



## 2016 - 2017 Annual Report

### Introduction

The 2016-2017 school year was a great and productive year for the fraternity and sorority community at Western Kentucky University. Membership numbers continue to be some of the largest in the history of the Greek community. The All-Fraternity and All-Sorority GPAs continue to be above the All-Male and All-Female average. The community has donated many hours and dollars to philanthropic and service initiatives.

### Recruitment and Membership

Our Interfraternity and Panhellenic Council's main method of increasing and welcoming new members is through Formal Recruitment, which takes place in August.

Panhellenic Formal Recruitment in 2016 had 540 women participate in the first round, with 469 women attending Preference. 418 women were matched through the formal process, representing 77% of the women who participated in Go Greek Round (first round). 13 women were released through recruitment and 96 women withdrew. 360 women were matched with their first choice, and 58 were matched with their second choice. Quota was 44 new members, a decrease from 50 in fall 2015. The National Panhellenic Conference approved the automatic reset of Chapter Total at the conclusion of Formal Recruitment in 2014, resulting in Chapter Total being set at 157 in fall 2016, compared to 158 for fall 2015. All chapters except Delta Zeta reached quota and total during the formal recruitment process. Our Panhellenic sorority membership in the fall 2016 semester was at 1515 women, a decrease from fall 2015's 1524 women. In late fall 2015, the National Panhellenic Conference approved the reestablishment of total before classes in the non-primary recruitment semester (spring semester). They also strongly encouraged campuses to adopt the median chapter size as the determination for Total. This resulted in total lowering from 157 to 140, based off the membership numbers of the 5<sup>th</sup> largest chapter. For spring 2017, that was Phi Mu with 140. Because of this reset of total, only five NPC chapters participated in COB: Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Xi Delta, Delta Zeta, Sigma Kappa, and Phi Mu (after losing additional women throughout the semester). Overall, the sorority community welcomed 48 women in the spring 2017 semester.

Over 310 men signed bids in fall 2016, the largest number in WKU history. This is up from the 260 who signed during the fall of 2015. The fall 2016 fraternity membership was 980 men, with the average fraternity chapter of 73, both the largest in WKU's fraternity history.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council fraternities and sororities increased their membership. NPHC membership this spring was 91 members (44 men and 47 women). The fall 2016 average NPHC fraternity chapter size was 6. The spring 2017 average NPHC fraternity chapter size was 9 members. The fall 2016 average NPHC sorority chapter size was 7 members. The spring 2017 average NPHC sorority chapter size was 12. This is a clear indication that the NPHC community is growing. The organizations have embraced the WKU Intake Packet and the recreation of the required Greek 101 workshop for students interested in joining.

## Philanthropy Report

With 66,652 service hours and \$246,190.47 donated to various causes in 2016-2017, the fraternity and sorority community remained committed to service and philanthropy. Each organization spends time and money supporting the causes that are near and dear to them. The Greek Week Blood Drive is one of the largest collegiate blood drives in the country. This year, we celebrated 31 years of the WKU Greeks Blood Drive by collecting 1296 pints of blood, allowing the Greek community to potentially help save over 3,800+ lives. This total was the highest in 5 years. Philanthropy Day of Greek Week found the Greek community collecting 47,000+ canned goods for various local Bowling Green food pantries, an increase of approximately 20,000 cans! The Greek community continues to be a large supporter of Up 'til Dawn, Relay for Life, Dance Big Red, and the Student United Way.

## Scholarship

Our Greek community is a community of scholars. The overall fraternity and sorority averages continue to exceed the All Men's and Women's averages. The All-Sorority average was 3.209 during fall 2016 and 3.26 during spring 2017 as compared to the All-Women's average of 3.08 during fall 2016 and 3.17 during spring 2017. The All-Fraternity average was 2.793 during fall 2016 and 2.88 during spring 2017 as compared to the All-Men's average of 2.76 during fall 2016 and 2.85 during spring 2017.

