GREEK LANGUAGE FRATERNITY AND SORORITY STYLE

ACRONYMS, ISSUES AND RESOURCES

Acceptance forms:
The forms used by sorority and fraternity prospective members at the end of a formal recruitment period to indicate their order of preference for the sororities or fraternities they wish to join (formerly known as bid cards or preference cards).

Active:
An unmarried, undergraduate member who has been initiated into a fraternity or sorority chapter and is currently enrolled in classes at the institution. Initiated member is an interchangeable term.

AFA:
Founded in 1976, the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors has provided individuals concerned with the fraternity/sorority movement an avenue for professional growth and development. Since that time, AFA has grown into a multifaceted international organization providing resources, recognition, and support for campus fraternity / sorority advising professionals. http://www.fraternityadvisors.org/

AFLV:
The Association of Fraternal Leadership & Values exists to stimulate the growth and development of fraternity/sorority council and chapter leaders by promoting leadership, educational, and values based experiences and resources for student leaders, their advisors, and the larger fraternal market. AFLV is a membership based, non-profit organization with a 501(c)3 IRS tax status. In addition to other programs and support services, the foundational programs include the AFLV Central Fraternal Leadership Conference, the National Black Greek Leadership Conference, the AFLV West Fraternal Leadership Conference, the National Cultural Greek Leadership Conference, and the National House Director Conference. AFLV also publishes a quarterly magazine, Connections. http://www.aflv.org/

Alumna/us:
An initiated sorority woman/fraternity man who is married, graduated, or has withdrawn from school.

Alumni/ae:
Plural of alumna/us.

Bid:
A formal written invitation to join a fraternity or sorority.

Career Center:
The newest job search service is the AFLV Career Center! This web based service has been established to help connect house director through the process of posting openings and/or resumes. The links guide employers, recruiters and job seekers. House Directors can post their resume online. Whether you're actively or passively seeking work, your online resume is your ticket to great job offers! Access the newest and freshest jobs available to professionals seeking employment. The personal jobseeker account will allow you to find jobs, manage your resume, and set up job alerts. Employers can check out resumes and regardless of staffing needs or budget, find interesting candidates.

Chapter:
The name applied to the local group or members of a national fraternity or sorority.

Community Service:
A fraternity/sorority fraternal value, community service is the donation of individual personal time and service (not money) to the community.

Continuous Open Recruitment:
Chapters that have not reached their membership goals continue to recruit new members throughout the academic year in an informal manner.

Connections magazine:
The goal of Connections is to provide subscribers with regular opportunities for development, a connection to the AFLV and their peer members, and to provoke thought within members' communities that will enhance their fraternal experience and their leadership roles. The stimulating articles on current issues is the premier publication in the fraternity and sorority community.

Deferred Recruitment:
The debate over the ideal time for the concentrated period of membership recruitment will go on forever. There are many proponents and opponents for all options. The National Panhellenic Conference still recommends an early fall recruitment period, and most inter/national organizations prefer fall as the optimum time for new members to join the organization. Many campus administrators, however, are pushing for recruitment to be deferred or delayed to allow new students a chance to adjust to campus and to develop sound study habits. The most commonly cited factor for mandating dry recruitment (without alcohol) is poor academic performance on the part of new members. The term “deferred” is most commonly used to describe a situation where students must have completed at least one semester before they are eligible to join a fraternity or sorority. The term “delayed” may be used to describe a campus policy of postponing the concentrated recruitment period until later in September or mid-October.

Drugs:
The three most commonly used drugs for date rape are alcohol and two prescription-strength sleep aids. The two prescription drugs are GHB, also known as gamma hydroxybutyric acid, and benzodiazepines (such as flunitrazepam, also known as Rohypnol or "roofies"); however,
an American 1997 study showed that alcohol still remains the drug most frequently implicated in substance-assisted sexual assault.

**Alcohol** - Alcohol remains the most commonly used date rape drug, being readily available as well as legal. Many assailants use alcohol because their victims often willingly imbibe it, and can be encouraged to drink enough to lose inhibitions or consciousness. Even if the victim agrees to sex, the act may be considered rape in some jurisdictions if the victim's judgment was impaired or incapacitated by alcohol. Some assailants have committed "rapes of convenience" whereby they have assaulted a victim after he or she had become unconscious from drinking too much.

