-of-arms, book in which the membership roster is recorded and installing officer’s expenses at the time of the chartering of the new chapter. The chapter shall pay a chartering fee plus the cost of inscribing the names on the charter. |  |  |
| **Article XI. Finance**  **Section 8. Fee Changes**  Adjustments to the fee schedule shall be approved by the Sigma Theta Tau International Board of Directors. Fee schedule adjustments shall not occur more than once a biennium and shall not exceed the cumulative Consumer Price Index (CPI) percentage rate. Any adjustments, accompanied by rationale, will be provided to membership sixty (60) days in advance of the effective date. | **ARTICLE XI. FINANCE**  **Section 3. Induction and Renewal Fee Changes**  Adjustments to the fee schedule shall be approved by the chapter Board of Directors. Fee schedule adjustments shall not occur more than once a biennium and shall not exceed the cumulative Consumer Price Index (CPI) percentage rate. Any adjustments, accompanied by rationale, will be provided to membership sixty (60) days in advance of the effective date. | **Article X. Finance**  **Section 3. Induction and Renewal Fee Changes**  Adjustments to the fee schedule shall be approved by the honor society Board of Directors. Fee schedule adjustments shall not occur more than once a biennium and shall not exceed the cumulative Consumer Price Index (CPI) percentage rate. Any adjustments, accompanied by rationale, will be provided to membership sixty (60) days in advance of the effective date. |
|  | **ARTICLE XI. FINANCE**  **Section 6. Chapter Financial Responsibilities**  This chapter is an independent, autonomous organization affiliated with the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International, and Incorporated. The chapter determines the amounts of its fees and assessments. The chapter has control of its income, expenses, contracts, accounting system and internal reports. | **Article X. Finance**  **Section 6. Honor Society Financial Responsibilities**  This honor society is an independent, autonomous organization. The honor society determines the amounts of its fees and assessments. The honor society has control of its income, expenses, contracts, accounting system and internal reports. |
| **Article XII. Official Publications**  The Board of Directors shall authorize publication of an official journal and other publications as it deems appropriate according to policies and procedures established by the Board of Directors. |  |  |
|  | **ARTICLE XII. QUORUM**  **Section 1. Membership**  a. A quorum at a chapter business meeting shall consist of three (3) officers and seven (7) members.  b. In the event of a revocation of membership vote, thirty (30) days’ notice of the meeting with the revocation issue announced is required and a quorum shall consist of three (3) officers and 10% of the active membership of the chapter in attendance. | **Article XI. Quorum**  **Section 1. Membership**  a. A quorum at an honor society business meeting shall consist of three (3) officers and seven (7) members.  b. In the event of a revocation of membership vote, 30 days’ notice of the meeting with the revocation issue announced is required and a quorum shall consist of three (3) officers and 10% of the active membership of the honor society in attendance. |
|  | **Section 2. Board of Directors**  A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of three (3) members. | **Section 2. Board of Directors**  A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of three (3) members. |
| **Article XIII. Parliamentary Authority**  The rules contained in the most recently published edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws or special rules of order of the Society. | **Article XIII. Parliamentary Authority**  The rules contained in the most recently published edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern this chapter in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws or special rules of the Society. | **Article XII. Parliamentary Authority**  The rules contained in the most recently published edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern this honor society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws or special rules of the Society. |
| **Article XIV. Amendments to Bylaws**  **Section 1. Amendments with Notice**  These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the House of Delegates by a three-fourths “yes” vote of members present and voting. All proposed amendments shall be in the possession of the secretary two (2) months preceding the biennial meeting of the House of Delegates. They shall be appended to the Call to Convention, which shall be sent out at least one (1) month in advance of the meeting. | **ARTICLE XIV. AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**  **Section 1. Amendments with Notice**  These bylaws may be amended by a three-fourths vote of the chapter members present and voting at any meeting of the chapter. Proposed amendments shall be in the hands of the chapter secretary at least forty-five (45) days before the date of the meeting and shall be appended to the call to the meeting sent thirty (30) days prior to the meeting. | **Article XIII. Amendments to Bylaws**  **Section 1. Amendments with Notice**  These bylaws may be amended by a three-fourths vote of the honor society members present and voting at any meeting of the honor society. Proposed amendments shall be in the hands of the honor society secretary at least forty-five (45) days before the date of the meeting and shall be appended to the call to the meeting sent thirty (30) days prior to the meeting. |
| **Article XIV. Amendments to Bylaws**  **Section 2. Amendments without Notice**  These bylaws may be amended by unanimous vote of the House of Delegates without previous notice. | **ARTICLE XIV. AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**  **Section 2. Amendments without Notice**  These bylaws may be amended by unanimous vote of the members present and voting at any scheduled meeting without previous notice. | **Article XIII. Amendments to Bylaws**  **Section 2. Amendments without Notice**  These bylaws may be amended by unanimous vote of the members present and voting at any scheduled meeting without previous notice. |
| **Article XIV. Amendments to Bylaws**  **Section 3. Revisions**  These bylaws may be revised only upon the authority of the House of Delegates. |  |  |
|  | **ARTICLE XIV. AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**  **Section 3. Chapter Bylaws Approval**  Bylaws shall be sent to Headquarters and reviewed according to policies set by the International Governance Committee. | **Article XIII. Amendments to Bylaws**  **Section 3. Honor Society Bylaws Approval**  Bylaws shall be sent to Headquarters and reviewed according to policies set by the International Governance Committee. |