## Greek Week

Greek Week is one of the largest student run programs in the Greek Affairs Office. The Greek Committee consisted of 31 students from 16 organizations. Events included Spring Sing, Banner, Blood Drive, Greek Feud, Faculty Appreciation, Events Day, Tug, Philanthropy Day and Awards Convocation. Greek Week continues to be a success. Over 3,500 people attended Spring Sing in Diddle Arena. 1296 pints of blood were donated to the American Red Cross during the Blood Drive. Approximately 800 people attended Events Day at the Colonnade. Tug saw approximately 2,000 people attend to watch the day's action. Awards convocation was attended by 1,400 people – filling every seat and then some. A new location for Convocation is preferred in order to be able to host all of those in attendance. Philanthropy Day saw us collecting 47,000+ cans, almost 20,000 more cans than were collected in 2016. Greek Week ended with the annual Awards Convocation which included the following awards:

**Greek Hall of Fame:** The following were inducted into the WKU Greek Hall of Fame this year

- **Alpha Delta Pi:** Carly Raymer, Allison R. Thompson
- **Alpha Gamma Delta:** Stephanie Campbell, Megan Hamberg, Erin Jackson, Jessica Vaughan
- **Alpha Omicron Pi:** Lauren Gerkins, Emily Anne Pride, Lauren Sirls, McKenzie Wilson
- **Alpha Xi Delta:** Bethany Roberts, Taylor Thompson
- **Chi Omega:** Miranda Holcomb, Temple Ricke, Sally Smith
- **Delta Sigma Theta:** Danielle Lee
- **Delta Zeta:** Katie Crider, Dylan Mast
- **Kappa Delta:** Casey Birge, Haley Jones, Sarah Price, Brooke Simmons
- **Kappa Sigma:** Daniel Correll
- **Omega Phi Alpha:** Kayce Russell
- **Phi Delta Theta:** Connor Brown, Matthew Bunnell, Salvador Hernandez
- **Phi Gamma Delta:** McGavinn Brown, Alex Brown
- **Phi Mu:** Amanda Baldwin, Laura Bunning, Kaitlyn Cummins

- **Pi Kappa Alpha:** Carson Kuhl
- **Sigma Kappa:** Alivia Faris
- **Sigma Phi Epsilon:** Daniel Banks
- **Zeta Phi Beta:** Kierra Muhammad

**Greek Week Award Winners:** The following won awards for placing at various Greek Week activities (*sorority listed first, then fraternity*):

### **Spring Sing**

- 4<sup>th</sup> place – Alpha Gamma Delta
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Phi Mu
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Kappa Delta
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Alpha Delta Pi
  
- 4<sup>th</sup> place – Farmhouse
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Sigma Phi Epsilon
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Phi Gamma Delta
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Phi Delta Theta

### **Banner**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Alpha Omicron Pi
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Kappa Delta
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Phi Mu
  
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Farmhouse
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Kappa Sigma
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Alpha Tau Omega

### **Events Day**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Alpha Delta Pi
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Kappa Delta
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Phi Mu
  
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Farmhouse
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Sigma Chi
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Pi Kappa Alpha

### **Blood Drive**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Sigma Kappa
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Alpha Delta Pi
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Kappa Delta
  
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Farmhouse
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Alpha Gamma Rho
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Phi Delta Theta

### **Greek Feud**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Delta Zeta
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Alpha Omicron Pi
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Kappa Delta
  
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Phi Delta Theta
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Sigma Chi
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Kappa Sigma

### **Tug**

- 4<sup>th</sup> place – Chi Omega
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Kappa Delta
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Alpha Gamma Delta
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Sigma Alpha
  
- 4<sup>th</sup> place – Phi Gamma Delta
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Alpha Tau Omega
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Phi Delta Theta
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Sigma Phi Epsilon

### **Canstruct for Cause**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Alpha Delta Pi
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Alpha Xi Delta
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Phi Mu
  
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Sigma Nu
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Kappa Sigma
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Phi Delta Theta

### **Philanthropy Day Cans donated**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Phi Mu
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Kappa Delta
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Alpha Delta Pi
  
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Sigma Nu
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Lambda Chi Alpha
- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Phi Delta Theta

### **Greek Week Overall**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Phi Mu
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Alpha Delta Pi
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Kappa Delta
  
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – FarmHouse
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Sigma Phi Epsilon & Alpha Tau Omega
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Phi Delta Theta

