



## University of the Rockies Chapter Constitution 2011-2012

### Article I Name and Purpose

Section 1. The name of the nonprofit corporation shall be Golden Key International Honour Society, Inc., hereinafter referred to as the "Society."

The name of this local chapter is the Golden Key International Honour Society at University of the Rockies, hereinafter referred to as the "Chapter."

Section 2. The purpose of the Chapter is to provide an association that offers recognition to academically outstanding Master's and Doctorate degree-seeking students.

### Article II Office and Registered Agent

Section 1. **Principal Office**  
The International Headquarters and principal office of the Society shall be in the State of Georgia, USA.

Section 2. **International Staff**  
The Chief Executive Officer and selected, full-time, professional staff of the Society shall be referred to herein as the "International Staff." The International Staff may establish other operational offices as necessary to support the Society's international presence and operational and geographic structure. The International Staff may delegate selected decision-making responsibilities of the International Staff to the staff of other operational headquarters as appropriate.

Section 3. **Registered Office and Agent**  
The Society shall have and continuously maintain a registered office and a registered agent in the State of Georgia, USA, as required by the State of Georgia (USA) Nonprofit Corporation Code.

### Article III Eligibility and Membership

Section 1. **Classes and Qualifications**  
The Society Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the "Board of Directors," shall determine classes of membership and chapters, and shall set for the qualifications, fees, dues, terms, voting rights and other conditions of each class of members. Unless otherwise specified by the Board of Directors, membership in the Society is voluntary and by invitation only.

Section 2. **Student Membership**  
Membership shall be granted by the Society to graduate/postgraduate students in all academic disciplines who:

- 1) Are recognized by their academic institution as meeting or exceeding a cumulative grade point average or comparable alternate standard approved by the Board of Directors;
- 2) Complete and submit the acceptance of Society membership; and
- 3) Pay the Society membership fee in full, unless waived under Article III, Section 5.

Section 3. **Honorary Membership**

This Chapter may elect faculty and administrative officers to honorary membership, provided that the number of such active members at any time shall not exceed twenty members or ten percent of the total membership of the Chapter, whichever is larger.

Section 4. **Lifetime Membership**

Any individual who joins Golden Key is considered a lifetime member unless removed from membership in accordance with Article III, Section 5. Lifetime membership affords access to all benefits and services not otherwise restricted to other membership categories.

Section 5. **Membership Fees and Dues**

*a) Determination of Membership Fees and Dues*

The Board of Directors shall determine the membership fees and dues. Society chapters may not add local membership fees or dues unless they first obtain written approval to do so from the International Leadership.

*b) Payment*

The Society membership fee shall be paid in accordance with the policy and procedure established by the International Staff.

*c) Membership Fee Waivers*

The Society membership fee is waived for initial chartering officers, advisors, and all honorary members. Chapters may request other fee waivers which may be approved on a case-by-case basis by the International Staff.

Section 6. **Removal**

Any member may be removed from membership by a majority vote of the International Leadership Council only for cause, which is defined as any action which brings discredit upon the Society. In addition, any member may be removed from active membership upon the failure to pay any fees or dues that may be owed. In the event the International Leadership Council votes to remove a member for any reason, the International Leadership Council shall notify the member of its decision in writing. The member shall then have the right to submit a written statement of appeal to the International Leadership Council within 30 calendar days of notification. Upon receipt of an appeal, the International Leadership Council shall have 30 calendar days to reconsider the matter and render a final decision.

Article IV  
Chapter Advisors

Section 1. **Primary Advisor**

An individual – faculty, administrative staff, or other – acceptable to University of the Rockies shall be selected to serve as the Primary Advisor for the Society Chapter. If not already a member, the advisor shall be inducted into the Society as an Honorary Member and shall have all the rights and privileges of Society membership. The induction of a Primary Advisor does not count toward the limit of honorary members who are eligible to be inducted as per Article III, Section 3.

Section 2. **Co-Advisor(s)**

Chapters may have more than one advisor – faculty, administrative staff, or other. If not already a member, the Co-Advisor shall be inducted into the Society as an Honorary Member and shall have all the rights and privileges of Society membership. The induction of a Co-Advisor does not count toward the limit of honorary members who are eligible to be inducted as per Article III, Section 3.

Article V  
Representation and Legislative Authority

- Section 1. The Student Affairs Specialist, or his or her designated deputy of University of the Rockies, shall be the Chapter's Primary Advisor and the Chapter's representative to the national convention.
- Section 2. Except as otherwise specifically stated in this Constitution, in the absence of a standing rule to the contrary, Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern meetings of this organization.

Article VI  
Officers & Committees

- Section 1. The Student Affairs Specialist or his or her designated deputy of University of the Rockies shall serve as the Primary Advisor for the Golden Key International Honour Society Chapter and shall serve as the sole member of the Executive Committee when this Chapter is chartered.
- Section 2. The Chapter shall operate strictly as honorary unless or until sufficient student interest has been shown to warrant the election of student officers. At that time, student members shall elect officers as outlined in the Global Bylaws in effect at that time.
- Section 3. The National Office shall be notified when the change in procedures is established and the date and manner in which the changes shall take effect.

Article VII  
Finances

- Section 1. The fiscal year shall begin on January 1 of each year.
- Section 2. Dues for new members shall be charged in accordance with an amount specified annually by the Executive Committee of the National Headquarters.
- Section 3. University of the Rockies does not have annual dues to the National Organization.

Article VIII  
Amendments

- Section 1. Constitutional amendments for this chapter will be drafted by the Primary Advisor and/or the Executive Committee of the Chapter.
- Section 2. A draft of the proposed amendment will be submitted for approval to the National Executive Director of the Golden Key International Honour Society National Office.
- Section 3. Upon approval by the National Executive Director, the amendment shall be considered ratified and a finalized copy will be placed in both the files of the Chapter and the National Office.

Article IX  
Amendments to National Bylaws

- Section 1. Amendments may be proposed to the International Staff by any voting delegate, Chapter Advisor, or board member.

- Section 2. Corrections of typographical and other non-substantive errors, omissions, edits, or changes in the Bylaws may be made by the Board of Directors.
- Section 3. All other substantive bylaw amendment proposals shall be reviewed by the International Leadership Council (ILC) and the International Leadership, which together shall have 30 days to review the proposed amendment(s) for merit; make a recommendation to the Board of Directors regarding approval, disapproval or modification of the amendment; and determine, in the ILC's sole discretion, whether the amendment warrants ratification by Chapter voting delegates because it affects the rights and privileges of student members and/or involves Chapter-related matters.
- Section 4. A bylaw amendment requires a two-thirds vote of all board members at any regular or special Board of Directors meeting. Any bylaw amendment also determined by the ILC to warrant ratification by the voting delegates shall also require ratification by two-thirds of the votes cast by active members or a majority of the voting power, whichever is less, at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose.

