

PI SIGMA ALPHA AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT RIVERSIDE
THE NATIONAL POLITICAL SCIENCE HONOR SOCIETY
CHAPTER SIGMA PHI
April 29, 2024

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the *Pi Sigma Alpha* chapter *Sigma Phi*, a political science honor society at the *University of California at Riverside (UCR)*, do hereby set forth this constitution to govern the affairs of this chapter. The purpose of this organization shall be to stimulate scholarship and interest in the subject of government by providing tangible recognition to students who have excelled in the field. The Society will admit students without regard to their race, religion, color, sex, age, handicap, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, or ethnic origin to enjoy all the rights, privileges, programs, and other activities generally accorded or made available to members of the Society.

ARTICLE I

Name of organization

In accordance with guidance from the national office, the name of this Chapter at UCR shall be *Sigma Phi*. The name of this organization, for all registrations and regulations with the Associated Students of the University of California at Riverside (ASUCR), shall be **Pi Sigma Alpha**, hereinafter referred to as **PSA**.

ARTICLE II

Purpose of organization

The purpose of this organization shall be to recognize and promote high academic achievement in the field of political science and to bring both honor and distinction to the University of California at Riverside, specifically to the Department of Political Science.

ARTICLE III

Membership practice

Active membership of this student organization shall be chosen without discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, color, disability, national origin, ethnic origin, age, or marital status. Active membership should also be composed of at least 50% UCR students (undergraduate or graduate).

A. Eligibility

All students at UCR shall be eligible for membership.

1. **Inducted Members.** Student members shall be students enrolled in undergraduate or graduate programs in the institution represented by the chapter at the time of induction.
 - a. **Undergraduate** students shall have completed at least **ninety quarter-units**; they must have maintained a minimum **GPA of 3.2**, and they must have achieved an overall GPA placing them in the top **one-fourth** of their whole class (e.g., junior or senior class).

- b. **Graduate** students shall have a minimum overall cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in all graduate courses, including political science, and never have received a grade lower than a B within their graduate program
2. **Prospective Members.** Any UCR student interested in joining, attending, or participating in club-related activities who do not meet the criteria outlined for inducted members.

B. Categories of Membership

The categories of membership are as follows:

1. **Active Members:** Active members are those who are making the study of political science one of their major interests and who are faculty members or students in an institution where a chapter is located or who are alumni members who have been admitted to active membership by a chapter. They shall have high standards of personal behavior and have proven dedication to chapter activities by attending at least three events as defined below.
 - a. **Types of Events:** An event is any chapter-sponsored activity established by PSA representatives. Some examples of such events could include community service, fundraising, and social outings.
 - a. **Inactive Members:** All members who meet eligibility requirements and intend to join shall pay dues and turn in the appropriate forms. Afterward, they will be considered members of PSA and allowed all the benefits of membership, regardless of their participation in chapter events. All members are eligible for honorary awards at the end of the year honoring dedication and academic achievement.

C. Recruitment of New Members

1. **Identification:** All eligible students at the University of California at Riverside, verified by the institution's Political Science department's academic advisors, or by the Institutional Research (IR) team. *Team 1* will be responsible for obtaining lists of eligible students.
2. **Invitation:** Invitations will be sent either individually by the chapter's academic advisor or en masse via coordination with the National Office. If the national office sends invitations, then the Chapter President will send a follow-up email (individually addressed) to each eligible student to ensure the student's legitimacy of the invitation.
3. **Acceptance:** Students are free to accept their invitations up until the date of induction. If an eligible student is unable to accept their invitation before the date of induction, then an exception will only be granted if they participate in the induction ceremony. See special circumstances for exceptions.
4. **Induction:** Inductions will take place at the end of each term. Participation in the event is not a condition of membership.
5. **Special Circumstances:** Only the academic advisor can provide exceptions to deadlines or eligibility. The Chapter President can extend the deadline for all invitations or change the induction date, but they cannot make individual exceptions. All exceptions are at the discretion of the academic advisor and the national office. If the academic advisor or the national office posit that no exceptions can be granted, then any process for an exception is void until such policies change. Below is the process for each exception:
 - a. For any eligible student who is unable to accept their invitation before induction, they must provide sufficient documentation to the academic advisor proving their eligibility and participate in the induction ceremony with the permission of Team 2.
 - b. For any student for which eligibility is not confirmed by the IR team or their personal academic advisor (such as someone outside the Department of Political Science but still within the University of California at Riverside), they must provide sufficient documentation to the academic advisor proving their eligibility and participate in the induction ceremony with the permission of Team 2.

