**ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**
​**Section 1: Membership**
Membership in Beta Phi Mu, including the privileges of voting, holding office, and chapter affiliation shall be granted to candidates at any college or university where the American Library Association or other recognized accrediting agency approved by the Beta Phi Mu Executive Board has accredited or recognized a professional degree program, or candidates from all other programs offered under the direction of the same faculty, and who fulfill the following requirements:

**Section 2: Graduate Membership**

1. Either

* + Completion of at least 50% of the total hours/credits required for the master’s degree with a scholastic average of no lower than 3.75 where A equals 4.0
	**OR**
	+ Completion of planned programs of advanced study that culminate in a degree beyond the master’s degree with a scholastic average of 3.75 where A equals 4.0.
1. Recommendation by the faculty attesting to the candidate’s professional promise.
2. Total eligible candidates from a program shall comprise no more than thirty-five (35) percent of the annual graduating class.
3. Acceptance of invitation and payment of fees. There is no time limit for acceptance of invitation, but candidates must provide proof of invitation with payment of fees when accepting invitation to membership.

**Section 3: Undergraduate Membership**

1. Completion of at least 50% of the total hours/credits required for the undergraduate degree, with a scholastic average of no lower than 3.75 where A equals 4.0
2. Recommendation by the faculty.
3. Total eligible candidates from a program shall comprise no more than thirty-five (35) percent of the annual graduating class.
4. Acceptance of invitation and payment of fees. There is no time limit for acceptance of invitation, but candidates must provide proof of invitation with payment of fees when accepting invitation to membership.

**Section 4: Professional Membership**
Persons who were not nominated for Beta Phi Mu membership at the point of graduation from an accredited or approved LIS graduate program, but who meet the following requirements, may apply for the category of professional membership:
      1. Either
                1. Completion of ALL requirements leading to a master’s degree with a scholastic average of no
                   lower than 3.75 where A equals 4.0
           OR
                2. Completion of planned programs of advanced study that culminate in a degree beyond the
                  master’s degree with a scholastic average of no lower than 3.75 were A equals 4.0.
      2. A work history as a librarian/information professional and/or LIS faculty member.
      3. A record of significant contributions to the LIS field and strong commitment to the Beta Phi Mu
          values of scholarship, leadership, and service.
     4. Other criteria as approved by the Beta Phi Mu Executive Board.
Applications for professional membership will be reviewed periodically by the Beta Phi Mu Executive Board and must receive a 2/3 majority vote to be approved. Upon approval by the Executive Board, the Executive Director shall notify these persons of invitation to professional membership and of the next membership meeting at which they may be initiated.
Professional membership is subject to acceptance of invitation and payment of fees. There is a one-year time limit for acceptance of the invitation to join.
Persons elected to professional membership shall have all the privileges of chapter and at-large membership, including: attending all membership meetings of the Society; speaking at meetings and on motions; proposing motions; voting; holding office; and presiding.

**Section5: Non US Members**
With the approval of the Executive Board, membership may be granted to candidates of schools outside the United States and Canada who meet the same membership criteria as above.
**Section 6: Membership with Chapter Affiliation**
Active Beta Phi Mu chapters shall be asked to send annually, at a time agreed upon by the chapter, to the Executive Director of Beta Phi Mu, a list of candidates with contact information who have met the requirements for membership as specified in these Bylaws (Article III, Sec. 1). The chapter shall notify these persons of invitation to membership and of the next chapter meeting at which they may be initiated.
**Section 7: Membership-at-Large**
Where no Beta Phi Mu chapter exists, accredited programs shall be urged to send annually to the Executive Director of Beta Phi Mu a list of candidates with contact information who have met the requirements for regular membership as specified by these Bylaws (Article III, Sec. 1). Upon approval by the Executive Board, the Executive Director shall notify these persons of invitation to membership-at-large and of the next membership meeting at which they may be initiated.
Membership-at-large is subject to acceptance of invitation and payment of fees. There is no time limit for acceptance of invitation, but the candidate must provide proof of invitation with payment of fees when accepting invitation to membership.
**Section 8: Honorary Membership**
Persons elected to honorary membership shall have the privilege of attending all membership meetings of the Society. They may speak at meetings and on motions. They may not, however, propose motions, vote, hold office, or preside.
Nominations for honorary membership may be made to the Beta Phi Mu Executive Board by any regular member or by any chapter through its president. Each recommendation for honorary membership shall be addressed to the Executive Director of Beta Phi Mu and be accompanied by the nominee’s vita and a detailed letter of justification for the nomination.
Nominations for honorary membership require election by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Board at any regularly called meeting provided that not less than two-thirds of the voting Board members are present, and provided that the members of the Board have received copies of relevant materials not less than two weeks before the meeting.
Deliberations for honorary membership shall be in the executive session with only the names of those receiving a positive vote being recorded in the Minutes.
**Section 9: Honorary Chapter Membership**
Chapters may elect persons to honorary membership in the chapter and may determine the criteria and process for such election as well as chapter privileges of honorary membership. Election to honorary Beta Phi Mu membership does not constitute election as to honorary Beta Phi Mu Membership at national level.
**Section 10: Notification**
Persons eligible for regular membership are invited by the chapter of the program which attests to their eligibility. Candidates without chapter affiliation will be invited to membership by the Executive Director of Beta Phi Mu at the direction of the Executive Board. Persons approved for honorary membership will be notified by the Executive Director at the direction of the Executive Board. Persons approved by chapters for honorary chapter membership will be notified by the nominating chapter.
**Section 11: Initiation**
All approved candidates for regular and honorary membership shall be initiated in accordance with procedures and ritual prescribed by the Executive Board or in the case of honorary chapter membership by the nominating chapter.