

# Manual of Policies and Procedures for Student Affairs

## Subchapter 2.3 Greek Life

### Subchapter 2.3-100. General Provisions

#### Sec. 2.3-101. Purpose

a. Fraternities and sororities are organizations founded on values-based principles to promote service, foster academic success, facilitate friendships, and develop leaders. They are designed to create a more intimate environment for their members that will be conducive to easing students' transition to the University, enhancing a student's social and academic development and applying knowledge for overall career readiness.

#### Sec. 2.3-102. Definitions

a. In this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning,

1. "University" means The University of Texas at Tyler;
2. "Student" means a person who is currently enrolled at the university, or is accepted for admission or readmission to the university, or has been enrolled at the university in a prior semester or summer session and is eligible to continue enrollment in the semester or summer session that immediately follows, or engaged in prohibited conduct at a time when he or she met the above criteria;
3. "Greek Advisor" refers to the staff member in the Department of Student Engagement whose job description includes coordinating the Office of Greek Affairs;
4. "National Organization" refers to an individual fraternity or sorority organization that is established on more than one institution of higher learning and has a centralized office that provides national oversight;
5. "National Governing Body" refers to an inter/national level trade association including but not limited to the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC), the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC), the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC), the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations (NALFO), or the National Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Panhellenic Association (NAPA);
6. "Local Level Governing Council" refers to a local, university based, student-led governing council, which may be affiliated with a national governing body or may be an independent body, which enforces and provides oversight and accountability into operations, standards and policies on national organizations;
7. "New Member" is defined as a student who has been extended an invitation for membership in a national organization but not yet reached full initiated status in a fraternity or sorority but is participating in activities with that organization to reach initiated membership;
8. "Membership Education" is defined as expanding the knowledge of a member, regardless of membership level, about, but not limited to, fraternity and sorority life, communication of ritual, risk management/risk reduction, or specific information/curricula assigned by a national organization;
9. "Information Recruitment/Continuous Open Bidding (COB)" is defined as the process of accepting new members on a continual basis up to a specific goal or number desired in membership, outside of the structured process of council sponsored recruiting activities.

### Subchapter 2.3-200. Administration

#### Sec. 2.3-201. Advisors

a. Each chapter must select a minimum of two advisors chosen at the discretion of the organization. In accordance with the policies set forth for student organization registration in MOPP subchapter 2.7, at least one of the two advisors must be a member of the University staff or faculty, though that person need not be a member of the organization he/she advises. Unaffiliated/non-member advisors need not be a part of private/ritual events; however, the chapter may choose to invite these individuals to be initiated as honorary or alumni/alumnae members.

b. All advisors must be at least five years removed from their undergraduate graduation and they must live within 60 miles of the Tyler campus. The Department of Student Engagement must approve exceptions.

c. All advisor information will be included on the Student Organization Registration Form filed through the Department of Student Engagement semesterly and updated as necessary through the Greek Advisor.

d. All advisors will be expected to communicate effectively with the leadership of the student organization as well

as with the Greek Advisor. Advisors are expected to be familiar with Inter/National policies and procedures of their organization and the policies of all councils their organization is affiliated with.

e. The University will assist chapters in identifying advisors, particularly among the faculty and staff, though the responsibility of securing advisors that meet the criteria falls upon that individual organization. A list will be maintained in the Department of Student Engagement to identify faculty and staff members who are affiliated with Greek-letter organizations.

**Sec. 2.3-202. Affiliation with non-UT Tyler fraternities and sororities**

a. UT Tyler will not endorse a student to participate as a member of a fraternity or sorority chapter on another campus, regardless of whether that organization has a chapter at UT Tyler. If a student is interested in starting a particular fraternity or sorority, they should contact the Greek Advisor to learn about the process to bring a Greek-lettered organization to campus.

**Sec. 2.3-203. Auxiliary groups**

a. Fraternity-chapter women's auxiliary groups and sorority-chapter men's auxiliary groups will not be recognized under any circumstances. Association with an auxiliary group is immediate cause for a chapter to appear before their council's judicial board and could result in disciplinary action.

