Navigating Unrecognized Greek Lettered Organizations

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Navigating Unrecognized Organizations

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Purpose of Today’s Presentation

• Define what an unrecognized group is.
• Identify issues that exist with unrecognized organizations.
• Learn how to manage unrecognized organizations.
• Identify key partners to work with when addressing unrecognized organizations.
• Present solutions to assist in managing unrecognized organizations.
Recognized Organizations

• An organization that the University acknowledges the right of the organization to exist because the group provides a structure through which students are able to exercise their right to freely associate in pursuit of a common purpose.
  •Outlined requirements for a recognized group.
  •Recognized organizations must adhere to the policies and procedures of the host institution.
  •There are benefits to being recognized and associated with the University.
Unrecognized Organizations

• A group that is NOT associated with the University.
  – Meaning the University DOES NOT HAVE a formalized relationship with the organization.
    • A group that may have been at one time recognized by the University and has since lost recognition.
      – University may have chosen to sever relationship with the group over concerns of health and safety of the students and the university community.
    • The group may have never been associated with the University.
  • The group and their members do not receive support or advisement from the University.
  • Sometimes referred to as: underground, rogue or “off campus”
Issues that Surface

• The national organization continues to recognize and support the local organization.
• New student organizations are formed under a different name.
• Unrecognized groups organize to form their own “governing bodies.”
• Difference between recognized and unrecognized organizations is not clear.
Most Critical Issue

Organizations that operate absent policies and procedures increase potential harm for students on our campus.
PARADIGM SHIFT
We are operating in a different paradigm.
The paradigm of managing a fraternity or sorority that we do not have a formalized relationship with.
Managing Unrecognized Organizations
Managing Unrecognized Organizations

• **INFORM** prospective students & parents, University partners, current students and the greater community

• **ADDRESS AND CONFRONT** unrecognized organizations

• **DOCUMENT** every interaction and/or incident and keep good records

• **KEEP DIALOGUE OPEN** with students and campus partners
Managing Unrecognized Organizations

- **INFORM** prospective students & parents, University partners, current students and the greater community
  - Determine who needs to be made aware of what Greek lettered organizations are operating unrecognized.
  - Develop a website with information related to unrecognized organizations.
  - Educate current FSL students leaders & members.
  - Educate colleagues and partners.
Key Partners

- University Police
- City Police
- Dean of Students Office
- Conduct Office/Student Rights & Responsibilities
- Student Organization Office
- Campus Recreation
- Union Staff
- University Foundation
- National Organizations
- OGC
- FSL Leaders & Members
Managing Unrecognized Organizations

• ADDRESS AND CONFRONT unrecognized organizations
  • Cultivate a response team.
  • Develop a plan of how you will engage the unrecognized organizations.
  • Communicate the process and the plan.
  • Consistently address behaviors.
  • Determine follow up – individual behaviors vs. organizational behaviors.
Managing Unrecognized Organizations

- **DOCUMENT** every interaction and/or incident and keep good records
  - Document every interaction.
  - Track students who are affiliated with the organization.
  - Track physical addresses of where the organizations are residing.
  - Watch for patterns of behavior when tracking information on unrecognized organizations.
Managing Unrecognized Organizations

• **KEEP DIALOGUE OPEN** with students and campus partners
  • When a new incident occurs who needs to be made aware?
  • Revisit the approach you are utilizing. Is it working?
  • Are their new campus partners who should be informed of unrecognized organizations?
  • Listen to the experiences of your students.
Objective

Ultimate goal is for unrecognized organizations to cease operating, to die out, and to become irrelevant to the student community.
Make Fraternity Relevant

• Make fraternity and sorority relevant.
• Build the best fraternity and sorority experience on your campus that you can.
• Clearly articulate the benefits of membership in a recognized organization.
• Empower chapters and fraternity and sorority student leaders to offer the best experience they can.
Questions & Answers
Thank you for Participating
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