D. Withdrawal or removal of members

Membership in the Society may be suspended or terminated by the institution's Board of Directors for just cause. Sufficient cause for such suspension or termination of membership may be a violation of this Constitution or any lawful rule or practice adopted by the Society or other conduct considered by the Board of Directors to be prejudicial to the best interests of the Society. A statement of the charges shall be sent by registered mail to the last recorded address of the member, accompanied by a notice of the time and place of the meeting at which the charges are to be considered. At least thirty days' notice shall be given, and the member shall have the opportunity to appear in person or to be represented by counsel and to present any defense to such charges before the Board takes action. The Board may adopt such rules as may be necessary to ensure due process to the member. The decision for suspension or termination shall be by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors. A member suspended or terminated for just cause shall not be entitled to remittance of dues or fees.

ARTICLE IV

Board Members

A. List of Board Members

The Board members of this organization shall be

- Chapter President
- National Representative
- Team 1 (Secretariat)
- Team 2 (Chapter Programs)
- Team 3 (Outreach)
- Team 4 (Finance)
- Team 5 (Appointments)

B. General Duties and Responsibilities of Board Members

1. **Chapter President:** The *Chapter President* shall be the face of the organization to the local community and is generally responsible for consolidating all club-related activities toward achieving the chapter's purpose in Article II. Their duties shall include
 - a. Communicating with the department Chair and inter-club organization
 - b. Communicating with the Academic Advisor
 - c. Communicating with the Chapter Advisor
 - d. Communicating with the National Office
 - e. Communicating with the Student Life Advisor
 - f. Managing the Chapter's HighlanderLink page
 - g. Planning Board Meetings
 - h. Hosting and managing each term's Induction Ceremony
 - i. Planning and running annual Board Elections
2. **National Representative:** The *National Representative* will support all Chapter President activities, be the face of the organization, and host institution from a national perspective. Their duties shall include
 - a. Acting as *Interim President* when necessary
 - b. Attending national and local conferences and other events at the Board election, or else the *National Representative* must select, organize, and support some representative to attend such events in their place

3. **Team 1:** *Team 1* will be responsible for the organization's records and communication between the Board and its members. Their duties shall include
 - a. Taking minutes during meetings
 - b. Creating and sending weekly newsletters
 - c. Creating semester reports for the Chapter Advisor and Academic Advisor
 - d. Compiling a 1-page history of the reigning administration at the end of the Academic Year
 - e. Keeping a record of chapter-event attendance
4. **Team 2:** *Team 2* will be responsible for designing, implementing, and maintaining chapter-related activities including single-day events, multi-day events, and other projects. Their duties shall include
 - a. Organizing a workshop schedule at the start of each term
 - b. Reserving spaces for such events or programs
 - c. Proposing, designing, implementing, and monitoring workshops and socials
 - d. Managing the chapter's *Mentorship Program* in conjunction with the *Mentorship Director* (see *Team 5*)
 - e. Managing the chapter's *Emerging Scholars Symposium* to include its funding/grant proposals/applications, *Review Board*, Nominations, Emerging Scholars Workshop series, the Symposium itself, and any necessary reports
5. **Team 3:** *Team 3* will be responsible for marketing the organization and inquiring about opportunities for the chapter as a whole and/or individual members. Their duties shall include
 - a. Advertising on- and off-campus to include tabling and flyering
 - b. Proposing, designing, implementing, and managing social media accounts
 - c. Attending and promoting the chapter at on-campus events
 - d. Communicating with Teachers Assistants (TAs) and Primary Instructors (PIs) for the purposes of Advertising during discussions and lectures
 - e. Communicating with Student Life in regards to Recruitment
 - f. Communicating with extra-campus organizations off-campus
 - g. Communicating with intra-campus organizations on-campus
6. **Team 4:** *Team 4* will be responsible for all financial transactions and fundraising efforts going in or out of the organization. Their duties shall include
 - a. Submitting financial reports to the President, Chapter Advisor, ASUCR, and National Office as required
 - b. Overseeing the Chapter bank account both on- and off-campus
 - c. Maintaining financial records
 - d. Sending refund requests to ASUCR
 - e. Communicating between the Department and the Chapter in any financial matters
7. **Team 5:** *Team 5* shall include those appointments for which the Board has deemed necessary to reserve for particular individuals; whether it be because the position requires more stability than possible for an elected position, or because the duties are so necessarily specialized that they can only be accomplished by specifically exceptional individuals. Appointments shall include
 - a. **Mentorship Director:** The *Mentorship Director* shall be any individual appointed to the position by the Board. For most duties, the *Mentorship Director* will work in conjunction with *Team 2* in regard to the Mentorship Program. They override the Team Leader and have unilateral authority in all matters regarding the Mentorship Program.

