

**THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES HONOR SOCIETY
IOTA IOTA IOTA
LAMBDA CHAPTER**

ARTICLE I

Name of Organization

Section 1: The name of the organization shall be formally recognized as The Pennsylvania State University Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Honor Society, Iota Iota Iota, informally known as Triota.

ARTICLE II

Purpose of Organization

Section 1: The purpose of this organization shall be to maintain the feminist values of equity, inclusiveness, and the celebration of diversity of all individual's experiences which is central to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. The organization shall do so through encouraging scholarship, support excellence, and foster activism in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at The Pennsylvania State University.

ARTICLE III

New Membership and Recruitment

Section 1: Only students enrolled at Penn State University Park are eligible for membership. Any and all new members will be given full disclosure during recruitment, including, but not limited to, the disclosure of:

1. Schedule of events and activities
2. A list of Membership Requirements
3. An outline of the Membership Point System
4. A definition of personal rights and a copy of the University Hazing Policy,

prescribed by Policies and Rules for Student Organizations

All of these documents will be available upon request by the Office of Student Activities.

Section 2: All members, including, but not limited to, new members and recruits, reserve the right to refrain from participating in any activities without consequence, based upon personal/ religious beliefs, personal values, or moral reserve as defined by the member. The member understands that they will not receive points for any event they does not attend.

Section 3: Any and all interaction/activity between members and/or new members will be limited to guidelines stated by university policy, as well as local, state, and federal laws.

ARTICLE IV

Qualifications for Membership

Section 1: Active Membership shall be open to all majors/minors or any currently registered student at the Pennsylvania State University having a strong interest in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality studies and having a GPA of 2.7 or higher.

Section 2: Active Members shall be required to attend one of two "Introduction to Intersectional Feminism" discussions offered during the second week of both the Fall and Spring semesters. If unable to attend either meeting with a valid excuse, the member candidate shall be required to contact an Executive Board member.

Section 3: Active Members shall be encouraged to pay dues, at the rate of fifteen dollars per semester. Dues will only be put towards financing club-related expenses. *Both fall and spring semester dues paid at the beginning of the academic year will receive a discount of five dollars.

Section 4: Active Members shall be required to obtain at least 12 points each semester through attendance of meetings, service events, conferences, and other official Triota sponsored activities.

The points system is as follows:

Meetings: 1

Socials: 0; unless help plan. If help 3 points.

Service: max 5, but define in an event basis

Conferences: 3-5

Event Planning: 2

Discussion Planning: 2

*If you commit to an event with points and do not show up, you will lose point off of your total

Section 5: Associate membership shall be open to any currently registered student at the Pennsylvania State University having a strong interest in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. This membership does not require the member to pay dues. These members are dedicated to taking part in the activist aspects of the organization. They do not intend to be inducted into the honor society.

Section 6: At all times, the majority (50%+1) of all members shall be full-time, officially registered, undergraduate students at University Park.

Section 7: All who meet approved criteria are invited to become members of this Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies honors society without regard to gender, race, ethnicity, religion, people with mental or physical disabilities, economic class, or sexual orientation.

Section 8: All prospective members must fulfill requirements for active membership status prior to induction as outlined by the point system and must pay a yearly fee as determined by the society.

Section 9: The membership shall be divided into active and associate members.

1. Only currently registered students are eligible for active membership.
2. All others interested in furthering the purpose of Iota Iota Iota shall be associate members. Only active members may hold office, vote, preside, officiate, or solicit funds on behalf of the organization.

Section 10: The society reserves the right to expel a member who is not following the policies of the organization or the University with a supermajority vote of attending active members – quorum is 50% of active members. The member in question reserves the right to request a meeting with the Executive Board and adviser prior to the group's vote.

ARTICLE V

Executive Board of the Organization

Section 1: Only full-time, officially registered active student members shall be eligible to serve as appointed or elected chairs.

Section 2: Expectations of Elected Chairs of the Executive Board

-All elected chairs shall be required to attend scheduled E-Board and general meetings, with the exception of a valid excuse given to the other E-Board members within a reasonable amount of time.

-At least three(3) elected chairs shall be signed on to help with Triota-sponsored events, outside of general and E-Board meetings.

-All elected chairs shall be required to acquire at least 17 points each semester to maintain their chair position.

-Each elected chair shall understand and take responsibility for their delegated duties. In the event of overlapping duties, the elected chairs will do their best to communicate and delegate appropriately.

-In the event of an elected chair needing to step back from their responsibilities, said elected chair will be **required** to communicate all current/ongoing duties to the E-Board.

-Attending any workshops, meetings, or other events required by the University and keeping up with any new additions or changes the University makes with regards to the financial matters of organizations.

*expulsion from elected chair position shall be thoroughly reviewed by fellow E-Board members with consultation by the club's advisor, and put to a vote.

Section 2: Chairs

1. The Executive Chair will be responsible for:

- Overseeing the E-Board, promoting harmony, success, and cooperation between elected chairs.
- Upholding the mission and values of the organization.
- Delegating and ensures that all responsibilities are fulfilled by the E-Board
- Maintaining a clear line of communication between the organization and the WGSS department and the university.

*With the approval of the the voting membership, there may be co-Executive Chairs to share the responsibilities of the position and to effectively lead the organization to fulfill

its purpose.

