PREAMBLE

The National Society of Black Engineers, as a national student governed organization, does hereby dedicate itself to the development of intensive programs for increasing minority participation in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields. These programs will be initiated both within and outside the academic community and will serve to strengthen relations between the institution of academia, the professional industry and the black community. All members of this organization are encouraged to join and participate in their individual professional societies. This organization will endeavor to provide general counseling to all members.

ARTICLE I – Chapter Classification

The National Society of Black Engineers Bakersfield Chapter is a chapter constituent of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). This organization is an internationally recognized 501(c)3 non-profit student run organization; the Bakersfield derivation hereafter referred to as a chapter.

ARTICLE II – Chapter Objectives

The primary objective of this chapter shall be derived from that of the National Society of Black Engineers, thus NSBE Bakersfield shall serve to increase the number of culturally responsible black engineers and scientists who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community.

The secondary objective of this chapter shall be to the following; sustain minority student interest in engineering and related scientific fields, increase the number of minority students studying engineering within the community in Bakersfield; promote the
advancement of the ethnic minority engineers on the undergraduate, graduate and professional levels.

**ARTICLE III – Membership**

**Section 1**

Membership and participation shall be free from discrimination on the basis of sex, race, religion, ethnic group, age or national origin.

**Section 2a**

Membership in the chapter shall be designated as general member, affiliate member, or executive board member in accordance with national regulation.

**Section 2b**

Membership is defined accordingly,

**General member**

(a) Any undergraduate or graduate student enrolled in an accredited program that offers a degree in the field of engineering, science or technology.
(b) Said person must be a candidate for a degree in engineering, applied/physical science or a technical field.
(c) Said person has completed payment of annual membership fee.

**Affiliate member**

(a) Any person who does not meet the requirements stated and defined in Article III, Section 2b, subsection General Member, specification (a).

1. Said person is exempt from positions including, but not limited to National and Regional Executive Board and Chapter executive board positions higher than Parliamentarian.

**Executive Board Member**

(a) Any general member or affiliate member nominated, elected and appointed by the Executive Board to carry out specific duties in accordance with the chapter.
Section 3

The “good standing” of a NSBE member shall be defined as the definition of good standing dictated by the respective academic institution to which the chapter belongs.

ARTICLE IV - Voting

Section 1

General, Executive and Affiliate members in “good standing” are entitled one vote at all propositions stated during general body meetings.

Section 2

An active chapter as defined by the national requirements for such classification shall select two senators to cast votes in regional and national proceedings.

*At this time, NSBE Bakersfield does not qualify for Chapter senators. National Constitution Amendment is pending.*

Section 3

The president, when presiding over meetings, shall only vote on propositions in the event of a tie.

Section 4

Chapter constitutional laws and bi laws can be changed only by a two-thirds vote of the membership upon recommendation by a member of the Chapter Executive Board.

ARTICLE V – Member Dues

Section 1

Members of this chapter shall abide by the following financial expectations listed below,

(a) Annual membership fees are $15 and must be paid prior to participation in chapter related events.

(b) Financing for travel based events will be facilitated for members provided the members cover either; 10% of associated costs or one aspect of the associated costs.
ARTICLE VI – Meetings

Section 1

General meetings will be held during the second week of every month at a location to be determined at the beginning of the academic year by general body census.

Recreational meetings will be held during the fourth week of every month at locations to be determined prior by the Programs Chair.

Executive board meetings will be held during the third week of the month at a location to be determined at the beginning of the academic year by executive board census.

ARTICLE VII – Committees

Section 1a

There shall be four standing committees of the chapter, which are:

Committee of Communication
Committee of Finance
Committee of Pre-Collegiate Development
Committee of Nomination

Section 1b

Permanent Committees are defined accordingly,

Communications

The Communications Committee shall be responsible for discussing effective techniques to improve communication on three levels; within the community, within the organization and within the chapter in the event it dwindles.

Finance

The Finance Committee shall make recommendations to the Executive Board with respect to which activities to plan for fundraising.

Pre-Collegiate Development

The Pre-Collegiate Dev. Committee shall create programs that develop student interest in engineering and technically related on platforms prior to college.
Nominations

The Nominations Committee shall be responsible for making nominations for all elected positions and shall set the criteria for which a person must meet to run for any elected position. The criteria shall be required to be passed by the Executive Committee.

Section 2

In addition to the above duties, the committees will carry out assignments deemed necessary by the Chapter Executive Board.

Section 3

The Chapter Executive Board will create and appoint chairs for any special committee(s), as necessary.

ARTICLE VIII – Offices

Section 1

Executive Board Members must abide by requirements listed in Article III, Section 2b.

Section 2

Chapter Executive Board Offices consist of:

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
Programs Chair
Parliamentarian/ICC representative
Telecommunications Chair

Section 3

The Chapter Executive Board-Elect shall take office August or January, in correspondence with the appropriate semester for a full semester term.