- b. **Chapter Mentor:** The *Chapter Mentor* shall be any Ph.D. student in the Political Science Department appointed to the position by the Board. For most duties, the *Mentorship Director* will work in conjunction with the *Chapter President* as a personal, graduate student mentor. They will also act as the liaison between the Chapter and the Graduate Student Association (GSA). They shall have no formal authority in club-related activities but shall have to develop a close, working relationship with the *Chapter President*. Both the *Chapter President* and *Chapter Mentor* shall complete an “Acknowledgement of Prohibited Activities” form and submit it to the *Mentorship Director*.
- c. **Fund Raiser:** The *Fund Raiser* shall be any individual appointed to the position by the Board. For most duties, the *Fund Raiser* will work in conjunction with *Team 4* in regard to Fund Raising. They override the Team Leader and have unilateral authority in all matters regarding fundraising for lower-income students seeking assistance paying Chapter Dues.
- d. **Chapter Advisor:** The *Chapter Advisor* shall be any faculty member appointed to the position by the Board. For most duties, the *Faculty Advisor* will work in conjunction with the *Chapter President* and *Chapter Mentor* to advise the activities of the organization, but they shall not have any formal authority in decision-making.
- e. **Academic Advisor:** The *Academic Advisor* shall be any Department Academic Advisor willing to assist the organization with eligibility verification and appointed to the position by the Board. For most duties, the *Academic Advisor* shall work in conjunction with *Team 3* to update eligibility lists, but they shall not have any formal authority in decision-making outside of granting exceptions at their discretion.

C. Qualifications for Becoming an Officer

All full-time UCR students of PSA are eligible for an officer position. Seniority and level of participation in the club will be considered.

D. Terms of office

Officers in office must show dedication to the organization, commitment to its values, and maintain high moral and personal standards in their life including their personal life, professional career, and academic record.

E. Procedure for filling vacated positions

1. Should the *Chapter President* become vacant, the *National Representative* shall become *Interim Chapter President* automatically, to serve for the remainder of the Academic Year.
2. Should the *Mentorship Director* become vacant, the *Chapter Mentor* shall fulfill the duties of the *Mentorship Director* until the Board can make a new appointment.
3. Should the *Chapter Mentor* become vacant, the *Mentorship Director* shall fulfill the duties of the *Chapter Mentor* until the Board can make a new appointment.
4. Should both the *Chapter Mentor* and *Mentorship Director* become vacant, the *Chapter President* shall fulfill the duties of the *Mentorship Director* until the Board can make a new appointment.

5. Should any Board member aside from the *Chapter President*, *Mentorship Director*, or *Chapter Mentor* become vacant, then replacements will be decided by appointment. For any nomination, the following Board meeting will allow any Board member to openly ask the nominee any question. After all questions have been sufficiently answered, the Board will vote whether to affirm such nomination for *Interim* appointment.
 - a. In the event that a specific team has some vacancy, then the Team Leader will nominate some individual to be appointed.
 - b. In the event that an entire team is vacant, then nominations can come from any place. Board members can nominate individuals, Official and Prospective members can send nominations, and individuals can nominate themselves.

Should any position become vacant,

F. Procedure for taking a leave of absence or resigning

1. As an academic honor society, we aim to promote healthy work-life balances and the continued scholastic achievement of each member. Thus, no member shall ever be penalized or retaliated against in the event that their inability or unwillingness to continue their service in the organization is due to the following reasons:
 - a. Academics
 - b. Personal strife
 - c. Financial burdens
 - d. Grievances
2. Resigning is reserved for those Board members who feel that they are no longer willing or able to fulfill the duties inherent in their position or meet the demands of the organization and do not plan on returning to their position
3. A leave of absence is reserved for those Board members who feel that they are *temporarily* unable to fulfill the duties inherent in their position or meet the demands of the organization and do plan on returning to their position at some point. Any leave of absence shall be treated as an indefinite leave of absence
4. Any vacated position due to a temporary or indefinite leave of absence shall be filled using the process outlined in Article IV, Section E
5. Any temporary or indefinite leave of absence can be absolved at any time; if the Board has already approved an *Interim* appointment, then the *Interim* shall become a supporting Vice-member of that position, or join another team *at will*. See below for examples:
 - a. If the *Chapter President* took an indefinite leave of absence only to return after the Board appointed an *Interim Chapter President*, then the *Chapter President* will be the originally-elected individual while the *Interim Chapter President* can choose to become *Vice-President* to support the *Chapter President* in their duties, or they can join *Team 1*, *Team 2*, *Team 3*, or *Team 4* as a team member.

