

## Research Development Strategic Work Group: Strategic Research Aims

Research remains a high priority within the Association's strategic framework. From making research a funding priority for both AFA and the AFA Foundation to plans to make the Oracle submission and review process more efficient through the use of Scholastica to continuing to solidify an enhanced partnership with the Center for Fraternity and Sorority Research, we understand that the key to understanding our students and advocating for our profession comes from good solid research.

The Research Development Strategic Work Group worked diligently last year to develop a list of topics to guide research in our field. Moving forward, these topics will become a central priority in selecting research grants and articles for publication:

- Chapter transformation
- Benefits of culturally-based fraternities/sororities, particularly at PWIs
- Transgender issues
- Longitudinal analyses
- Faculty attitudes, beliefs and dispositions
- Fraternity & Sorority Life as a profession
- Preparing fraternity/sorority members for the post-graduate world
- How the fraternity/sorority influences one's beliefs and actions
- Programming and leadership development initiatives focused on the long-standing issues
- Fraternity & Sorority Life within the larger "Academy"
- Corollaries and consequences of student engagement in fraternity/sorority life