**Chapter Achievement Awards:**

**Alumni Development Award:**

Kappa Delta  
Phi Delta Theta  
Phi Mu  
Sigma Kappa

**Outstanding Intramurals Award:**

Phi Delta Theta

**Outstanding New Member Program:**

Alpha Omicron Pi  
Phi Delta Theta  
Sigma Phi Epsilon

**Philanthropic Service Award:**

Kappa Delta  
Phi Delta Theta  
Phi Gamma Delta  
Sigma Phi Epsilon

**Chapter Development Award:**

Kappa Delta  
FarmHouse  
Sigma Kappa  
Sigma Phi Epsilon

**Scholastic Achievement Award:**

Alpha Delta Pi  
Alpha Gamma Delta  
Alpha Omicron Pi  
Chi Omega  
Delta Zeta  
FarmHouse  
Kappa Delta  
Omega Phi Alpha  
Phi Delta Theta  
Phi Gamma Delta  
Phi Mu  
Sigma Kappa  
Sigma Nu  
Sigma Phi Epsilon

**Campus Involvement and Leadership Award:**

Alpha Delta Pi  
Alpha Omicron Pi  
Delta Zeta  
Kappa Delta  
Phi Delta Theta  
Phi Gamma Delta  
Phi Mu  
Sigma Kappa  
Sigma Phi Epsilon

**Greek Involvement Award:**

Alpha Delta Pi  
Alpha Xi Delta  
Chi Omega  
Delta Zeta  
Kappa Delta  
Phi Delta Theta  
Phi Gamma Delta  
Phi Mu  
Sigma Kappa

**Most Improved Fraternity:** Kappa Sigma

**Most Improved Sorority:** Delta Zeta

**Sorority Outstanding New Member:** Courtney George, Delta Zeta

**Fraternity Outstanding New Member:** Alex Bradley, Phi Delta Theta

**Sorority Outstanding Advisor Award:** Monica Duvall, Chi Omega

**Fraternity Outstanding Advisor Award:** Johnny Douglas, Lambda Chi Alpha

**Charley Pride Spirit Award:** Bethany Roberts, Alpha Xi Delta & Collin Ray, Phi Delta Theta

**Greek Man of the Year:** Matthew Bunnell, Phi Delta Theta & Johnny Bush, Kappa Sigma

**Greek Woman of the Year:** Ali Thompson, Alpha Delta Pi & Jordan Webb, Kappa Delta

**Karen Towell Sisterhood Award:** Kappa Delta

**M. Reed Morgan Award:** Phi Delta Theta

## Programming

New Member Symposium: On Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 525 new members of the WKU Greek community came together for a morning of learning and getting to know one another. The students divided into smaller groups where they attended three breakout sessions hosted by Health Education, Judicial Affairs, Student Activities, and the Greek New Member Educators. These small groups were facilitated by current Greek leaders.

Greek Leadership Symposium: On Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 728 Greek students participated in the Greek Leadership Symposium, cosponsored by Order of Omega and Greek Affairs. The students checked in and then had the opportunity to attend three breakaway sessions of their choosing on various topics such as: leadership, risk management, mental health, transferrable skills, etc.

Leadership and Volunteerism Programming: Many of our Greek students participate in Leadership and Volunteerism programming throughout the year. Many sorority women participated in the Alternative Spring Break. Current fraternity member, Andre Dowell, facilitated a Dynamic Leadership Institute focused on our Greek students' development. Our two departments continue to collaborate – with L&V presenting at the New Member Symposium and Greek Affairs facilitating and presenting at the High School Leadership Conference.

Academic Recognition Program: On Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 480 students attended the annual Greek Academic Banquet at Knicely Center. This program recognized the scholastic success of our organizations and individuals. To be invited, a student must have a 3.6 GPA or above. In previous years, students had to have a 3.5 or above to attend, however, the GPA was raised to a 3.6+ because over 1,000 students were qualified using the 3.6 GPA and capacity for the venue was only 550-600.

## Highlights

Fraternity Membership: Fraternities have seen their largest membership ever. Fall 2016 membership was at 980, a 124 person increase from the year before and Spring 2017 membership was at 927, a 120 person increase from the year before. If the fraternity system continues to grow, it will hit the milestone of 1,000 active members – a number that WKU has never seen before.

Walk a Mile: On April 4, the Interfraternity Council hosted the annual Walk-a-Mile fundraiser to raise money and awareness about sexual violence and the local rape and crisis center, Hope Harbor. Over 70 men walked up and down the Hill in heels. This event raised over \$2,500 for Hope Harbor, the highest amount ever donated. This event got terrific news coverage from the College Heights Herald, being featured in the paper.

