

Greek Life Study Group Meeting One  
September 19, 2008  
Summary

In attendance: Allison Bressler, Craig Ullom, Joni Brown, Jack McKinnie, Kim Dolgin, Joan McLean, Binney Fouts, Zach Taft, Laurie Patton, Frank Timmons, Rock Jones

On conference phone: John Gordon, Scott Donaldson, Chris Musbach, Dennis Nock, Ed Lenane and Skip Auch.

Agenda:

1. Opening Comments

*Received charge from President Jones:*

- We want to look at Greek life on OWU's campus – Greek life has been an important piece of the campus community.
- Greek Life provides setting for groups to get together, provides opportunity for leadership and serving the campus and greater Delaware community.
- It is important to acknowledge the wide range and expectation about Greek Life for the future.
- Greek life does have some highs and some lows and there are a wide range of expectation and understanding the Greek community
- We need to look at the management agreements between fraternity houses and OWU
- The task force report by end of Fall 2008 semester and will present to the Board of Trustee's in their January 2009 meeting.
- We would like to start planning and implementing by May 2009

*Binney Fouts/John Gordon/Craig Ullom:*

Presented their objective of the committee, make this a stronger Greek Life Community

*General discussion:*

- Need to see info from other schools
- Need to see where OWU is from other schools
- Dilapidation of fraternity houses could be a reason for decrease in recruitment
- Understand where OWU is before decide where we want to go
- Other than in the south numbers are down across the board.
- Today's student has so many other options.
- Division III schools can't play three sports because one sport takes up so much time
- Students look at what they can do best
- Why do sororities work better than fraternities at OWU?
- We need to think "outside the box"
- Look at other campuses
- The sky is the limit
- How fraternities and sororities can fulfill goals of OWU?

## Mission of the Study Group

This study group is designed to create a road map for excellence within the fraternity and sorority community at Ohio Wesleyan.

One end product of this study will be a clear statement of relationships among the university, the fraternity and sorority organizations, and the respective alumni groups and national offices associated with each fraternity and sorority.

2. Introductions and expectations of study group members

3. Remarks

Binney Fouts

John Gordon

Craig Ullom and Allison Bressler

4. Proposed organization of our work

a. The study group will be divided into three teams. Each team will conduct three focus group interviews with stakeholders as follows:

Team #1

Interfraternity Council and Interfraternity Executive Council

House parents

National office representatives

Team #2

Panhellenic and Panhellenic Executive Council

House Corporation and alumni leadership

Faculty advisors and student affairs staff

Team # 3

National Pan-Hellenic leadership

Chapter advisors

Non-affiliated students

Questions should include:

Now:

What is your perception of fraternity and sorority life at OWU?

What is the importance and value of fraternity and sorority life at OWU?

What is the role of fraternity and sorority life at OWU?

What are the strengths of fraternity and sorority life at OWU?

Future:

What is your vision of fraternity and sorority life at OWU?

What do you want it to be?

What can it be?

Roadmap:

What do we need to do to achieve that vision?

What are we willing to do to achieve that vision?

b. Conduct on-line survey of stakeholders to gather quantitative data about perceptions of fraternity and sorority life. Suggestions for questions will be gathered from the study group during our first meeting.

c. Reporting, discussion, and timeline

Each team report findings of focus groups on:

October 3:

Interfraternity Council & Interfraternity Executive Council: Team #1

Panhellenic & Panhellenic Executive Council: Team #2

National Pan-Hellenic leadership: Team #3

October 24:

House parents: Team #1

House corporation and alumni leadership: Team #2

Chapter advisors: Team #3

November 7:

National office representatives: Team #1

Faculty advisors and student affairs staff: Team #2

Non-affiliated students: Team #3

November 21: Review findings from surveys and other studies and discuss components of the relationship statement and the roadmap.

*Survey questions could include such as:*

- What led you to join a fraternity or sorority
- What would you need to find within the fraternity sorority
- Did you go through recruitment and then not join
- Why did you not join

December 5: Draft relationship statement and roadmap objectives discussed

Using the relationship statement as a values-based foundation, the roadmap will include action items that will need to be explored more completely by individuals and teams that could include interested study group members and other resources inside and outside of the university.

The roadmap could be organized as follows:

- Infrastructure including facilities, finances, staffing
- Risk management, liability, and accountability
- Academic and leadership development
- Promotion, recruitment, and chapter membership

December 15: Present findings to university officers

January 15: Present findings to Board of Trustees

5. Survey Development. A survey will be developed to distribute throughout the OWU community to solicit input from those not involved in the stakeholder focus groups.

Survey items should be sent to Allison or Craig.

Kim will assist in constructing the survey. Survey results will be discussed on November 21.

6. Key findings and promising practices from other studies of Greek Life will be collected and shared in November.

## Resource Links

National Panhellenic Conference Standards

[http://www.npcwomen.org/resources/pdf/0703\\_standards\\_booklet.pdf](http://www.npcwomen.org/resources/pdf/0703_standards_booklet.pdf)

North American Interfraternity Conference Standards

[http://www.nicindy.org/standards/standards\\_for\\_campuses/](http://www.nicindy.org/standards/standards_for_campuses/)

National Pan-Hellenic Council Background Information

<http://www.nphcq.org/about.htm>

Prototype Greek Community Mission Statement

[http://www.livingtheritual.com/greek\\_mission\\_statement.pdf](http://www.livingtheritual.com/greek_mission_statement.pdf)

Prototype Member Code of Standards

[http://www.livingtheritual.com/code\\_of\\_standards.doc](http://www.livingtheritual.com/code_of_standards.doc)

Nine Basic Expectations of Fraternity Membership

[http://www.livingtheritual.com/9\\_expectations\\_of\\_membership.doc](http://www.livingtheritual.com/9_expectations_of_membership.doc)

A Call for Values Congruence

<http://fraternityadvisors.org/uploads/PublicDocuments/CallforValuesCongruence.pdf>

Interfraternity Institute Home Page (resources link)

<http://interfraternityinstitute.org/>

## Attachments

National Panhellenic Conference Consulting Team Visit Report for OWU that was conducted in April, 2008/ PDF

Fraternity and sorority life membership from 1996 to 2008/ Excel

Roster of study group members grouped by teams/ Word