**Benzodiazepines** - Benzodiazepines are drugs used to treat anxiety, panic attacks, insomnia, and several other conditions. Some benzodiazepines used to treat insomnia possess powerful sedative, motor-impairing, and strong amnesic properties. Flunitrazepam (Rohypnol) is popularly held to be a date rape drug although very little evidence exists for its use for this purpose in the UK. The sedative effects of Rohypnol begin to appear approximately 30 to 45 minutes after the drug is ingested. The effects typically last from four to eight hours after administration of the drug, but some cases have been reported in which the effects were experienced for twelve or more hours after administration. Scientists can now detect flunitrazepam and related compounds in urine up to at least five days or in hair up to a month after administration of a single dose of Rohypnol.

**GHB/GBL/1,4 BDO** - Gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) has effects that are very similar to those of alcohol. According to the Drug Enforcement Administration: "Victims may not be aware that they ingested a drug at all. GHB and its analogues are invisible when dissolved in water, and are odorless. They are somewhat salty in taste, but are indiscernible when dissolved in beverages such as soft drinks, liquor, or beer.”

**Date Rape Drugs:**
In recent years a new kind of rape threat has reared its ugly head at parties, on campuses and in nightclubs - so called "predator" or "date rape" drugs. What exactly are date rape drugs? Technically speaking, any substance that renders you incapable of saying no or asserting yourself and your needs can be used to commit rape. This can include things like alcohol, marijuana or other street drugs, designer or club drugs like ecstasy, over-the-counter sleeping pills and antihistamines, even cold medications. However, the term "date rape drug" usually applies to the drugs Rohypnol, Gamma Hydroxy Butyrate (GHB) and Ketamine Hydrochloride.

**Eating Disorders:**
Eating disorders are characterized by severe disturbances in eating behaviour. The practice of an eating disorder can be viewed as a survival mechanism. Just as an alcoholic uses alcohol to cope, a person with an eating disorder can use eating, purging or restricting to deal with their problems. Some of the underlying issues that are associated with an eating disorder include low self esteem, depression, feelings of loss of control, feelings of worthlessness, identity concerns, family communication problems and an inability to cope with emotions.
The practice of an eating disorder like Anorexia, Bulimia or Compulsive Overeating may be an expression of something that the eating disordered individual has found no other way of expressing. Eating disorders are usually divided into three categories: Anorexia Nervosa, Bulimia Nervosa and Compulsive Overeating.

**FEA:**
The Fraternity Executives Association is organized and operated exclusively to further the common business interests of the members by promoting, supporting, and encouraging the free discussion and exchange of ideas relating to college fraternal organizations. The membership of FEA is composed of employees of the administrative offices of fraternal member organizations.

**FIPG:**
Originally formed in 1987, the original concept behind the Fraternity Insurance Purchasing Group was simple and two-fold. First, adopt a risk management plan that would help reduce exposure to risk. Second, use the group buying power of many national organizations as leverage to obtain more extensive coverage at lower prices. Today, though the title has remained the same, the organization is actually a risk management group. Men’s and women’s fraternities join FIPG, adopt its risk management policy, and make every effort to reduce their exposure to claims, but are not required to purchase insurance from the same carrier. [http://www.fipg.org/](http://www.fipg.org/)

**Formal Membership Recruitment:**
Formal recruitment is planned by the governing council. It is usually a few days in the fall in most cases before classes begin. Some schools have recruitment during the first week or so of the fall or spring term. There are established times for recruitment events. The councils encourage potential new members to “sign up” and then guide them to each of the chapters in an organized systematic way. It is a mutual selection process with the chapters inviting potential members back to the chapter events and the potential new members accepting/regretting the invitations.

**Fraternity:**
Formally, it is the name applied to all Greek-letter organizations. Informally, it is applied to men’s groups. Many sororities are incorporated as fraternities, but not all.

