

## **Classics House Charter Fall 2019 – Spring 2020**

### **Philosophy**

The Classics House, which is supported by Classical Studies Department, is a home and community for any students interested in Greco-Roman studies. The Classics House works to promote student interest and enthusiasm for Classical studies through educational and social events. Drawing upon the Dickinson College's tradition of engagement in the broader community, this house promotes learning outside the classroom. Benjamin Rush himself felt that a classical education enhanced the student's ability to make meaningful contributions to society. We believe that the appreciation and exploration of the past instills a progressive attitude, eventually nurturing a "useful" citizen.

### **Development of a Community:**

We provide a safe and open environment with our independently created House rules each semester. The Classics House provides a much needed space for departmental activities, academic sessions, test reviews, and social events.

### **Positions Within House**

House Manager- Organizes house events, oversees maintenance of house, and participates in house activities. Does his or her part to make sure that the actions undertaken by the collective house match up with the house philosophy and ensures that the house maintains a role in the campus and classics communities. Also oversees day-to-day life in the house, checking in on the residents and making sure everyone is getting along smoothly.

### **Meetings**

Monthly house meetings are held in the house (by all its members) to go over house agenda. Agenda is determined over the course of the month as needs arise. Events are planned during these meetings and assignments for those events are delegated.

The house meets with its faculty advisor for dinner once a year at a restaurant in town to discuss house relations with the department.

The house should also meet at an on-campus dining location (or in the house itself) once a semester (or as need arises) for a goodwill meeting to maintain house relations.

### **Application Process**

To apply to the house, an application detailing relevant coursework, interest in the classics, and view of how the area of study can be more prevalent on campus is to be sent to current house manager. Applications are to be viewed by house and selected by vote with preference being given to certain classics students as outlined in "recruitment for following year" section. Those not chosen will be placed on a waiting list and offered vacant beds if any arise. Rooms are chosen on a first-come-first-serve basis, then by seniority, then by relevant classics experience (and then I guess by lots if it comes to that). An applicant who has not lived in the house formerly may be given priority over an applicant that has.

### **Membership Expectations**

- To live in the House.
- To be interested either in the Classics or to be involved with Eta Sigma Phi.
- To come to events and be involved in planning events.
  - In addition to this, each house member will be expected to head the planning and execution of at least one significant event per year.
- To be respectful of other house members and other house members' possessions, environment, and study habits.
- To further the growth of Classics on campus by spreading the word about the program.

### **Programming**

- Hosting Eta Sigma Phi meetings.
- Sponsoring events with Eta Sigma Phi or the Department at least once a month.
- Having the house available for the use of Eta Sigma Phi for service events or preparation of group dinners.
- Having individual tutoring sessions or homework groups for Latin and Greek students when necessary.
- Offering peer advising to Classics students at the house throughout the semester.
- Biannual Barbecue.
- Monthly "Classics" film viewings.
- Super Bowl viewing party.

### **Semester and Year Goals**

- To offer the space for other Humanities' majors interested in Classical Studies.
- To continue a close relationship with the professors in the Classics Department, especially the Faculty Advisor.
- To explore other ways to use the space for the advancement of scholarship in the Classics Department at Dickinson.
- To host social events that promote the Classics such as Greek or Roman festivals, movie nights, and reenacting historical/mythological events.
- To welcome interested students, providing an educational opportunity about understanding classical studies.
- To engage First-Year students.
- To work with other Special Interest Houses in order to foster a stronger community.

### **Community Standards**

- Common/high-use areas (i.e. bathroom, kitchen, living room) should be kept clean and free of clutter.
- All members must complete weekly chores set by the House Manager to maintain a healthy environment.
- All members shall be informed if guests will be arriving or if an event is being hosted at the house.
- All members will practice open communication, as this is a safe and friendly environment.
- All events promoted by the Classics House will be registered with CASE at least 2 weeks in advance.
- Violators of the expectations and rules will be addressed by the House Manager and the other members of the house. If violations continue to occur, the situation will be taken to the Faculty Advisor, Campus Life, and possibly DPS.

- Should a vacancy occur, remaining house members will first contact the Faculty Advisor and Angie Harris of Campus Life. Applicants who were not originally accepted to live in the house will be contacted about the vacancy. If none are available to move into the house, students involved with the Classics Department will be contacted. If there is still an issue, then members of the house will seek a new resident throughout the broader Dickinson College community via posters and word of mouth. If the house fails to fill the vacancy, then Campus Life will recruit a random student.

### **Recruitment for Following Year**

- When deciding the roster for the next academic year applicants who fall into at least one of the following categories will be considered first:
  - Eta Sigma Phi membership, Classical Studies Major, Classical Studies Minor, has taken Greek/Latin 200 +, Greek/Latin tutor (includes Latin Club teachers)
  - If the applicant is a first year, those who fall into at least one of the following categories will also be considered first:
    - Eta Sigma Phi membership, 2 credits in Greek/Latin/Classical Studies
    - Non-classical reasons for first consideration are as follows:
      - They have lived in the house previously and have helped to further its goals as a special interest house
      - They have applied to the house before and still show enthusiasm for the house's goals and expectations as well as meeting the criteria listed above
      - They will be on campus and able to live in the house for the full academic year (as opposed to a single semester) as well as meeting the criteria listed above
      - If these criteria are not adequately met by all of the applicants, those who fall into the following criteria will also be considered:
        - Those who have fulfilled or are in the process of fulfilling their language requirement in Greek/Latin, those who are actively taking Classical Studies courses, or have signed up for Classical studies courses for the following semester, those who hold a strong personal interest in the Classics and have creative and scholarly plans for the house.

Living in a Special Interest Community is a privilege and the actions of one member of the community will reflect on the Special Interest Program. Violation of the Student Code of Conduct could put the entire Special Interest Program under probation, suspension, or removal from campus. The Classics House will uphold the standards expected of each member of the Dickinson Community.