Section 4
Should a vacancy occur in the office of President, the unexpired term shall be filled by the Vice-President. Should a vacancy occur in any Chapter Executive Board office other than President, the unexpired term shall be filled by appointment by the President and approved by the Chapter Executive Board.

Section 5

All chapter offices and their duties shall be defined by chapter Constitution in accordance with all regulations of the National Society.

Section 6

The previous president shall serve as Chair-Emeritus, with the approval of the Chapter Executive Board.

The Chair-Emeritus shall serve as an honored past member to the Chapter and shall not have a vote in proceedings.

Section 7

Elections of Chapter Offices will take place May 1st of each Fall semester and December 1st of each Spring semester.

ARTICLE IX - Duties of Elected Offices

Section 1 Duties of President

(a) Shall preside over all meetings of this chapter and provide an agenda for members at each regular meeting.

(b) Shall serve as representative of this chapter.

(c) Shall appoint and remove all chairpersons and members of all committees, except where otherwise provided for in this document, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.

(d) Shall be responsible or designate someone to be responsible for reserving a place for each regular meeting during the academic year.
Section 2

Duties of Vice-President

(a) Shall preside in the absence or the inability of the President.

(b) Shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to her by the President.

(c) If the office of the President becomes vacant for any reason during his elected term, the Vice President shall become the President until the President is able to return to his position or the term expires; thereby, creating a vacancy of Vice President.

Section 3

Duties of Secretary

(a) Shall keep accurate minutes of each meeting.

(b) Shall keep an accurate record of membership and attendance at Chapter meetings.

(c) Shall forward an annual report to the Executive Board of the National Society before February 1st, of each year, summarizing the activities of the Chapter during the year and listing the elected officers.

(d) Shall submit a semester report to the Chapter, at the last regularly scheduled meeting that contains all the activities of the Chapter during the present quarter.

(e) Shall keep all official records of this chapter except for those herein that the custody and control of shall be that of another office.

(f) Shall serve as the Chapter Telecommunications in the event of position vacancy.

Section 4

Duties of Treasurer

(a) Shall keep an accurate account of the Chapter's funds.

(b) Shall maintain a membership roll and collect all dues of the Chapter members.
(c) Shall forward all National Society dues of the Chapter members.

(d) Shall submit a report to the Chapter members at least once a month concerning the financial status of the Chapter, in writing.

(e) Shall submit an annual report to the Executive Board of the National Society before February 1st of each year, giving a complete accounting of the Chapter's finances and reporting on such other matters as the Executive Board may require.

(f) Shall be responsible for obtaining and/or maintaining a bank account in the name of this Chapter.

(g) All monies received by the Treasurer shall be deposited in the Chapter's bank account, within five business days after such receipt, by the Treasurer.

(h) All monies shall be disbursed by the President or the Treasurer only with the consent of the chapter.

Section 5

Duties of Parliamentarian/ICC representative

(a) Shall ensure that Parliamentary Procedure is observed and executed properly.

(b) Shall uphold proper communication channels with SGA on campus.

Section 6

Telecommunications

(a) Shall manage, monitor and approve status of web based communication platforms.

(b) Shall coincide with Regional counterpart to ensure Regional and National compliance.

Section 7

Nominations and Elections
(a) No later than March 30th of each school year, a Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Chapter President. This committee shall consist of a chairperson and at least two other members.

(b) The nomination committee shall nominate at least one candidate for each elected position of the Chapter. The nominating committee shall report these nominees to the Chapter before the first regular meeting in April, but only after it is determined that each nominee meets the following requirements:

   i. Is a member of the Chapter

   ii. Is eligible to serve

   iii. Is willing to serve if elected

   iv. Is aware of the responsibilities of the office for which he is nominated.

(c) A simple majority vote of the voting members present on Election Day shall be necessary for a person to be elected to an elected position.

(d) If any elected office becomes vacant, the office shall be filled by a simple majority vote at a meeting designated by the President.

ARTICLE X – IMPEACHMENT

Section 1 - Impeachment of Officers

(a) All elected officers are subject to impeachment procedures.

(b) If a member feels that an officer is not fulfilling her duties, he shall, in writing, submit a request for impeachment to the President; however, if the officer in question is the President, the request shall be submitted to the Chapter Advisor.

(c) A two-thirds vote of the Chapter's membership, not including the officer upon whom the charges have been brought, shall be required to remove an officer.

(d) Impeachment proceedings shall be called by the President, unless the office in question is the President, in which case the Chapter Advisor shall call the impeachment proceedings.

(e) An officer shall be required to be in good academic standing with Bakersfield College.
ARTICLE XI – Amendments

Section 1

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by:

(a) A two-thirds vote of the Chapter Executive Board.

Section 2

Proposed Amendments must be submitted in written form to the Chapter Executive Board to be reviewed. The proposal must be clearly stated and justified.