**Gamma Sigma Alpha:**
Gamma Sigma Alpha National Academic Greek Honor Society (GSA) is the premier organization committed to the academic success of our members and alignment with the academic missions of our host institutions. Students are eligible for membership based on grade point average and membership in a Greek fraternity or sorority. The Society strives to uphold the high ideals of scholastic achievement and therefore, only students with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above (on a 4.0 scale) at the start of their junior year or a grade point average of 3.5 or higher in any semester during their junior or senior year are eligible. GSA is headquartered in Indianapolis, with over 200 chapters across the country and in Canada. [http://gammasigmaalpha.org/](http://gammasigmaalpha.org/)
Greek:
(The trend is to drop Greek and replace it with fraternity and sorority because the public confuses the name with the country of Greece) The name applied to all fraternity and sorority members.

Greek Affairs or Greek Life or Fraternity and Sorority Life:
The name of the university department responsible for advising fraternities and sororities as well as the associated governing councils on campus. Many universities are changing the name to Fraternity and Sorority Life. Fraternities and sororities may also be advised out of a campus activities office.

Greek House Resource:
Greek House Resource located at P.O. Box 195, Wimberly, Texas 78676. This placement service is run by Barbara Gray and Charlotte Sands-Malu. Their phone number is 512/847-1668, and the e-mail address is greekhs@sbcglobal.net. The web site is www.greekhouse.net. Greek House Resource works very much like a traditional placement service. House corporations, chapters and others can list openings and for a fee utilize the services in finding a house director(s) to interview. House director applicants can pay a very small fee to register their resume. The fee pays for reference checks and other administrative matters that make it possible for the candidate to be recommended by Greek House Resource.

Hazing:
Hazing is - Any action taken or situation created intentionally:
• that causes embarrassment, harassment or ridicule
• risks emotional and/or physical harm
• to members of an organization or team
• whether new or not
• regardless of the person's willingness to participate

Still confused? Ask yourself these questions:
• Would I feel comfortable participating in this activity if my parents were watching?
• Would we get in trouble if the Dean of Students walked by?
• Am I being asked to keep these activities a secret?
• Am I doing anything illegal?
• Does participation violate my values or those of my organization?
• Is it causing emotional distress or stress of any kind to myself or others?

FIPG definition of hazing: No chapter, colony, student or alumnus shall conduct nor condone hazing activities. Permission or approval by a person being hazed is not a defense. Hazing activities are defined as:
“Any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol, paddling in any form, creation of excessive fatigue, physical and
psychological shocks quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities carried on outside or inside of the confines of the chapter house; wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste, engaging in public stunts and buffoonery, morally degrading or humiliating games and activities, and any other activities which are not consistent with academic achievement, fraternal law, ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution or applicable state law.”

**HIV/AIDS:**
Acquired immune deficiency syndrome or acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) is a disease of the human immune system caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). This condition progressively reduces the effectiveness of the immune system and leaves individuals susceptible to opportunistic infections and tumors. HIV is transmitted through direct contact of a mucous membrane or the bloodstream with a bodily fluid containing HIV, such as blood, semen, vaginal fluid, seminal fluid, and breast milk.

**House:**
The word refers to the bricks and mortar only, but it is frequently used by the members to describe the chapter. The chapter is the people.

**House Director or Housemother:**
The adult hired to manage the property (house) and oversee the kitchen operation and other similar duties.

**Identity Theft:**
Identity theft is a form of fraud in which someone pretends to be someone else in order to steal money or obtain other benefits. The term dates to 1964 and is actually a misnomer, since it is clearly not inherently possible to steal an identity - a more correct term is identity fraud or impersonation. The person whose identity is used can suffer various consequences when he or she is held responsible for the perpetrator's actions. In many countries specific laws make it a crime to use another person's identity for personal gain.

**IFC:**
Interfraternity Council – the campus governing body for all fraternities. The councils plans recruitment, community service events and provided educational programs for the community.

**IFI:**
The Interfraternity Institute is an intensive summer training institute for professionals (Greek advisors and national staff members) which is held at Indiana University and is coordinated by the student affairs staff at IU and the Fraternity Executives Association.

**Initiate:**
A new member, pledge, or associate who has recently become an initiated member of the fraternity or sorority chapter following initiation ceremonies or ritual.
**Initiation:**
The formal ceremony in which new members or associate members become full members of the organization.

**Legacy:**
A woman whose mother, sister, grandmother, or half-sister is an alumna or initiated member of a sorority or a man whose father, brother, grandfather, or half-brother is an alumnus or initiated member of a fraternity.