G. Procedure for removal of Board members

Any Board member may be removed for just cause. Sufficient cause for such removal may be a violation of this Constitution or any lawful rule, practice, or procedure adopted by the Society or other conduct deemed by the Board to be prejudicial to the best interests of the Society, including being voted against in a Vote of No Confidence. For the removal of an elected officer for cause, it shall be necessary for the

Chapter President to inform the member of their removal from the Board and take stock of any remaining grievances.

H. Procedure for resolving grievances

Grievances are those issues that Board members have with one another that cannot be resolved outside chapter activities. Resolving grievances is the personal responsibility of the individuals involved and shall not interfere with the responsibilities inherent in their position. In the event that grievances arise so frequently and so vehemently that they do interfere with chapter activities and the issue can be pointed to a single individual, it will be the responsibility of any Board member with jurisdiction to initiate a *Vote of No Confidence* which will initiate the procedure for removing Board members. Grievances do not have to be personal in nature but can have a professional foundation.

1. **Team Grievances** are those issues that are limited to individuals within the same team. In a Team Grievance, any team member within that team has jurisdiction to call a *Vote of No Confidence*. To prevent grievances, it will be the responsibility of the Team Leader to mediate conflicts and check in with all members regarding any potential grievances during team meetings. If the grievance involves the Team Leader, the Chapter President will assume all Team Leader responsibilities involving the grievance
2. **Chapter Grievances** are those issues that encompass multiple teams or include the *Chapter President* or *National Representative*. In a Chapter Grievance, any Board member has jurisdiction to call a *Vote of No Confidence*. To prevent grievances, it will be the responsibility of the *Chapter President* to mediate conflicts and check in with all Board members regarding any potential grievances during Board meetings. If the grievance involves the *Chapter President*, the *Chapter Mentor* will assume all *Chapter President* responsibilities involving the grievance

I. Appeal Process for Removed Officers.

So long as it is before re-elections, removed officers may appeal to PSA's faculty mentor or Student Life advisor for counsel and defense. They will be allowed to request a secondary meeting with the Board to present their in-person or written and signed support from the *Chapter President* or *Chapter Mentor* for their reinstatement. The Board will then vote on whether to reinstate the removed officer through a majority vote. The Board also has the right to reinstate the officer on probationary condition, in which the officer will sign an agreement with specific expectations and goals that they must fulfill over a specific period in order to be fully reinstated as an officer. The vote and probation agreement must occur within a week of the secondary meeting to allow for appropriate deliberation and planning of the agreement.

ARTICLE V

Meetings

A. Types of Decisions

1. Constitutional Amendments
2. Nominations/Appointments
3. Program Initiatives
4. Team Decisions
5. Constitutional Amendments / Constitutional Conventions

B. Types of Meetings and Quorums

A quorum defines the minimum number of members that must be present to vote and make decisions for the group. The quorum for this organization depends on the type of meeting required.

1. **Team Meetings** are those meetings that include members of a team, plus the Chapter President, National Representative, or corresponding *Team 5* Member. A quorum for team meetings is 100% with one individual's absence exception. (So if a team has three members, a quorum could be two people since one is permitted to be absent).
2. **Board Meetings** are those meetings that include all teams plus the *Chapter President* and *National Representative*. A quorum for Board meetings is at least one representative from each team, not including *Team 5*, and *must* include either the *Chapter President* or *National Representative*. Appointed individuals are not necessary for Board meetings.
3. **Asynchronous Board Meetings** are an emergency variant of Board Meetings that the president can authorize in the event that a quorum would be impossible if not.
4. **Amendment Reviews** are meetings or a portion of a meeting that reviews some proposed amendment to the constitution. A quorum for amendment reviews is 50% +1 of all Board members.
5. **Constitution Ratifications** are meetings or a portion of a meeting that reviews the proposed constitution for the following academic year. A quorum for ratification is 50%+1 of all Board members.

1.