| **Article XIV. Amendments to Bylaws**  **Section 4. Amendments**  Any amendments to these bylaws approved by the House of Delegates or editorial changes approved by the Board of Directors that are also applicable to the chapters shall be incorporated into the chapter bylaws. | **ARTICLE XIV. AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**  **Section 4. Sigma Theta Tau International Bylaws Amendments**  Any amendments to the Sigma Theta Tau International Bylaws approved by the House of Delegates or editorial changes approved by the Sigma Theta Tau International Board of Directors that are also applicable to the chapters shall be incorporated into the chapter bylaws. | **Article XIII. Amendments to Bylaws**  **Section 4. Sigma Theta Tau International Bylaws Amendments**  Any amendments to the Sigma Theta Tau International Bylaws approved by the House of Delegates or editorial changes approved by the Sigma Theta Tau International Board of Directors that are also applicable to the honor societies shall be incorporated into the honor society bylaws. |
| **Article XV. Amendments to Articles of Incorporation**  These Articles may be amended or repealed by a majority vote of the House of Delegates present and voting at any annual meeting of members of the Society. Notice of such changes is required to be sent in writing to delegates at least thirty (30) days before such meeting. Articles may also be amended or repealed by a majority of affirmative votes of delegates by a thirty (30) day electronic ballot. The actions of the delegates to amend these Articles must be approved by the Board of Directors. |  |  |
| **Article XVI. Dissolution**  A resolution for the dissolution of the Society shall be signed by a majority of active chapters entitled to vote and shall be presented at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Sigma Theta Tau International. The Board of Directors shall then call a special meeting of the House of Delegates for the purposes of considering and acting upon such resolution. If three-fourths of those Delegates present and voting shall vote for dissolution, the Board of Directors shall take the necessary steps to conclude the affairs of the Society in accordance with statutory requirements existing at the date such action is taken. After payment or making provision for payment of all debts and liabilities incurred by the Society, the Board of Directors shall dispose of all assets of the Society exclusively for the purposes of the Society to the American Nurses’ Foundation or other appropriate organization operated for educational or scientific purposes. The recipient organization or organizations shall at the time qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code for 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue Law). | **Article XV. Dissolution**  The process for dissolution of a chapter of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International, Incorporated, shall be as follows:  **Section 1. Initial Action**   1. Chapter officers contact Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters to discuss the process of chapter dissolution or other potential options available to the chapter. 2. A resolution for dissolution of the chapter is presented at a regular meeting and must be signed by a majority of active (voting) members present at the meeting. 3. Chapter officers call a special meeting of the chapter to vote on the resolution for dissolution of the chapter. Notice of the special meeting must be provided at least thirty (30) days in advance. 4. All active members shall be provided the opportunity to vote by ballot, which may be delivered by electronic means. Dissolution of the chapter shall occur if three-fourths of voting members support the resolution.   **Section 2. If Chapter Approves Dissolution**   1. The chapter officers shall notify the Sigma Theta Tau International Board of Directors of the chapter's decision and take the necessary steps to conclude the affairs of the chapter in accordance with statutory requirements existing at the date such action is taken. 2. The chapter's charter and coat-of-arms shall be returned to Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters.   **Section 3. Disposition of Chapter Funds**   1. All cash and other assets remaining after the chapter's outstanding debts are paid should be returned to Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters or any other appropriate non-profit organization approved by the chapter Board of Directors. Or, if a majority of the dissolved chapter's members transfer to the same chapter, remaining funds may be contributed to that chapter. The recipient organization shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue law or the governing law of that chapter's country.)   **Section 4. Options for Chapter Members**  If the chapter dissolves, all members have the opportunity to transfer their membership to a chapter of their choice. Those members not indicating their choice of where their membership should be transferred will be transferred to a chapter in the area by Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters. Anytime after this transfer by Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters, these members may transfer to any other chapter of their choice.  **Section 5. Reinstatement Following Dissolution**  A chapter may be reinstated following dissolution by meeting all the requirements of a newly organizing chapter. If approved, the chapter shall receive a new charter but retain its original name. | **Article XIV. Dissolution**  **Section 1. Initial Action**   1. A resolution for dissolution of the honor society shall be presented at a regular meeting and must be signed by a majority of active (voting) members present at the meeting. 2. The officers shall call a special meeting of the honor society to vote on the resolution for dissolution of the honor society. Notice of the special meeting must be provided at least 30 days in advance. 3. All active members shall be provided the opportunity to vote by ballot, which may be delivered by electronic means. Dissolution of the honor society shall occur if three-fourths of voting members support the resolution.   **Section 2. If Honor Society Approves Dissolution**  The officers shall take the necessary steps to conclude the affairs of the honor society in accordance with statutory requirements existing at the date such action is taken.  **Section 3. Disposition of Honor Society Funds**  After payment or making provision for payment of all debts and liabilities incurred by the honor society, the officers shall dispose of all assets of the honor society. The assets may be sent to Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters or any other appropriate non-profit organization approved by the honor society board of directors. [The recipient organization shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue law) or the governing law of that honor society’s country.] |
| **Article XVII. General Provisions**  Officers, directorsand employees shall be indemnified by the Society for any and all civil liabilities for conducting their official duties, except in circumstances and cases of conducting their duties in bad faith. |  |  |