**Membership Development:**
Over the past two decades, one of the biggest changes in fraternity and sorority programming has been the shortening of the new member period. Along with this concept has come the idea of continual membership development. The basic philosophy is that the new member period (six weeks on average) is an orientation period, while education continues throughout the member’s years in college and beyond. The primary impetus for the original adaptation was the need to eliminate hazing; however, the positive outcomes have affected all areas of chapter operations. Almost all fraternity and sorority headquarters/national organizations have created amazing member education programs for their members. Many of these programs are available to the public and shared by the members of the fraternity and sorority community.

**Mental Health:**
Mental health is clearly linked to retention and academic performance (Backels & Wheeler, 2001). Academic advisors find that mental health issues interfere with student success more than ever before. Young (2004) brought these issues to light in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* article, "Prozac Campus." Today several excellent resources are available to advisors who want to be informed and capable to assist the students who struggle with these problems.

Today, faculty and staff members note that complex and even clinical issues are more prevalent among the students they teach and advise. Kadison & DiGeronimo (2004), in the recent book *College of the Overwhelmed: The Campus Mental Health Crisis and What to Do About It*, confirm that a rising number of students are coping with depression, anxiety, and other major mental health challenges.

College counseling centers across the country report increased frequency and severity of students' mental health concerns. Two major studies document these observations. At Kansas State University, counseling center staff conducted a retrospective analysis of client problems over 13 years (Benton, Robertson, Tseng, Newton, & Benton, 2003). Corroborating their suspicions, the K-State researchers found a significant increase in student psychopathology in 14 out of 19 areas, e.g., depression, suicidal thoughts, sexual assaults, personality disorders, and the like. Kitzrow (2003) published a literature review related to the mental health needs of today’s college students. Citing a survey of directors of college counseling centers, Kitzrow reported that from 1996 - 2001, 85% saw more severe psychological problems. In addition,
respondents described more cases of learning disabilities, self-injury incidents, eating disorders, alcohol and drug use, warnings to third parties, and stalking.

Why are students so anxious and depressed? Today's students deal with cross-cultural issues, family dysfunction, poor frustration tolerance, experimentation with drugs and alcohol, and weak interpersonal attachments (Kitzrow, 2003). Greg Kneser, Dean of Students at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, notes that many students lead "hyper-enriched lives", with their cell phones, computers, classes, jobs, sports, travel, volunteer work, and more (Kneser, 2004); all this is too much to handle for some students.

National House Director Conference:
The Association of Fraternal Leadership & Values is proud to support House Directors that play such a vital role in the chapter house management of our undergraduate fraternity and sorority chapters across the country. AFLV hosts the national conference for House Directors each summer in a different geographical location. This conference is intended to provide an opportunity for fraternity and sorority House Directors to gain valuable skills and keep up with the issues that impact them in today’s ever changing market. The professional House Directors Conference is the premier opportunity for fraternity and sorority House Directors to gain valuable skills and keep up with the issues that impact them in today's ever changing campus environment.

New Member:
Also known as pledge or associate member – a man or woman who has accepted the bid of a fraternity or sorority and has been taken into full membership, but has not yet been initiated.

New Member Mom/Dad or Big Sister/Brother:
An initiated member who sponsors, advises, and guides a new member through the initial stages of membership.

Open Recruitment:
An informal period during which fraternities and sororities recruit new members.

Order of Omega:
Order of Omega is an honor society for members of Greek organizations. The organization recognizes juniors and seniors who have exemplified high standards in the areas of scholarship, leadership, involvement within their respective organization and within the Greek, campus and local community. Members are selected from the top 3% of Greeks at each institution. Order of Omega now has over 500 chapters in the United States and Canada, and over 200,000 members!

Panhellenic Council:
The campus governing body for NPC sororities. Each sorority on campus has at least one delegate. Each sorority has an NPC Advisor from her own national organization. The NPC
provides an Area Advisor who is available to assist and advise the Panhellenic Council on NPC matters including recruitment, extension and programming.

Philanthropy:
Another trend in fraternity and sorority programming is an emphasis on hands-on service, extended volunteerism, and service learning versus philanthropic fund-raising. Adopt-a-School is an example of a community-wide effort being made on many campuses. A nationwide development among college Panhellenic councils has been the implementation of a philanthropy project during formal recruitment. During these events prospective members are introduced to this important aspect of sorority involvement through actual participation in a philanthropic activity.

