Proposed changes to La Casa constitution

Membership

Old: Members are to be chosen at random.

New: Fluency in Spanish, nationality or ethnicity shall not be factors when considering prospective members for membership, but they must demonstrate an interest in fulfilling the mission of the House.

Old: Non-resident membership allowed ONLY when a room space opens and student plans to move in ASAP. Non-residents may not serve in any position whatsoever. Non-residents exempt from house duties even when on meal plan. Non-residents enjoy all benefits but are not charged any fee.

New: Social membership offers extended at the beginning of each term to students La Casa considers ‘aligned’ with the mission of the House. Social members may serve in non-presidential positions if in good standing for at least one year. Social members exempt from house duties unless they participate on a half or full meal plan. Social members pay 50% the established House tax for residents.

New: the House is authorized to charge any outstanding balance to a student’s bursar’s account in case he fails to pay his account balance in full within three months of leaving the House.

Positions

Old: One president. New: Two co-presidents with equal authority and responsibility.

Old: Steward (staples) is an elected position. New: Staples becomes a house duty.

New: The Executive Board consists of the co-presidents, treasurer and secretary. The Activities Board consists of cultural, social, rush and athletic chairs. The Executive Board has the responsibility of interpreting the constitution and exercising authority when disputes arise in the House.

New: Presidents shall present an operating budget for the semester to the Executive Board on registration day. Newly-appointed presidents can assume office only after drafting an operating budget and presenting it to the outgoing and incoming Executive Boards.

New: Treasurer shall provide monthly statements to all members and provide the Executive Board with monthly reports regarding the financial status of the House; he shall keep track of unpaid accounts; he shall seek sponsorship and funding for all events initiated by the Activities Board when so needed.

New: Secretary shall keep track of any point system defined in the bylaws. Secretary shall post updated cooking schedules every two weeks on designated spaces.

New: Social chairs shall organize at least one of each of the following every semester: a social event of general interest to the House, a house trip or outing, and a final dinner. Social chairs will aid the Cultural chair in the organization of cultural events.

New: Spanish chair becomes Social Chair. Social Chair will act as a liaison to the Spanish faculty within the FL&L department. Social chair will plan monthly events that promote the culture and language of Spanish speakers.