



FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE

Front Line Professionals Meeting

December 14, 2017

Dr. Matthew Richardson, Director

The Community

- 31 active chapters
- 2,100 undergraduate students
- 2 Honor Societies
- Collective GPA that is .20 points above the all-University average
- 2 FT staff members + 2 graduate assistants
- 3 governing councils (IFC, NPHC, Panhellenic)
- 161 Mountainlair



The Vision

- Graduate Assistants to advise councils on programming, advocacy, and operations
- Professional Staff to meet with chapter presidents
- Streamline judicial processes & get policies in line with national insurance requirements
- Comprehensive chapter assessment program that allows chapters to work within national HQ guidelines
- Enhance collaboration with advisors and HQ
- Treat Advisors as team players
- Common sense accountability means a willingness to work with the University & law enforcement
- Harmony & model Greek community
- Remove WVU as a “high risk” considered campus for Greek Life
- Expansion/extension & raise our population through inclusive excellence



In just 3 short months...

- Renamed to “Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life” to be more inclusive and better align ourselves with Big XII peer institutions
- Promoted a staff member to build foundational strength
- Added “Diversity & Inclusion” into OFSL core values
- Established clear and equitable guidelines (Manual of Operations) with input from students and alumni
- Implemented a new Tri-Council Social Event Policy which is helping us build relationships with law enforcement, and better align our chapters with best practices in risk management
- Committed to an FSL-wide philanthropic initiative— the Circle of Sisterhood Foundation
- Established a chapter of Gamma Sigma Alpha Society, honoring the high academic achievement of our members
- Established a FSL Alumni Council through the Alumni Association
- Established routine Chapter President meetings to increase communication among student leaders
- Established the monthly Tri-Council (IFC, NPHC, Panhellenic) communication forum to encourage collaboration
- Established a chapter of Greeks Advocating the Mature Management of Alcohol Peer Education Group through a partnership with WellWVU
- Established a University-wide Hazing Prevention Task Force
- Created a social policy enforcement plan of house walk-throughs



The Bottom Line

- Fraternity & Sorority Life is a major student sub culture
- We differ from other student organizations due to our rituals and values-based expectations of membership
- We are cognizant of the national landscape, and “excuses” will not be accepted as “truth.”
- Common-sense accountability is the practice for risk management at WVU
- We provide a space where students can grow into themselves with an inherent support network of peers and other Mountaineers



Recruitment/Intake Information

- A student must have 12 earned credits and a minimum 2.50 GPA in order to join a social fraternity or sorority.
- Test-In credits such as AP/IB, or “college in high school” credits do not count.
- Transfer students need only 12 credits from another institution of higher learning to join
- Some individual organizations have additional requirements (e.g. 2.75 GPA, 30 earned credits, etc.)
- Recruitment/Membership intake occurs both semesters for IFC groups, but some Panhellenic and NPHC chapters may not be “open” for the fall.
- Spring semester is the “main” recruitment/intake period for all 3 Councils



Information (cont.)

- Panhellenic Recruitment
 - Students must register in advance
 - January 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21
 - Women will be contacted with all the information they need to know
 - Will visit each organization.
 - “Don’t get your heart set on one...keep an open mind!”
- IFC Recruitment- Commonly referred to as “RUSH”
 - January 21-26
 - Various locations
 - Students may “rush” as many as they’d like, but may only accept one bid of membership
- NPHC Membership Intake
 - Varies by organization. Students should watch for social media posts concerning interest meetings of specific organizations throughout the semester.



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