

REGISTERED STUDENT ORGANIZATION CONSTITUTION 2025-2026

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The name of this organization is Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society, Chi Lambda Chapter. This organization will utilize the nickname Tri-Beta in some publicity materials and correspondence. Chi Lambda is a chapter of the Beta Beta Beta National Biological Honor Society operating in Florence, Alabama. The website of Beta Beta Beta National Biological Honor Society is www.tribeta.org

ARTICLE II. MISSION STATEMENT

The Purpose of Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society shall be to function as an honor and professional society for students of the biological sciences. Its activities shall be designed to stimulate interest, scholarly attainment, and investigation in the biological sciences, and to promote the dissemination of information and new interpretations among students of the life sciences.

ARTICLE III. COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

Upon approval by the Grizzly Registered Organization Council and Student Life, Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society shall be a registered student organization at the Georgia Gwinnett College. Beta Beta Biological Honor Society shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, as well as all Georgia Gwinnett College student handbooks, Board of Regents (BOR) Policies and procedures. Such compliance includes but is not limited to the college's regulations related to Non-Discrimination, Hazing, and Student Leader Eligibility.

ARTICLE IV. MEASUREABLE GOALS

"This organization will establish at least five measurable outcome goals related to the mission statement, which will guide the programs events, and activities. These goals must be assessed and will be used by the Office of Student Involvement during student activity fee funding requests"

Goal 1: Promote the dissemination of scientific information among students of the life sciences.

Goal 2: Provide opportunities for interactions of members with science faculty through events and activities.

Goal 3: Encourage scholarly investigation in the biological sciences.

Goal 4: Expose members to career opportunities in the biological sciences.

Goal 5: Provide members with community outreach opportunities.

ARTICLE V. NON-DISCRIMINATION

"Beta Beta Biological Honor Society Chi Lambda Chapter does not discriminate on the basis of sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, or a medical condition related to pregnancy or childbirth) race, color, creed, age, religion, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, marital status, veteran or military status, genetic information, or any other protected status or characteristic as defined by law."

ARTICLE VI. NON-HAZING STATEMENT

"Hazing will not be used as a condition of membership in this organization. For a definition of hazing, please see the GGC Student Handbook."

ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP STATEMENT

Regular membership in this organization is by invitation to enrolled students at Georgia Gwinnett College that are Biology or Environmental Science majors with a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 AND a Biology GPA of 3.0 in biology courses above the 1000 level. All members of any class are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

Section 1. The membership shall be divided into six classes: regular, associate, graduate, honorary, alumna/ us and corporate. Beta Beta Beta is a non-discriminating organization that does not consider age, race, color, creed, sex, national origin or sexual preference.

Section 2. Regular members shall be:

- a) Undergraduate majors in biological sciences at an institution where a chapter of Beta Beta Beta is located.
- b) Shall have completed at least one term of the second year of a four-year curriculum or its equivalent.
- c) Shall have completed at least three term courses in biological science, of which at least one is not an introductory course, with an average grade of B or its equivalent in those biology courses.
- d) Shall be in good academic standing.

Only regular members may hold the constitutionally specified chapter offices, vote on chapter membership nominations and national questions, and represent the chapter or vote at national conventions.

Section 3. Graduate members shall be either graduate students currently enrolled in a life science at an institution where there is a chapter or faculty members actively serving in the biological sciences. They may participate in the local activities of any chapter except for the holding of constitutionally specified chapter offices and voting on chapter membership and national matters. They may attend district or national conventions, and, upon special designation, represent their original chapter at a national convention. They shall not be eligible for undergraduate awards.

Section 4. Associate members shall be those undergraduates whose interests include the life sciences in some significant way but who are ineligible for regular membership. Associate members shall be eligible to participate in all local, district, and national activities except those specifically reserved to regular members by this constitution.

Section 5. Chapter honorary members may be elected by any chapter in recognition of significant accomplishment as biologists, or of outstanding service to the chapter.

Section 6. Biology majors who have graduated from an institution at which a charter is later granted may become alumni members of the new chapter. Alumni members will receive an individual subscription to BIOS. Regular members who have become inactive may become Alumni members with payment of the appropriate fee.

Section 7. Corporate members shall be corporations, institutions or other organizations which support undergraduate education in the biological sciences. A corporation may be elected to membership by a majority of the National Executive Committee. Corporate members will be listed in each issue of BIOS and each corporate member will receive a membership certificate for display. Each corporate member will also have the privilege of providing a display at the national or district conventions.

Section 8. National honorary members may be elected by the biennial convention on nomination by the national officers. (Any member or chapter may propose prospective nominees.) Such membership shall be reserved for persons of outstanding accomplishment and stature in one or more of the biological sciences or persons rendering outstanding service to Beta Beta Beta.

Section 9. Regular, graduate and honorary members may wear the official insignia and shall remain members for life unless removed under the provisions of Section 11. Associate members are affiliated with the local chapter and may not wear the official insignia. Unless they qualify for regular membership, this affiliation shall terminate automatically when they cease to be undergraduate students.

Section 10. Members shall be nominated to the various categories by a committee that includes both regular members and faculty. Election shall be by at least a majority vote of the regular members present at a regular meeting.

Section 11. A regular member transferring from one institution to another shall be automatically eligible for membership in a chapter in his new institution unless he does not qualify under the normally prescribed requirements of his new chapter.

