

# PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL BYLAWS AMENDMENTS



Amendment #1	Article I. Name, Key, Seal and Headquarters	
Current Bylaws Wording	Proposed Changes	Wording If Adopted
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.	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 <b>organization is a nonprofit incorporated in the state of Indiana with headquarters located</b> of the organization and the management of the organization shall be located at the Center for Nursing Scholarship in Indianapolis, Indiana, <b>USA</b> .	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 organization is a nonprofit incorporated in the state of Indiana with headquarters located in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.
<b>Rationale:</b>	Revisions clarify that the organization is a nonprofit incorporated in the state of Indiana and removes unnecessary details regarding the organization’s building.	
<b>Impact on Chapters:</b>	None. This section of the bylaws is not present in the chapter bylaws.	

Amendment #2	Article IV. Chapters Section 2. Organization of a Chapter b. Chapter Models	
Current Bylaws Wording	Proposed Changes	Wording If Adopted
5) 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.	5) Alumni Chapter An established chapter may become an alumni chapter when an institution of higher education no longer offers an eligible degree. <del>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.</del>	5) Alumni Chapter An established chapter may become an alumni chapter when an institution of higher education no longer offers an eligible degree.
<b>Rationale:</b>	The induction of nurse leaders by alumni chapters is essential to maintain chapter viability.	
<b>Impact on Chapters:</b>	Alumni chapters will be required to continue to induct nurse leaders to meet the chapter responsibilities outlined in Article IV. Chapters, Section 8, which includes holding an annual induction.	

Amendment #3		Article V. House of Delegates Section 4. Electronic Voting	
Current Bylaws Wording		Proposed Changes	Wording If Adopted
<p>a. Chapter delegates may vote electronically on Articles of Incorporation.</p> <p>b. The procedures and time limitations for electronic voting shall be set by the Board of Directors.</p>		<p>a. Chapter delegates may vote electronically on Articles of Incorporation.</p> <p><b>b. If election voting cannot occur during the scheduled House of Delegates due to emergencies or other unforeseen circumstances, chapter delegates may vote electronically.</b></p> <p>c. The procedures and time limitations for electronic voting shall be set by the Board of Directors.</p>	<p>a. Chapter delegates may vote electronically on Articles of Incorporation.</p> <p>b. If election voting cannot occur during the scheduled House of Delegates due to emergencies or other unforeseen circumstances, chapter delegates may vote electronically.</p> <p>c. The procedures and time limitations for electronic voting shall be set by the Board of Directors.</p>
<b>Rationale:</b>	In the event that election voting cannot occur during the scheduled House of Delegates held at biennial conventions, chapter delegates may be convened via an electronic House of Delegates to vote. Convention interruptions could be due to a state of emergency (weather, terrorism, etc.) or unforeseen failures of the normal voting process. Should this be necessitated, delegates would be notified that an electronic vote will occur and voting links would be distributed via a third-party voting vendor. Voting would occur over the period of a few weeks to allow delegates adequate time to vote.		
<b>Impact on Chapters:</b>	No impact on chapter bylaws. In the event that election voting cannot occur at a biennial convention and must be conducted electronically, chapter delegates will be immediately notified and training for how to participate in online voting will be provided.		

Amendment #4		Article IX. Elections Section 4. Terms <i>Change section 3 to Sub-Section C, subsequent sub-sections to be renumbered.</i>	
Current Bylaws Wording		Proposed Changes	Wording If Adopted
<p>b. Non-Officer Directors</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>		<p>b. Non-Officer Directors</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>c.</b> 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.</p>	<p>b. Non-Officer Directors</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>c. 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.</p>
<b>Rationale:</b>	Revisions clarify that the Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee Chair is not a non-officer director. Changes are congruent with how the Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee Chair is referenced in other areas of the bylaws, such as Article VII. Board of Directors, Section 1. Membership.		
<b>Impact on Chapters:</b>	None. This section of the bylaws is not present in the chapter bylaws.		

Amendment #5		Article X. Committees Section 4. Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee	
Current Bylaws Wording		Proposed Changes	Wording If Adopted
<p>a. 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.</p> <p>b. 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.</p>		<p>a. 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.</p> <p>b. Membership — The Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee shall consist of <del>the chair and</del> 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.</p> <p><b>c. The committee shall be chaired by the elected Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee Chair.</b></p>	<p>a. 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.</p> <p>b. Membership — The Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee shall consist of 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.</p> <p>c. The committee shall be chaired by the elected Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee Chair.</p>
<b>Rationale:</b>	Revisions provide distinction between the Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee members and the chair and further clarify that, unlike other committees, this committee’s chair is separately, and specifically, elected to the role.		
<b>Impact on Chapters:</b>	None. This section of the bylaws is not present in the chapter bylaws.		

Amendment #6		Article X. Committees <i>Newly created Section 5, subsequent sections to be renumbered.</i>	
Current Bylaws Wording		Proposed Changes	Wording If Adopted
		<p><b>Section 5. Removing an Elected Standing Committee Member from Office</b></p> <p><b>An elected standing committee member 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 members of the board, provided that notice of the intent to take such action is given to the elected standing committee member and all board members at least 30 days in advance of the regular or special meeting at which the motion to remove is introduced. Such elected standing committee 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. Voting shall be by ballot, which may be delivered electronically if a face-to-face meeting is not possible.</b></p>	<p>Section 5. Removing an Elected Standing Committee Member from Office</p> <p>An elected standing committee member 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 members of the board, provided that notice of the intent to take such action is given to the elected standing committee member and all board members at least 30 days in advance of the regular or special meeting at which the motion to remove is introduced. Such elected standing committee 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. Voting shall be by ballot, which may be delivered electronically if a face-to-face meeting is not possible.</p>
<b>Rationale:</b>	The Sigma International Bylaws currently address the removal of a member of the International Board of Directors from office with cause in Article VII, Section 6. However, there is no mention of how such action would occur for elected standing committee members (Governance Committee, Leadership Succession Committee, Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee). The inserted text, which mirrors Article VII, Section 6, provides a clear process for these circumstances.		
<b>Impact on Chapters:</b>	Upon approval of this bylaws amendment, this text will be inserted into the chapter bylaws as a new Article X. Committees, Section 4.		