

## **ARTICLE XII**

### ***Academic Development Policy***

#### **Section 1. Chapter Expectations.**

- a. Each collegiate chapter must have in place and be accountable for the use of the International Academic Development Program as well as planning a calendar of events that will help support the academic performance of its members.
- b. Alpha Omicron Pi expects its collegiate chapters to maintain a semester/quarter grade point average equal to either the campus all women's average or the all sorority average. On campuses where these statistics are not available, the collegiate chapter is expected to maintain a GPA of at least 2.75 on a 4.0 scale or a 3.75 on a 5.0 scale.
- c. Each chapter is expected to remain in the top half of the Panhellenic ranking on its campus.

\*Summer term grades are not considered.

#### **Section 2. Chapter Policies.**

- a. If the chapter's average falls below either the all women's average or the all sorority average, the chapter will be placed on academic monitoring, which includes obtaining prior approval from the designated volunteer and member of the Headquarters staff before proceeding with any Alpha Omicron Pi-sponsored social activity. (The intent of this policy is to ensure that a chapter does not have too many activities planned for the term, and consequently, not enough time left to devote to academics.)
- b. If a chapter's average continues to fall below either the all women's average or the all sorority average, or the chapter shows willful disregard to the scholastic standards of the Fraternity, the chapter will be placed on International Probation (Bylaws, Title II, Article XIII) which includes:
  - (1) Social functions for the chapter will be limited or may be eliminated altogether. This sanction will be recommended by the designated volunteer and member of the Headquarters staff.

#### **Section 3. Member Expectations.**

- a. Chapters must require for pledging a 2.5 minimum cumulative GPA on high school grades and a 2.0 minimum cumulative GPA on college grades. Chapters may establish higher requirements for pledging new members if so approved by chapter vote and included in the chapter bylaws.
- b. Each chapter must establish a minimum required GPA for its members and new members.
- c. Each chapter member and new member is expected to maintain the scholastic average required by the chapter bylaws.
- d. If a member does not maintain the required GPA, she loses the rights and privileges as stated in the chapter bylaws for a term, or until her scholarship is again at the required GPA.

#### **Section 4. Member Policies.**

- a. Chapters must require a 2.5 minimum semester or quarter GPA for members to be elected to a Leaders' Council position and a 2.0 minimum semester or quarter GPA for all other elected and appointed officer positions. Chapters may establish higher requirements for members to

be elected to office if so approved by chapter vote and included in the chapter bylaws. For further clarification, please refer to the Collegiate Chapter Operations Manual (CCOM).

- b. A collegiate member can be placed on International Probation for failure to achieve a 2.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent grade requirement) for two consecutive terms. (Bylaws, Title II, Article XI, Section 2)

**Section 5. Member(s) with Learning Disabilities.** Members with Learning Disabilities (LD) are equal in stature with every other member of Alpha Omicron Pi. As such, the expectations of membership are the same.

If any member of Alpha Omicron Pi falls below the chapter's minimum GPA requirement, as established in the chapter bylaws, that member should be placed on academic probation. This is consistent with all members and no exceptions should be allowed.

However, terms of probation are always individualized to meet the individual member and chapter's needs. The Academic Development Adviser and Vice President of Academic Development should meet with each member on scholastic probation and set the terms following the interview.

AOII recommends that the probationary terms for a member with LD require them to access the academic modifications granted to them by their disability. With the member's permission, the Academic Development Adviser may work with the campus' disability or student support services to develop the terms of probation. Sometimes, off-campus or additional assistance can be offered in addition to current accommodations. Additionally, the student support services may suggest bi-weekly meetings with professors during office hours; something they can recommend, but AOII cannot require through terms of probation.

Members with LD who are on academic probation will not lose their right to vote during meeting or membership selection. As long as the member complies with the terms of probation, she will also retain full social privileges. If she does not follow the terms, she will lose her social and voting privileges.

Students with documented learning disabilities must register with the appropriate office on their campus in order to receive the assistance and accommodations they require. AOII would also require written documentation of the learning disability. AOII may also request permission to speak with the member's parents.