**Sec. 2.3-204. Chapter roster**

a. Every member of a chapter should have a signed Educational Record Release on file with the Department of Student Engagement. This should be completed and submitted within 72 hours of a new member accepting a bid. Failure to do so could result in disciplinary action.

b. Each chapter is expected to maintain an updated roster of its members with the Department of Student Engagement per student organization registration guidelines as well as maintain a current roster through the Office of Greek Affairs. The deadline for submitting these rosters will be designated by the Office of Greek Affairs. Semester grade calculations will be made based on the roster of each chapter on the listed census day during each long semester and including any additional members attained through informal recruiting/COB as applicable after that date.

c. Active membership in a fraternity or sorority recognized through the Office of Greek Affairs is limited to those students that are currently enrolled in classes at the university.

**Sec. 2.3-205. Registration and recognition**

a. Each fraternity and sorority is required to register with the University through the Department of Student Engagement, as does every student organization each semester. This should be completed by the designated deadline each fall and spring semester. In addition, the chapter should provide any additional details as requested by the Office of Greek Affairs in a timely manner.

b. It should be noted that the Office of Greek Affairs will only recognize single-sex Greek-lettered organizations/fraternities and sororities as recognized by Title IX criteria and not formed or operating for professional or honorary purposes.

c. Individual national organizations should be members of the NIC, NPC, NPHC, NALFO, NAPA or another approved National governing body. National organizations not affiliated with a national governing body may be considered for registration by the Office of Greek Affairs on a case by case basis.

d. All fraternity and sorority organizations must associate and become a member of a local governing body that is registered and recognized by the Department of Student Engagement. These local level governing councils will partner with the Greek Affairs Office to oversee expansion/extension and recruitment/intake. The local level governing councils will also hold chapters accountable for violations of standards, laws, Regent's Rules, University policies, the council's bylaws, standing rules and standards. While a local level governing council's affiliation in a national governing body is desired, it is not required.

e. The Greek Advisor will serve as advisor for all local level governing councils.

f. The University supports expansion and growth of fraternities and sororities; however, it also appreciates a structured and healthy growth of the community that will allow for the best support of new and existing chapters.

g. If an organization loses recognition by their governing council, their inter/national organization or the University, for any reason, the organization will become inactive for the time period as determined by the organization, University

and/or the governing council. Inactive organizations will be subject to a loss of privileges awarded to active student organizations provided by the University specified in MOPP subchapter 2.7. Once the specified time period has passed, an organization shall petition the University and the appropriate governing council for re-admission and recognition provided University requirements are met through the chief student success officer or their designee.

### **Subchapter 2.3-300. Hazing**

#### **Sec. 2.3-301. Hazing**

- a. Hazing with or without the consent of a student inflicting the hazing or the person submitting to the hazing is not permitted and subject to immediate discipline. In addition, as a part of the registration process each semester, each organization must sign a written statement acknowledging that the organization does not engage in hazing activities which may be dangerous, harmful, or degrading to the student.
- b. For a comprehensive definition and enhanced disciplinary penalties related to hazing, see MOPP chapter 8, section 8- 804(a).

### **Subchapter 2.3-400. Member Recruitment and Education**

#### **Sec. 2.3-401. Membership Recruitment/Intake**

- a. The University recognized the importance of chapter growth and development in the fraternity and sorority community. The Office of Greek Affairs shall be empowered to manage all aspects of fraternity and sorority recruitment and intake for the fraternity and sorority community.
- b. It will be the responsibility of each chapter to register their intent to participate or not participate in the semester recruiting/intake events.

#### **Sec. 2.3-402. Membership Education**

- a. Education of new members shall be limited to no more than eight (8) weeks. After successful completion, the new member will become an initiated member of the national organization they are affiliated with. Exceptions can be requested through the Office of Greek Affairs.
- b. A new member who has successfully completed new member education will have completed the member education process determined by their chapter.
- c. The Office of Greek Affairs will provide a new member education program which will be completed as determined by the Greek Advisor. Failure to complete this university program will result in a new member not being added to the chapter roster until the course is complete.