C. Meeting minutes and records

It shall be the responsibility of *Team 1* to take meeting minutes and keep related records of Board meetings.

1. All meetings will be recorded via a Google Doc that under the organization's official email via Google Drive and shared to each Board member. All Board meeting minutes will be on the same document throughout the Academic Year.
2. Minutes will include a roll call of all present members, the start and end time of the meeting, and any proposals and decisions the Board or any individual member makes
3. In the event that scheduling conflicts make a regularly scheduled meeting impossible, the Chapter President can authorize asynchronous meetings.

D. Procedure for running asynchronous Board meetings

In the event that the *Chapter President* authorizes an asynchronous Board meeting, then the President will post an agenda on the Academic Year's Google Doc to include questions for each team. This agenda will provide an opportunity for the Team to make any announcements and respond to such questions. From the originally designated meeting start time, each team will have 2 days to make any announcements and respond to any questions. After 2 days, the *Chapter President* will review all responses, type up a formal report, and send it to each team to include their assigned duties and any pertinent information or decisions that were made during the meeting.

ARTICLE VI

Elections

A. Times and the period when elections occur

Elections are held at the end of the Winter Term so that officers can learn to transition during Spring. This provides the opportunity for the former Board to help and supply advice while the new Board holds

office. This also creates an overlap in duties and a designated training period to make the organization stronger.

B. Nominations

1. At the start of every Spring Term, the Board will determine the week of the election
2. All nominations are due one week before election
3. The *Chapter President* will be solely responsible for running elections (though they will work in conjunction with *Team 2*) and will be subjected to a Vote of No Confidence if they fail to make proper arrangements or neglect to ensure they are both free and fair.

C. Notification and posting of elections

All candidates must be identified at least a week before the election, and no individual candidate can campaign before all candidates are unveiled by the officers.

D. Election procedures

1. The quorum for elections will be based on how many members attend or respond to the election.
2. Winter Elections will be an annual term event that will allow any nomination to be formally run. The contents of this event will be open for the reigning Board's interpretation.
3. Special accommodations and alternative options will be available for any candidate
4. Eligibility to vote in the election will be invite-only. It will be based on those people who signed in to at least one PSA-sponsored event throughout the academic year and attended the in-person Winter Election. This election is not restricted to Official members.
5. Newly elected officers will officially take office at the beginning of the next school year, starting during the summer quarter. Officers elected within the school year to replace vacant positions will officially take office immediately.

ARTICLE VII

Financial records

The University shall have the right to audit the financial records of this organization. If the organization receives funding from the Associated Students at UCR (ASUCR) or the Graduate Student Association (GSA), the organization must comply with all funding policies and procedures issued by the funding authority.

A. Dues/Membership Fees

The dues for membership to PSA shall be \$35. This fee is due when students are invited to become a member, and it is for a lifetime membership. They are collected directly from the national PSA office and shall not be collected by any officer or member of this chapter. These dues do not finance any PSA event.

If potential members cannot pay their dues, they may discuss alternative payment plans or fundraising opportunities with the Fund Raiser.

ARTICLE VIII

Advisers

A. Selection and role of the faculty adviser

A student organization advisor is a person, selected by the organization, to provide guidance and advice in the operations of the organization. Advisors are educators outside of the classroom setting and resource-person for the organization. The advice of the advisor is welcome and respected as valuable insight for the officers. However, all of the organization's decisions and goals are reserved for student members and elected Board members.

1. An advisor is *not* someone who cleans up after events. They do *not* make room reservations or schedule meetings. They are *not* to be ignored, belittled, undervalued, or otherwise excluded from organizational business. The advisor should be informed and consulted with regard to ongoing activities, but they *do not take control of the organization*. Officer responsibilities are reserved for student members, and if the organization ceases to exist due to the inaction or disinterest of the student body, that is an unfortunate but *appropriate* outcome. This organization does not look to their advisor for interventions on behalf of the organization, but only to assist in conjunction with student leadership.

B. Miscellaneous items related to the faculty adviser

2. The *Team 2* Team Leader, *Team 3* Team Leader, and *Chapter President* shall be the primary account holders of financial accounts opened in the name of the chapter. Any queries to open an account must be made through proper institutional channels and the national office.

ARTICLE IX

Amendments

A. Proposing amendments

Amendments are constitutional changes during an academic year that are to take effect immediately.

