First-Gen Club Charter

Article I—Name of Organization
Section A. First-Gen Club

Article II—Club Purpose
Section A. The First-Gen Club will strive to create an open, inclusive, and safe space on Pitzer's campus for students who identify as the first in their family to attend college in the United States. We hope to nurture, unite, and strengthen the bonds among individuals within Pitzer's first-gen community, past and present, through community building, programming, and campus-wide recognition.

Section B. Currently, Pitzer College lacks programs and resources that specialize in improving retention rates among first-generation college students on campus, especially for sophomores, juniors, and seniors. This club will provide current and future first-gen students with an essential support group and resources, and therefore pave a path for improving retention rates in the future. This club will work towards a stronger network of diversity as well as be in extension of the first-gen mentorship program.

Article III—Membership
Section A. Only currently registered students may be active members in this club. Only active members may vote or hold office. Any member of this club must have attended a minimum of two meetings in order to be considered an active member.

Article IV—Officers/Elections
Section A. It is expected that all executive board members attend all club meetings (unless otherwise excused by the president(s) participate in at least 2 First-Gen Club events per semester, and hold other executive board members accountable for their assigned duties.

Section B. The Executive Board will comprise of the following officer positions:

1. President(s): Equally serve as the official representatives of the club to the Pitzer and 7C community and sets club meeting agendas, that is to be emailed to Student Talk and the First Gen Club Listserv. May propose and vote upon all club matters. Full academic year commitment.

2. Treasurer: Handles all financial club matters including but not limited to: collecting receipts, processing RFCs, and keeping an accurate budget for the club. The treasurer is also responsible for training the newly elected treasurer for the new academic year. May propose and vote upon all club matters. Full academic year commitment.
3. Secretary: Take meeting minutes at weekly club meetings. Full **semester** commitment.
4. Class Representative(s): To communicate with their graduating class and advocate for essential matters. May propose and vote upon all club matters. Full **academic year** commitment.
5. Historian: Document first gen club events and is responsible for updating the Facebook Page with events, pictures, etc. Full **semester** commitment.

**Section C.** All positions will be elected positions. All club members will have the ability to nominate himself or herself or any other club member that has attended at least two club meetings for respective positions. On Election Day (which will occur on the second-to-last meeting prior to the new semester), each nominee will provide a short speech on their qualifications and a blind vote facilitated by an executive board member. Elected members will be determined based on majority vote. Lastly, the final results will be announced immediately after.

**Section D.** All Executive Board officers must attend Executive board meetings, which will take place on the first week of every academic month. These board meetings should include event planning, club budget updates, and officer check-ins (?).

**Section E.** Term of office dependent on position (see above). Current officers may be re-elected.

**Section F.** If officers do not deem fit to fulfill their duties and expectations, discussion followed by a nine-tenths vote will be implemented and a replacement may be appointed/elected shortly after.

**Article V— Club Meetings**

**Section A.** Weekly meetings will be held according to club members’ availability. The president(s) will facilitate the meetings and all executive board officers must attend the meetings. Meetings will be announced periodically via two or three days prior via the First Gen list-serv and student-talk.

**Section B.** Executive board members, as a collective, can call for emergency club meetings if necessary. Members will be notified via email or by phone about the date and time of the emergency meeting.

**Section C.** A minimum of 10 members must be present at a meeting in order to conduct business and approve budget allocations.
Article VI—Charter Amendments

Section A. An amendment may be initiated by any member of the club and passed by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at the meeting.

Section B. Active members will be notified via email or by phone. All constitutional amendments, additions, or deletions will be filed with Student Senate within one week of adoption.

Article VII—Organization Dissolution

Section A. All club members are able to prompt further discussion about potential dissolutions during meeting times when appropriate. Dissolutions will be decided by a minimum of two executive board members followed by a majority club vote.

Section B. Nine-tenths of all active members is the required amount of votes to dissolve the group.

Article VIII - Club Associations with other Pitzer Organizations

Section A. The First Gen Club is a separate entity from IGLAS-First Gen Mentor Program. IGLAS comprises of Roberta Espinoza, the interim director, and the First Gen Intern, and the First Gen Mentor Program. IGLAS is responsible for connecting First Gen students with faculty, career services, and the larger institution. First Gen Mentorship Program, which is under IGLAS, is a mentorship program for first-years who are first generation. The First Gen Club functions as a social organization meant to create a supportive and uplifting first-gen community within a higher ed institution. Collaboration is encouraged among the organizations, but these entities are not and should not be conflated as a single organization.

Article IX - First Gen Club Events

Section A. Because the First Gen Club is, as of November 2016, funded by Senate, events planned are open to the general Pitzer community. However, events can be made exclusive to only Pitzer first gen students. If such closed events were to be created, they must be advertised as closed events when created and sign-ups/RSVPs will be given priority to only Pitzer first gen students.

Section B. During club meetings, outside events can be and are encouraged to be advertised as the First Gen Club functions as a platform for Pitzer first gen students. However, these events must be made clear that they are not sponsored or funded by the First Gen Club to avoid confusion.

Section C. The First Gen Club will not provide alcoholic beverages at its events.