

Fraternity & Sorority Life (FSL) External Review

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Acknowledgement of Current Community Efforts

The Fraternity and Sorority community has been supported by dedicated staff and engaged student leaders that continue to provide programming and outreach to our students in the hope of providing a positive experience. Many of these efforts are aligned with outcomes and recommendations identified within the report. Some important examples include:

- **Assessment and Evaluation:** Using data from the Forward: Chapter Accreditation program, Greek Alcohol Survey, Color of Drinking Data we are working to improve the member experience and share the story of FSL more broadly.
- **Community Communication:** Through monthly newsletters, social media platforms, and regular email updates we are increasing contact with community stakeholders to better share information and improve relationships while also better communicating highlights of the fraternity and sorority community.
- **Leadership Development:** By providing chapter coaching, council officer advisement, and social justice minded workshops we continue to support members with innovative approaches and align FSL with best practices.

We are excited to continue to advance current efforts that are underway and identify new opportunities to meet the stated outcomes of the report.

Next Steps

While the report has served as a critical first step, the focus now shifts to the joint efforts of the University, FSL students, alumni, and community stakeholders to provide a substantive response to enhance our community. The report and subsequent recommendations surfaced many opportunities that align with initiatives that have been of interest to FSL students and UW-Madison staff. After an initial review of the report, Fraternity & Sorority Life Staff in the Center for Leadership & Involvement generated a set of priorities that would address many of the concerns and recommendations articulated in the report while building on past efforts of students and staff. In addition, the outlined priorities address evolving challenges that exist at UW-Madison and across the national fraternal landscape.

These proposed priorities and tentative next steps will be shared widely with various Fraternity & Sorority Life constituencies, including Council Leaders from the four governing organizations (NPHC, PHA, MGC, IFC), Chapter Presidents, and Chapter Advisors with the hope of generating support and participation. These feedback sessions will be held early in the fall semester. At the conclusion of these efforts, more specific information and opportunities for engagement will be communicated. We appreciate your on-going commitment to this process.

Proposed Priority Areas for Consideration and Feedback

Priority 1: FSL Community Health & Safety Initiatives

Comprehensive Education and Intervention Plan

Overview: A comprehensive education and intervention plan will allow the entire fraternity and sorority community to elevate existing programs and expectations and create new opportunities to ensure the health and safety continues to be a top priority of the membership experience. The topics included in this initiative include, but are not limited to: sexual violence, alcohol/drugs, mental health, and hazing. This initiative will examine all existing education/interventions in place, identify gaps, and coordinate a comprehensive plan to allow fraternity and sorority chapters to meet expectations of the community.

Langdon Street Community Coalition

Overview: The Langdon Street Community Coalition would be composed of a group of fraternity and sorority community members, advisors, and house corporation board representatives, in addition to representatives from the Red Gym, Memorial Union, and other campus and community stakeholders. Together, the Coalition will review and discuss relevant data (i.e. Color of Drinking, Greek Alcohol Survey, etc.) and emerging community issues to generate solutions and initiatives to address concerns surrounding inclusion, overconsumption of alcohol, and safety more broadly.

Priority 2: Elevate Multicultural Greek Council and National Pan-Hellenic Council

Overview: Many structures, systems, and practices in Fraternity & Sorority Life nationally are rooted in those set by the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) and National Panhellenic Conference (NPC). While these organizations have done valuable and important work, we seek to elevate the Multicultural Greek and National Pan-Hellenic councils in terms of the support, resources, and acknowledgement they receive from the fraternity and sorority, UW-Madison, and broader Madison communities.

Priority 3: Implement FSL Community Communication Plan

Overview: In addition to the current communication initiatives in the fraternity and sorority community (community newsletters, start/end of semester chapter advisor messages, etc.), the FSL staff will implement a more thorough communication plan to better share information with a variety of stakeholders including chapter advisors, parents and families, house corporation board members, alumni, national organizations, and more. This will enhance understanding and appreciation of the fraternity and sorority community more broadly on and off campus.

Priority 4: Resources and Staffing

Overview: The current amount of resources and staff dedicated to supporting the FSL Community at UW-Madison is disproportionate to the size and scope of the community. Using comparative data and then analyzing the required support needed to move the initial report priorities forward, a recommendation for future staffing levels, financial and program support of the community as well as a possible funding mechanism in support of their recommendation will be submitted.

Priority 5: Clarify and Communicate Committee on Student Organizations (CSO) Processes

Overview: As departmental oversight for the Committee on Student Organizations transitions from the Center for Leadership & Involvement to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards, UW staff will engage in outreach to FSL students and chapter advisors to share

information on processes, case timelines, and sanctioning. Conversations with the four FSL council leaders will continue in an effort to clarify the roles and relationships between council-level judicial processes, FSL staff, and the CSO. As part of this effort, the CSO will review communication protocol and emerging practices that could yield productive partnerships with national headquarters and other FSL constituencies.