2. The Chair of Membership will be responsible for:
 - Coordinating the educational programs and events sponsored by the society.
 - Serving as the chapter liaison to the Women's Studies Program Undergraduate Matters Committee.
 - Maintaining point system records and the recruitment of prospective members.
 - Maintaining the membership directory.
3. The Chair of Communications will be responsible for:
 - All internal communication between members and the E-Board. (Listservs and Groupme)
 - Creating each meeting's agenda and presentation
 - Recording meeting minutes and member attendance
 - Outreach for business/club related reasons
4. The Chair of Finance Will be Responsible For:
 - The financial affairs of the organization.
 - Filling out necessary paperwork for grants and other monetary sources.
 - Keeping an open mind about organization events or activities which require funding while still keeping an appropriate budget.
 - Handling the financial account and recording any and all monetary transactions made by the organization.
 - Reporting the financial status of the organization and seek approval for organizational expenses at meetings.
5. The Chair of Social Outreach will be responsible for:
 - All external communication between members and the organization
 - Outreach for social/bonding related reasons
 - Maintaining all organization-based social media platforms and accounts.
 - Collecting monetary funds for social, **non-educational** events.

Section 3: Filling unexpected vacancies:

1. Nominations are taken at the meeting following the timely notice of the vacancy. Elections also occur at this meeting.
2. Quorum must be achieved for the election to be held. If a majority (50%+1) is not obtained by any of the candidates, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes is eliminated, and the active members shall vote again.
3. When nominations are being taken to fill unexpected vacancies, any active member of the organization may nominate another active member of the organization by simply raising their hand and indicating such when recognized.
4. Refer to Article IV Section 4 of the Bylaws in the event of a presidential vacancy.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings

Section 1: General body meetings will be scheduled once a week.

Section 2: Adequate advance notice of general body meetings must be given to all active and associate members. Adequate advance notice of meeting cancellation must be given to all active and associate members. Adequate advance notice is defined as 24 hours before the start time of the meeting.

*Exceptions to this 24 hour rule include: unexpected weather issues, safety concerns, room availability etc.

Section 3: Special meetings shall be announced by e-mail or another messaging platform by the Chair of Communications of the organization with adequate advance notice to the special meeting.

Article VII

Social Events

Section 1: Social Events shall be defined as non-educational, informal activities with the purpose of bonding with members and building relationships.

Section 2: Any social event costing one hundred dollars or more shall be funded out of pocket by the organization's membership

Section 3: Attendance of socials shall not be mandatory and will not count towards the points system.

Section 4: Social Events shall uphold the University's Student Code of Conduct.

ARTICLE VIII

Quorum

Section 1: A simple majority of the elected officials and active members in attendance may transact business legally and shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IX

Elections

Section 1: A call for self-nominations shall take place during the eighth week of classes in the Spring semester and will last for one week until the election meeting. During the weeklong nomination period, active members may nominate themselves by notifying the Chair of the Communications. Self-nominations are due at 11:59pm the night prior to the election meeting.

Section 2: The election meeting shall be publicized in the meetings preceding it.

Section 3: Elections codes:

1. The active members shall cast secret ballots for the candidate of their choice. Each active member shall have one vote per ballot.
2. If (50%+1) cannot be obtained, the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be dropped from consideration, and the active members shall vote again.
3. In the event of a tie, the ballot will be recast.

Section 4: All officers serve for a term of one academic year.

Section 5: No one officer shall be limited to serving more than one year in any given office.

ARTICLE X

Amendments

Section 1: Amendments must be presented during the annual Constitution Revision Meeting.

Section 2: Presentations of amendments must pertain to the purpose of the honor society.

Section 3: Any active member may introduce a constitutional amendment at the annual Constitution Revision Meeting

Section 4: All amendments are subject to the approval of the The Office of Student Activities.

ARTICLE XI

Parliamentary Authority

Section 1: *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, by Sarah Corbin Roberts shall be

used in all cases not covered by this constitution.

ARTICLE XII

Accessibility

Section 1: Copies of this constitution shall be made available upon request.

ARTICLE XIII

Advisor

1. Must retain an advisor at all times.
2. Advisor must be a full-time faculty or staff member at the Pennsylvania State University, and that they should be chosen by the organization.
3. Advisor will be voted on by members and determined by quorum.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

Definition of Name

Section 1: The Women's Gender, and Sexuality Studies Honor Society, Iota Iota Iota, is named for the ancient goddesses Inanna, Ishtar, and Isis.

ARTICLE II

Description and Purpose

Section 1: This organization shall be a non-secret, egalitarian national society of scholars dedicated to the ideals of excellence in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies scholarship and activism.

Section 2: It shall be the purpose of this society to promote an interest in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality studies, research of social problems affecting all marginalized people, and such other social *and* intellectual activities as will lead to improvement in the condition of all people.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1: Members who maintain active status within the chapter shall be granted the status of voting member.

Section 2: Dues shall be determined by the society.

ARTICLE IV

E-Board

Section 1: Officers of this society shall be five in number and shall be elected by voting members. The officers of this society shall be as follows: 1) Executive Chair; 2) Chair of Membership; 3) Chair of Communications; 4) Chair of Finance; and 5) Chair of Social Outreach, 6) Chair of Service.

Section 2: Candidates for these offices shall be named by the general membership.

Section 3: Officers of this society shall be qualified for their positions by being active members at the time of their candidacy for office and during their term of office.

Section 4: In the event that any officer is still unable to serve a full term of office, active members shall nominate and elect a replacement for the unexpired portion.

Section 5: All officers will be responsible for the recruitment and selection of members. They will coordinate the Induction Ceremonies. They will serve as a resource on organization policies (as determined by the constitution), the resident expert rules and regulations. They will coordinate social programs for the chapter. They will serve as the liaison to chapters at other institutions and coordinate our efforts to recruit new chapters.

Section 6: Additional officers desired by the society shall be nominated and elected by the active membership.