Section 12. Each chapter or club shall adopt specific membership requirements which are not in conflict with the requirements outlined in Section 2 and which are meaningful in the specific local situation. It is assumed that local

chapters and clubs will require high standards of scientific conduct in their nominees and members. No person shall be refused nomination on any basis other than failure to meet requirements in this constitution or in chapter by-laws.

Section 13. A regular member of a chapter may be removed from chapter membership only for cause by a vote of 3/4 of the entire voting membership. Any such removal must be approved by the chapter advisor (counselor) and is subject to appeal to the National Executive Committee.

Section 14. Stated local membership requirements shall be submitted to the chapter advisor and the District Director for approval. In case of disagreement or conflict between local requirements or local action and this constitution, the matter shall be referred to the National President for adjudication subject to final appeal to the National Executive Committee.

Section 15. The National Executive Committee shall, from time to time, adopt such by-laws, regulations, and definitions as are necessary to accomplish the equitable and reasonable application of these provisions.

ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS

Section 1. The elected officers of Beta Beta Beta shall be President, Vice-President, and Treasurer.

Part A: The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and shall coordinate the work of the officers and committees. The president shall appoint all standing and special committees and in the event of a vacancy in any position he/she shall fill such vacancy by appointment until the next regular election of the club.

Part B: The Vice-President shall serve as an aide to the President and shall perform the duties of the President in her/his absence or inability to serve.

Part C: The Treasurer shall receive all monies of Beta Beta Beta; shall keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures; shall pay out local funds in accordance with the approved budget as authorized by the organization. The Treasurer shall present a financial statement at every meeting of Beta Beta Beta and at other times when requested by the President or Vice President.

Section 2. The appointed officer(s) of BBB shall be Secretary.

Part A: The Secretary shall be appointed by the executive board members or by vote from the members. They shall record the minutes of all meetings of Beta Beta Beta and shall perform other duties as may be delegated.

Section 4. At the same time it elects officers, a chapter shall, if necessary, elect a chapter advisor (counselor) from among the biological sciences faculty. The advisor shall be, or shall become by this election, a graduate member. An advisor shall serve for a term of not more than three years but may be re-elected. The prospective regular members of a new chapter shall elect the first advisor (counselor) prior to the installation of the chapter.

Section 5. The chapter advisor (counselor) shall assist and advise the chapter and especially its officers in carrying out the chapter programs and aid in developing new policies and programs that contribute to its local effectiveness. The chapter advisor shall serve as permanent custodian of chapter records and funds making sure that they are maintained in good order and that each successive group of chapter officers are informed as to their responsibilities. The chapter advisor may delegate custodial duties during the academic year but shall check and reclaim all records and funds at the close of each academic year.

Section 6. Chapter officers are responsible for submitting promptly and in correct form such reports as are requested by the national and district officers. Chapter advisors shall review such reports for accuracy prior to submission.

ARTICLE IX. ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominations for all officers will take place annually from the members at the last general meeting in March. Any member may nominate any other voting member, including him or herself. Nominations may also be made during the election meeting prior to closing of nominations.

Section 2. Voting will occur by secret ballot and a simple majority vote is required to elect an officer. If there are more than two candidates running and no candidate receives a majority vote, there shall be a run-off vote between the top two vote recipients at the next general meeting. No person shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

ARTICLE X. FACULTY/STAFF ADVISOR

The faculty/staff advisor shall serve as a resource person and provide advisory support for the officers and members of the organization. The faculty/staff advisor may attend meetings, special events, plan events, and be available for the club and its members. The faculty/staff advisor will be elected and confirmed by majority vote.

ARTICLE XI. QUORUM

A quorum shall consist of 50% of the total membership + 1 and must be present to conduct business.

ARTICLE XII. FINANCE

Section 1. Effective August 1, 2024, members shall pay prior to initiation, a one-time Chapter Fee of \$10 to Chi Lambda, and directly to the National Society the following national initiation fees:

- a) regular member: \$55.00
- b) graduate member: \$45.00
- c) associate member: \$45.00
- d) associate member becoming a regular member \$10.00
- e) chapter or club honorary member: \$55.00
- f) alumna/us member: \$55.00

Section 2. Upon receipt of the initiation fee, the national Secretary-Treasurer will forward appropriate membership certificates to the chapter or club.

Section 3. For each regular, graduate and honorary member registered at the National Office, the chapter shall receive a two year subscription to BIOS. For each associate member registered, the chapter shall receive a one year subscription to BIOS. Each member shall have the option of receiving personally the subscription associated with his/her membership upon the payment of \$1.00 for each subscription year in addition to the initiation fee.

Section 4. Associate members who subsequently become regular members shall receive a reduction of the fee for regular membership as detailed in By-Law 1. The chapter shall receive a one year subscription to BIOS for each such member, subject to the option listed in Section 3.

ARTICLE XIII. DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION

In the event this organization dissolves, all (non Student Activity Fee) monies left in the treasury, after outstanding debts and claims have been paid, shall be donated to City of Hope charity.

ARTICLE XIV AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society Leaders by two thirds vote of the members present and voting, provided that notice of the proposed amendment was given at the previous meeting and that the proposed amendment shall be subject to approval of the Grizzly Registered Organization Council and Student Life.