Coalition for Collegiate Women's Leadership Conference (formerly SEPC): 28 students and staff traveled to Atlanta from Thursday, March 30 through Sunday, April 2 for the SEPC conference. This conference was a great success. The women had the opportunity to meet Ginny Carroll, a WKU alumna who started The Circle of Sisterhood – the national philanthropy of Panhellenic. Our Panhellenic President, Laryn Hilderbrandt, was also selected to be a 2018 CCWL Conference Coordinator.

## **Issues/Concerns from the 2015-2016 Annual Report:**

**Academic Performance in NPHC organizations:** The academic performance of our National Pan-Hellenic Council organizations is still concerning. In the spring of 2017 the NPHC Fraternity Average was 2.39, almost a full point lower than the 2.85 All-Men's Average. Our NPHC Sorority Average improved to a 2.93 (compared to a 2.84 GPA last spring), however, it still below the 3.17 All-Women's Average. This is an area to improve.

**Alcohol-Free Housing:** This year, our office continued to enforce the policy on alcohol-free housing. With that being said, we still had more fraternities receive alcohol-free violations (7) than those that did not (6). Consistently educating our chapter leaders and advisors will be paramount to combat alcohol free housing.

**Overprogramming:** In a way to combat overprogramming, measures have been taken to educate members about having quality events over quantity. The best programs and measured outcomes are those that are tracked simply.

**The greek office has held firm to the one philanthropy per week per council rule;** this has helped alleviate some of the overprogramming. Further discussions will be held to see what else can be done to lessen the burden of overprogramming.

**Retention of Members:** This is an area that I am still working on to make sure that I have correct records, thus, can accurately keep track of chapter/council/all-greek retention numbers. From a previous study, retention percentage is closely tied to the incoming GPA's, with the higher the incoming GPA, the greater the chance of retaining semester to semester. This is an area that must be constantly communicated to chapter leaders so chapters can make smart decisions when it comes to who receives/signs bids.

**Risk Management and Event Planning:** Risk management still has lots of work to do as we had over one-half of our groups receive alcohol-free violations. The Greek Life office works diligently to provide educational programming through events such as Greek Leadership Symposium, New Member Symposium and makes use of regularly planned meetings such as IFC, Panhellenic, and Greek Presidents' Roundtable to educate leaders about risk management problems, trends, etc. This will most likely always have areas of concern and room for improvement, but with so many different groups receiving alcohol-free violations, constant education regarding risk management needs to be at the forefront.

## **Issues/Concerns from 2016-2017 School Year:**

**Academic Performance in NPHC organizations:** The academic performance of our National Pan-Hellenic Council organizations is concerning. In the fall of 2016 the NPHC Fraternity Average was 2.368, almost a half point lower than their IFC counterparts (IFC Average was 2.816). Even worse, 2 of the 3 NPHC Fraternities that did fall intake had new member GPA's below a 2.0 (Iota Phi Theta was a 1.778 and Phi Beta Sigma was a 1.815). Our fall 2016 NPHC Sorority Average was a 2.782, .3 lower than the 3.08 All-Women's Average and almost a half point lower than the Panhellenic Average (Panhellenic Average is a 3.217). This is an area NPHC must improve upon.



Alcohol-Free Housing: This year, our office continued to enforce the policy on alcohol-free housing. We had more fraternities receive alcohol-free violations (7) than those that did not (6). Sigma Alpha Epsilon was suspended for 1 year because of receiving 3 alcohol-free violations. Sigma Nu currently has 2 violations and is on probation until early October. Kappa Alpha, Alpha Gamma Rho, Sigma Chi, Pi and Kappa Alpha are currently on probation due to an alcohol violation. Sigma Phi Epsilon received an alcohol violation earlier in the year and is off probation.

More education needs to be done in this area as well to improve this problem.

Overprogramming: Simply put, there are way too many programs. Each week, there are multiple chapter philanthropy events, Greek council activities, Student Activities events, etc. Within Student Activities, the excess of programs has made it hard to reach Greek students. Student Activities needs to reach students better with programs like Dynamic Leadership Institute, LeaderShape, etc. – but can likely only do so if we start limiting the number of programs that occur. One solution has been to strictly enforce the number of chapter philanthropic events per week. Currently, only 1 philanthropic event per week can be held per council (IFC, NPHC, Panhellenic). Hopefully, we can even move towards chapters collaborating together with philanthropies, lessening the number of programs even more.