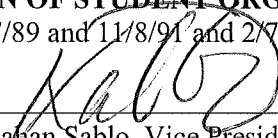
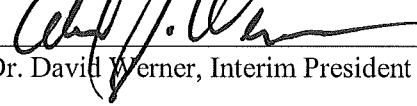


**EDINBORO UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA**

Policy: **UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION OF STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**  
Supersedes Policy No. A024, Dated 1/17/89 and 11/8/91 and 2/7/95

Policy No.: **A024**

Recommended for Approval by   
Dr. Kanan Sablo, Vice President for Student Affairs

Approved by  on 6/7/16  
Dr. David Werner, Interim President Effective Date

Review Date: As Required

**INTENT**

The purpose of this policy is to outline the procedures for student organization recognition.

**POLICY**

Recognized student organizations are entitled to the University's cooperation and assistance including (1) the use of Edinboro University facilities, (2) the use of student bulletin board space, (3) publicity of events and activities on University calendars, and (4) guidance and assistance in planning activities and events through the Campus Life Office and other University personnel.

**PROCEDURE**

Students are encouraged to develop organizations and interest groups according to the Procedures for Establishing Student Organizations and the Recognition Procedures set forth by Student Government Association (SGA).

**A. APPLICATION FOR RECOGNITION**

1. In order to apply for recognition as a student organization, the organization must contact the SGA Vice President for Procedure who will solicit background information, a proposed constitution, and the constitution of any organization with which it has a national affiliation. Also, any additional information or materials requested by the Campus Life Office or SGA must also be provided.
2. Upon receipt of an application for recognition, SGA and Campus Life will review the proposed constitution in preparation for an SGA vote.

**B. APPROVAL OF RECOGNITION**

1. After an organization has been approved by the SGA, the Director of Campus Life has 14 calendar days to issue an "objection to recognition" if a recognition concerns exist. This objection must be sent to both SGA and the organization applying for recognition. If no objection exists, the organization shall be immediately recognized.

2. In the event that both the Student Government Association and the Director of Campus Life object to recognition, recognition shall be denied. The rejected organization has 14 days to appeal to the Vice President for Student Affairs. The decision of the Vice President for Student Affairs is final.

#### C. RENEWAL OF RECOGNITION

To remain an "active" student organization each organization must annually register its officers and advisor with the Student Government Association. Failure to comply may result in the suspension of recognition.

Recognition of an organization should be reviewed on at least a revolving five year basis. The constitution of each organization must be reviewed by the Vice President for Procedure prior to the expiration of the initial five year period or last review. A review may, however, be initiated at any time by the organization, SGA officers, advisor, or Director of Campus Life.

#### D. NULLIFICATION OF RECOGNITION

After a formal review, if it is felt that a recognized student organization has changed its purpose or method of operation so as to alter the essential nature of the organization, the SGA may vote to "nullify recognition." Prior to this vote there must be a formal hearing with the organization that results in a recommendation for nullification.

#### E. CHANGES IN RECOGNITION PROCEDURES

The University reserves the right to issue, modify and void rules and regulations under which student organizations may apply for recognition and/or operate. If any such changes are contrary to organizational constitutions, the contrary portions of such constitutions will be null and void. However, any organization aggrieved by such action may appeal to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs for a hearing on the grounds that the change causes the organization an undue hardship or was unreasonable. The mere action of submitting an appeal does not reinstate recognition or any provision of a constitution pending the outcome of an appeal.

### IV. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

#### A. DISCRIMINATION

Every student organization recognized by the University is free to select its membership based upon individual merit. Any student organization which selects its membership upon the basis of restrictive clauses that deal unlawfully with race, religion, national origin, sex, handicap, sexual orientation, or any legally protected class, is considered to be operating in conflict with University policy.

Every recognized student organization must submit a copy of its constitution (local and national), and the by-laws (or other relevant information) governing its operation. The University will accept in good faith the provision of such constitutions indicating that the

local organization is free to select members based upon individual merit, and that membership is not governed by unlawful restrictive clauses.

Violations of discrimination should be immediately reported to the Director of Social Equity for an investigation and possible disciplinary sanctions against the students and/or student organization. Should a student organization be judged to be in conflict with University policy in the selection of its members, the group will be directed to submit evidence that action has been (or is being taken) to remove such restrictive membership provisions. Continued restriction of membership contrary to University policy may result in the withdrawal of University recognition after an opportunity for a hearing by the Committee of Fact.

B. HAZING

In conjunction with Policy A045, no student organization or individual shall engage in or condone any form of hazing. Violations of this regulation should be immediately reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs for investigation and possible disciplinary sanctions against the students and/or the organization. Sanctions may include suspension, expulsion, and/or revocation of recognition.

C. ADVISOR

Every student organization is required to have at least one advisor who is a full time employee of the University, or a non-employee as per the Policy A025 – Student Organization Advisors. The University might not be obligated to provide a legal defense for self-appointed or otherwise unapproved advisors who are sued for acts or omissions related to advisement. The advisor, as a full time employee, serves as the organization's direct link with the University. In this role, the advisor assists in the University's mission by providing instruction and guidance to the organization. Per University policy, the advisor agrees to protect the interests of the institution.

D. MEMBERSHIP

With the exception of the faculty/staff advisor (s), the organization's members and officers will be Edinboro University students.

E. FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES

Greek-letter organizations are recognized through joint sponsorship by Edinboro University and various national social fraternities and sororities. Due to their common concerns and objectives, a degree of self-governance is permissible through governing bodies (i.e. the Inter-fraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and Panhellenic Conference). Membership in these organizations is defined by the regulations of Interfraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, or Panhellenic Conference, and must be in accord with University regulations.

**F. STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION POLICIES**

Every student organization recognized by the University is expected to adhere to all policies and regulations of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education. The failure to abide by such policies and regulations will result in appropriate University disciplinary action.

**RELATED POLICIES**

A045 – Anti-Hazing Policy

A025 – Student Organization Advisors

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Contact	Office	Address	Telephone
Director of Campus Life	Campus Life	Pogue Student Center	814-732-2778
Vice President for Student Affairs	Student Affairs	Pogue Student Center	814-732-2313
President	Student Government Association	Pogue Student Center	814-732-2910