Prospective or Potential Member:
A student who is registered with the IFC or Panhellenic Council to participate in the recruitment process on campus (formerly known as a rushee).

Recommendation:
A letter or statement written by an alumna of a national organization to the chapter of her sorority on a campus, recommending a potential new member for membership in the chapter.

Recruitment Event:
A time block during Recruitment Week used to entertain and get acquainted with prospective members (formerly known as a rush party).

Recruitment Week:
The major, formal period (formerly known as rush) set aside by Panhellenic Council for recruiting prospective members. During the week, those women interested in sorority membership are given the opportunity to become acquainted with the members of each Sorority chapter. This is a mutual selection process. On some campuses, the Interfraternity Council also sponsors a formal recruitment period for prospective fraternity members.

Regional Undergraduate Leadership Conferences:
There are a number of undergraduate leadership conferences primarily for council and chapter officers. They are four day opportunities for fraternity/sorority leaders to meet and learn from nationally recognized speakers on current issues.

AFLV Central Fraternal Leadership Conference- The largest of the Association's programs comes in the form of the AFLV Central Fraternal Leadership Conference. The 2011 conference is in St. Louis, MO. Programming includes position-specific information for Fraternity/Sorority governing councils, chapters, advisors, and graduate students. Also included is specific information about current events and issues that impact the Fraternity/Sorority community on campus.
The National Black Greek Leadership Conference is held in conjunction with the Central Fraternal Leadership Conference. More than 2,000 participants come together creating the ideal setting for networking and idea sharing. The event is the largest gathering of undergraduate fraternity and sorority leaders from councils and chapters across the country.

AFLV West Fraternal Leadership Conference - The AFLV West Fraternal Leadership Conference is the oldest of the regional conferences and has met regularly since its establishment in 1948. The Leadership Conference offers five nationally recognized and highly sought after keynote speakers, six professional and very popular nationally known featured speakers, 60 educational sessions, an awards & assessment program, pre-conference workshops, targeted institutes, and an unprecedented opportunity to network with fellow Fraternity/Sorority leaders.

The National Cultural Greek Leadership Conference is held in conjunction with the West Fraternal Leadership Conference. Specifically geared to provide a forum for multicultural fraternity/sorority members to network and dialogue on topics that impact their organizations, this national event serves to educate, develop, and unify the members of campus fraternity/sorority communities.

NGLA: The membership of the Northeast Greek Leadership Association is similar to that of MGCA; however, its member councils come from the northeast region of the United States and eastern Canada. http://ngla.org/home

SEIFC: The Southeastern Interfraternity Conference (SEIFC) is a voluntary association of fraternity governing councils in the southeastern United States. SEIFC is one of the six regional associations throughout North America designed to bring together institutions and individuals with a commitment to fraternity life on college and university campuses. SEIFC was founded during a meeting of student leaders, fraternity professionals and Greek advisors in Jackson, Mississippi, over 40 years ago. The concept of direct student involvement remains a cornerstone of SEIFC today. With over 100 fraternity governing councils currently holding membership, colleges and universities with student populations from under 3,000 to over 30,000 are serviced by the SEIFC Administrative Office. http://www.seifc.org/

SEPC: The Southeast Panhellenic Conference is a regional association for Panhellenic Councils in the southeast region of the United States. They also host a Summit which features programming for black and multicultural fraternity/sorority members. http://sepconline.net/conference

UIFI: The Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute is a five day institute which offers a unified curriculum to student participants. Each session builds on a previous segment and leads into the next. All sessions offer hands-on experiential activities and ample discussion time to address individual concerns. Major sessions are complemented by small group chapter meetings held throughout the week. Chapters are designed to
assist each UIFI participant in developing his/her desired leadership skills, gaining new ideas, and developing concrete ideas for their return to campus. IMPACT is another NIC program designed for use on campus to enhance fraternal relations and to develop leadership skills, values-based decision-making, coalition building, and positive change within the fraternity/sorority culture. FUTURES QUEST is a similar program for emerging leaders. http://www.nicindy.org/programs/uifi/

**Release Figure Methodology:** New recruitment statistical methods utilized by National Panhellenic Conference member sororities to assist campus Panhellenic Councils in conducting a fair and balanced recruitment process that ensures parity. Campus Panhellenic Advisors are provided with a Release Figure Specialist who helps determine daily recruitment returns and invitation numbers.

