

# Fraternity and Sorority Statement of Relationship

This relationship statement serves as a means to more clearly define the relationship between Stockton University and its fraternities and sororities it recognizes. Since 1972, the collegiate fraternity and sorority experience at Stockton University has given opportunities to add value to the undergraduate student experience. Founded upon basic principles that promote social, moral, and educational development, the fraternal experience provides opportunities for individual, organizational, and institutional growth and success.

Stockton University recognizes that the fraternities and sororities governed by the governing council(s) are an important part of student life and can have a positive impact within the fraternity and sorority and greater campus communities. However, the privilege of fraternities and sororities to exist at the University as recognized student organizations comes with a high level of responsibility.

The success of the institution's fraternity and sorority community is a shared responsibility. Collegiate members, fraternity and sorority chapters, the governing council, fraternity and sorority alumni, advisors, national and international organizations, and the University share this responsibility, in varying respects. The relationship between the institution and the fraternity and sorority community is one that must be mutually beneficial. In order to enhance and promote this mutually beneficial relationship and maximize the positive elements of the fraternity and sorority experience, the individual chapters and their officers and members, the governing council(s) and the University wish to state their common expectations with respect to their relationships.



### **Responsibilities of Individual Chapters**

- 1. All chapters must abide by any and all University and council policies, including, but not limited to, the Code of Conduct, Council Policies, Student Organization Policies and Rules, and applicable local, state, and federal laws.
- 2. All chapters must submit new member education plans to the Office of Student Development each semester hosting intake.
- 3. All chapters must adhere to applicable national and/or international organization's new member program.
- 4. All chapters must initiate new members in accordance with applicable national and/or international guidelines by the date established by the Office of Student Development. No initiation activities may occur after such date.
- 5. All chapters must participate in required educational opportunities.
- 6. All chapters must participate and strive to excel in the yearly chapter evaluation process.
- 7. All chapters must have one or more official Chapter Advisor approved by inter/national organization.
- 8. All chapters must ensure that their faculty/staff advisors have acknowledged the responsibilities of being an advisor to a recognized student organization at Stockton University.
- 9. All chapters must keep up-to-date rosters with the Office of Student Development, including up-todate membership, officers, and advisor(s).
- 10. All chapters must maintain insurance with at least a two-million dollar general aggregate and a one million dollar per occurrence liability policy and list Stockton University as "additional insured." Proof of insurance must be on file with the Office of Student Development.



## **Responsibilities of Chapter Officers**

- 1. Chapter members, when elected to a position of chapter leadership, shall govern with integrity and work with each other and their respective alumni/alumnae in chapter operations.
- 2. Chapter Officers shall work to actively promote the values of the organization.
- 3. Chapter Officers shall encourage, support, and provide developmental opportunities for their members.
- 4. Chapter Officers shall hold members accountable and work in concert with their alumni/alumnae, respective council(s) and the University to enforce the expectations set forth in this Relationship Statement.
- 5. Chapter officers shall accept responsibility for supporting the policies and goals of the chapter, and holding themselves and fellow chapter members accountable to organizational policies.
- 6. Chapter Officers shall serve as representatives and liaisons between their governing council(s), and the University.
- 7. Chapter Officers will represent their organizations in organizational misconduct proceedings when appropriate.
- 8. Chapter officers will maintain required GPA.



# **Responsibilities of Undergraduate Chapter Members**

- 1. Chapter members recognize that membership in a recognized student organization such as a fraternity or sorority is a privilege and by voluntarily associating with a Greek organization, agree to conduct themselves responsibly in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct, chapter and governing council(s) policies, policies of their respective national and international organizations, University policies and local, state, and federal laws.
- 2. Chapter members acknowledge that individual and group misconduct can result in the chapter losing recognition.
- 3. Chapter members should report to a University employee any activities involving hazing, sexual misconduct or other harm.
- 4. Chapter Members shall attend mandatory educational programs offered by the University.
- 5. Chapter members shall conduct themselves as respectful members of the community within which they reside and will demonstrate respect toward their fellow community members.



## **Responsibilities of the Governing Councils**

- 1. The governing council(s) will oversee their fraternity and sorority chapters as outlined in their respective constitutions and by-laws as approved by the Office of Student Development.
- 2. The governing council(s) will set and uphold standards of conduct for member chapters that uphold University and national organization expectations and promote integrity, leadership, responsibility, safety, and brotherhood/sisterhood.
- 3. The governing council(s) will hold conduct and judicial procedures for chapters and members that violate council constitutions and by-laws, which will be separate from the University conduct and adjudicative process.
- 4. The governing council(s) will promote Greek unity on campus.
- 5. The governing council(s) will coordinate their efforts with the Office of Student Development to oversee member fraternities and sororities to ensure active involvement in programs and activities.
- 6. The governing council(s) will work with the Office of Student Development to support and provide opportunities to member fraternities and sororities in the yearly chapter evaluation process.
- 7. The governing council(s) will continually promote the basic principles of fraternity and sorority life including academic achievement, brotherhood and sisterhood, service and philanthropy, leadership, alumni involvement, and social responsibility.
- 8. Council officers will maintain required GPA.



### **Responsibilities of Stockton University**

In connection with providing recognition, the Office of Student Development shall have the ability to assess the conduct and contributions of fraternity and sorority chapters and amend recognition statuses accordingly in accordance with policies established from time to time by the University.

- 1. The campus will provide advisement for chapters and councils.
- 2. The campus shall oversee the fraternity and sorority organizational misconduct and adjudication process.
- 3. The campus shall take steps to enforce its social policies and monitor social events.
- 4. The campus will publish a fraternity and sorority chapter scorecard that will be made publicly available to review by chapters, students, faculty, staff, community members, parents, and other interested parties.
- 5. The campus will provide pre- and post-recruitment educational programming for students wishing to join and who recently joined Greek-lettered organizations associated with the Office of Student Development.
- 6. The campus will offer developmental opportunities for members and officers.
- 7. The campus will provide recruitment and retention advice.
- 8. The campus will provide training and development opportunities for chapter and campus advisors.
- 9. The campus will provide access to University resources in accordance with University policies.
- 10. The campus will evaluate individual chapters, provide advice to chapters that fall below the given standards, and hold chapters accountable if they continue to not meet the standards.
- 11. The campus will provide educational resources to parents.
- 12. The University will create a process that will allow for transparency and a bi-annual review of this Relationship Statement.