1. All amendments shall be in agreement with university regulations and policies and are not approved until reviewed by a Student Life official. Organizations must notify their Organization Advisor in Student Life once the new document has been uploaded into the system for review.
2. Amendments can be proposed by any general member and must be proposed at general or Board meetings. The proposed amendment will be voted on at the following general meeting or current Board meeting.

B: Constitutional Conventions

Every Spring, the Board shall meet in a **Constitutional Convention** to discuss any necessary changes to the Constitution. Once the *Chapter President* reviews such suggestions, they will document all changes and formally propose the following Academic Year's constitution in the next meeting.

ARTICLE X

Mentorship Program

A. Program Intent

The purpose of the *Mentorship Program* is to connect undergraduates with likeminded professionals. These students can then learn how to better navigate the institution, world of academia, and field of political science.

A. Eligibility

All undergraduate students with a declared major in political science and all graduate students >1 year in their program are eligible. Official members do not have priority in mentorship pairings.

A. Pairings

Mentorship pairings will be based on the following hierarchy:

1. Interest/subject matter expertise
2. What the mentee hopes to get out of the program
3. Mutual year in program

A. Management

The Mentorship Program is a program managed by *Team 2*, headed by the *Team 5* Team Member, Mentorship Director.

ARTICLE XI

Emerging Scholars Symposium

A. Program Intent and Overview

The purpose of the *Emerging Scholars Symposium* is to recognize scholastic achievement in the field of political science, to stimulate academic competition within the department, and to promote a vibrant political science community on campus.

This program aims to select the best paper faculty-nominated research papers in Political Science, help its authors refine the paper, teach them how to present their work to the general public, and invite them to present it at a Symposium in the Spring Term

B. Paper Eligibility

For a paper to be eligible for nomination, it must:

1. Be a course paper (midterm, final, or regular assignment)
2. Present original ideas
3. Draw on recognized literature
4. Includes citations and scholarly sources
5. Contribute to one of the department's recognized subfields
 - a. American Politics
 - b. Comparative Politics
 - c. International Relations
 - d. Mass Political Behavior
 - e. Political Theory
6. For undergraduate courses, the Primary Instructor can nominate one paper from each course they teach.
7. For graduate courses, Primary Instructors can nominate one paper from each course they teach.
8. The paper does not need to have been written for a Political Science course, but a Political Science faculty member must be the primary instructor

D. Selection

1. After being nominated, each paper will undergo the Peer Review Process, and the top paper from each subfield for each term will be selected
2. For the Summer, Fall, and Winter, each writer of the selected papers will be invited to attend workshops and present in the Spring Symposium.
3. For the Spring, each writer of the selected papers will be invited to review workshop materials distributed throughout the year and record a presentation of their paper which will be highlighted in the first issue of the Summer newsletter and be played during the Spring Symposium.

E. Workshops

The workshops in the Spring Term will revolve around the *Emerging Scholars Workshop* series which will focus on developing the research and presentation skills of the selected papers.

F. Presentation

Each paper writer will be invited to present their work at a Spring Symposium. All presenters must accept their invitations within a week of the first week of the Spring Term to give ample time for *Team 2* to plan and make reservations. Any penalties for non-attendance will be at the discretion of the Board.

ARTICLE XII

Peer Review Board

A. Program Intent

The purpose of the *Peer Review Board* is to recognize scholastic achievement in the field of political science and provide an opportunity for alumni to connect with current students.

This program aims to have official PSA members aid in selecting the best paper faculty-nominated research papers in Political Science.

B. Eligibility

Any UCR alumni and official Sigma Phi-specific PSA member is eligible for this program. Participation in this program is completely voluntary, and consent can be revoked at any time.

C. Selection

At the end of each term, Team 2 will invite all Sigma Phi-specific PSA members to join the *Review Board* and add any acceptances to the list of Active peer review Board members. Board members will be limited to reviewing 10 papers before being retired from the program.

D. Review Process

Once a paper is nominated by a professor, the *Team 2* Team Leader will anonymize the paper, randomly assign two Board members as reviewers, independently provide them with the paper and a review form, and follow up with the reviewer every two weeks until completion. Reviewers shall have no more than 6 weeks to review the paper.

E. Violations

Review Board violations include:

1. Any disclosure as to the identity of a paper's author to the reviewer before the Spring Symposium
2. Any disclosure as to the identity of a paper's reviewer
3. Any extension to the paper's review greater than six weeks
4. A failure to respond to any attempts to contact the reviewer within 3 weeks of paper assignment

Penalties for violations will be at the discretion of the *Team 2* Team Leader