**Risk Management:**
Most fraternities and sororities pay particular attention to managing risks in a variety of areas. The FIPG Risk Management Policy is the premier example of a policy.

**Sexual Assault:**
Most often when people hear the words “sexual assault” they think of rape. One might automatically picture a stranger jumping out of the bushes to rape a woman walking home from work late at night. While it is true that rape by a stranger is a form of sexual assault, it is vital to include the wide range of unwanted sexual contacts that many people experience in our definition of these words. Sexual assault can include child sexual abuse, rape, attempted rape, incest, exhibitionism, voyeurism, obscene phone calls, fondling, and sexual harassment. There is a range of nonconsensual sexual acts that create a continuum in which each form of sexual assault is linked to the others by their root causes, as well as by the effects they have on individuals and communities. While sexual assault can take many forms, it is important to remember that the loss of power and control that a victim of sexual assault experiences is a common thread.

*Rape* is any sexual intercourse with a person without his or her consent. It is an act of violence that uses sex as a weapon. There are many different types of rape that are important to distinguish as well. Stranger rape happens when the victim does not know his or her offender. Many people believe that this type of rape only happens to women who dress a certain way, walk alone at night, or park in parking garages. The reality of stranger rape is that it happens during the day and at night, to people from all different walks of life, and in lots of different places.

*Acquaintance rape* describes a rape in which the victim and the perpetrator are known to each other. The perpetrator might be a partner, coworker, best friend or neighbor. Did you know that this is the most common type of rape? 84 percent of rapes happen among people who know one another. Most of the time a person is raped by someone they know, trust, or love.
Date rape is a specific kind of acquaintance rape, referring to a rape that occurs between two people who are dating partners. Often times the victim is emotionally manipulated or coerced into having sex with his or her partner. Marital rape, one of the least talked about forms of sexual assault, is rape between husband and wife. Because of personal and societal barriers to reporting marital rape, its prevalence is probably higher than we are aware.

Sexual harassment is any unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Sexual harassment often manifests itself in subtle ways, such as sexually suggestive comments, unwanted touching, risqué jokes, or blatant demand for sexual contact. In most cases, these actions take place within work or educational settings where both the offender and the victim are required to be in close contact.

Sexually Transmitted Disease:
A sexually transmitted disease (STD), also known as sexually transmitted infection (STI) or venereal disease (VD), is an illness that has a significant probability of transmission between humans or animals by means of human sexual behavior, including vaginal intercourse, oral sex, and anal sex. While in the past, these illnesses have mostly been referred to as STDs or VD, in recent years the term sexually transmitted infection (STI) has been preferred, as it has a broader range of meaning; a person may be infected, and may potentially infect others, without showing signs of disease. Some STIs can also be transmitted via the use of IV drug needles after its use by an infected person, as well as through childbirth or breastfeeding. Sexually transmitted infections have been well known for hundreds of years.

Stalking:
The difficulties associated with precisely defining this term (or defining it at all) are well documented. It seems to have been first applied to the harassment (in a general sense) of celebrities by strangers who were described as being obsessed. Stalking can be defined as the willful and repeated following, watching, and/or harassing of another person. Most of the time, the purpose of stalking is to attempt to force a relationship with someone who is unwilling or otherwise unavailable. Unlike other crimes, which usually involve one act, stalking is a series of actions that occur over a period of time. Although stalking is illegal, the actions that contribute to stalking are usually legal, such as gathering information, calling someone on the phone, sending gifts, emailing or instant messaging. Such actions by themselves are not usually abusive, but can become abusive when frequently repeated over time.

Substance-free Housing:
The substance-free housing initiative is one of the most controversial issues affecting the Greek movement. Women’s fraternities and sororities (through NPC) have always mandated substance free housing, as has the FarmHouse fraternity. In the past several years, several inter/national men’s fraternities mandated that their chapters have substance free housing by the year 2000. The basic requirements are that no alcohol or other substances will be permitted in the chapter house or on other kinds of chapter property and that the chapter
must hold social functions involving alcohol at out-of house locations using third-party vendors. Another development is the passing of resolutions by several NPC member organizations which prohibit collegiate chapters from participating in (or co-sponsoring) social events with alcohol on fraternity chapter property.

**Sorority:**
A group of women joined together in friendship, common interest and for educational purposes. Those interests include living the fraternal values of the organization which usually include academic excellence, service and friendship.

**Umbrella Governing Organizations:**

- **NALFO** - NALFO (National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations) is an umbrella council for Latino Greek Letter Organizations. The purpose of NALFO is to promote and foster positive inter-fraternal relations, communication, and development of all Latino Fraternal organizations through mutual respect, leadership, honesty, professionalism and education. Established in 1998, NALFO has 20 member organizations from across the United States. [http://www.nalfo.org/](http://www.nalfo.org/)

- **NAPA** – National Asian Pacific American Panhellenic Association – developed in 2004 and continuing to evolve to this day, the Association forms the base from which a strong and united Asian Greek community will be developed. [www.napa-online.org](http://www.napa-online.org)

- **NIC** - Since 1909, the North American Interfraternity Conference has been serving the men’s college fraternity community in Canada and the United States. Through 73 member fraternities, the NIC represents almost 4.5 million alumni and 400,000 college students in over 5,500 chapters on more than 800 college campuses. The NIC advocates the needs of fraternities through the enrichment of the Greek experience, advancement and growth of the fraternities, and enhancement of the educational mission of the host institutions. [http://www.nicindy.org/](http://www.nicindy.org/)

- **NMGC** The National Multicultural Greek Council (NMGC) is an umbrella council for a coalition of Multicultural Greek-letter organizations (MGLOs) established in 1998. The purpose of NMGC is to provide a forum that allows for the free exchange of ideas, programs, and services between its constituent fraternities and sororities; to promote the awareness of multicultural diversity within collegiate institutions, their surrounding communities, and the greater community-at-large, and to support and promote the works of its member organizations. [http://nationalmgc.org/about/](http://nationalmgc.org/about/)

- **NPC** The National Panhellenic Conference, founded in 1902, is an umbrella organization for 26 inter/national women’s fraternities and sororities. Each member group is autonomous as a social, Greek-letter society of college women and alumnae. Members are represented on over 620 college and university campuses in the United States and Canada and in over 5,300 alumnae associations, making up a population of over three million sorority women in the world. “The mission of the National Panhellenic Conference is to support and
promote women’s fraternities as a positive element of the higher education experience.”

NPHC The National Pan-Hellenic Council is the national coordinating body for the nine historically African American fraternities and sororities. The NPHC is currently composed of over 900,000 affiliated members in undergraduate and alumni councils in all regions of the United States and abroad. The NPHC stresses and provides action strategies on matters of mutual concern and serves as the conduit through which these action plans are put into effect. NPHC organizations are unique with respect to other Greek letter organizations in that they have profound commitment to providing community service and to uplifting/promoting the general public welfare.

**Unanimous Agreements:**
Basic to the National Panhellenic Conference are the Unanimous Agreements, which express the fair play essential to inter-fraternal activity, and which set forth the rights of women’s fraternities as private, voluntary social organizations. Since 1902, the member groups of NPC have unanimously agreed to pursue certain procedures and ethics which lead to the orderly and equitable conduct of their mutual functions. Each member sorority of NPC pledges that every collegiate and alumna member will abide by and honor the Unanimous Agreements. Therefore, each college Panhellenic association must incorporate the NPC Unanimous Agreements into its own procedures and methods of operation (constitution, bylaws, recruitment guidelines, etc.). The “Green” Book Otherwise known as the NPC Manual of Information - 15th Edition contains the NPC Unanimous Agreements and recommendations that are critical to the management of a college Panhellenic association or alumnae Panhellenic association. The history of NPC, information about the 26 member groups, guides pertaining to programming, recruitment, extension, formation of a new college or alumnae Panhellenic group, and officer duties are all covered.

**Welcome Week:**
Many campuses plan events and activities primarily for new students. These events are an orientation to campus as well as an opportunity to meet faculty and upperclassmen who usually assist in the implementation of the events. Fraternities and sororities usually play a big part in this event.

**Work Week:**
Members return to campus the week before formal recruitment begins. They use the week to prepare for formal recruitment.