



2020 - 2021 Annual Report

Introduction

The 2020-2021 school year was a record-setting and productive year for the fraternity and sorority community at Western Kentucky University. Membership numbers maintained steady despite COVID forcing fall and spring recruitments to go to a virtual mode. Grade-wise, our All Fraternity Average and All Sorority Average are the highest in WKU's Greek history for both the fall and spring semesters; both are well above the all-men's and all women's GPA. Lastly, the WKU Greek community did a terrific job for the number of service hours (37,000+) and philanthropic dollars raised (\$234,000).

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 2020 had 556 women participate in the first round, with 499 women attending Preference (last round). 465 women were matched through the formal process, representing 84% of the women who participated in Go Greek Round (first round). ***The number registered for recruitment, number attending Preference, and number matched were records for WKU Sororities!*** 29 women were released through recruitment and 62 women withdrew from recruitment. 418 women were matched with their first choice and 47 women were matched with their second choice. Quota was 49 new members, an increase from 44 in fall 2019. The National Panhellenic Conference approved the automatic reset of Chapter Total at the conclusion of Formal Recruitment, resulting in Chapter Total being set at 156 in fall 2020, compared to 147 for fall 2019. All chapters met quota during the formal recruitment process, which is relatively uncommon at WKU! Our Panhellenic sorority membership in the fall 2020 semester was at 1459 women, a slight decrease from fall 2019's 1465 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 chapter total. This resulted in total lowering from 156 to 145, based off the membership numbers of the 5th largest chapter. For spring 2021, that chapter was Phi Mu. Because of this reset of total, only four NPC chapters participated in continuous open bidding (COB): Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Xi Delta, Delta Zeta, and Sigma Kappa. Overall, the NPC sorority community welcomed 19 women in the spring 2021 semester and 32 counting Sigma Alpha's and Omega Phi Alpha's new members (Sigma Alpha and Omega Phi Alpha are not part of NPC, but are part of the WKU Panhellenic community).

Exactly 240 men signed bids in fall 2020. This is down from the 258 who signed during the fall of 2019. The fall 2020 fraternity membership was 838 men. This is down from fall 2019, where membership was at 891. For Spring 2021, fraternity membership was 805 men. This is down from Spring 2020, where membership was at 839. It is worth noting that IFC had to change the recruitment mode from an in-person recruitment to a completely virtual recruitment 3 days before recruitment began due to COVID restrictions. To have recruitment numbers and membership numbers in the same vicinity as fall 2019 does show the strength and resiliency of our fraternity chapters.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council fraternities and sororities increased their membership. NPHC membership this spring was 94 members (34 men and 60 women). The fall 2020 average NPHC fraternity chapter size was 5.4. The spring 2021 average NPHC fraternity chapter size was 6.8 members. The fall 2020 average NPHC sorority chapter size was 5 members. The spring 2021 average NPHC sorority chapter size was 15 members. The organizations have embraced the WKU Intake Packet and the re-creation of the required Greek 101 workshop for students interested in joining.

Philanthropy Report

With 37,000+ service hours and \$234,000+ donated to various causes in 2020-2021, 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 35 years of the WKU Greek Blood Drive by collecting 1,167 pints of blood, allowing the Greek community to potentially help save over 3,500+ lives. **During Philanthropy Day of Greek Week, the Greek community collected 104,000+ canned goods numerous southern Kentucky school backpack programs. The 104,000 canned food items collected was the second highest in history and is the largest can food donation drive in the Warren County area.** The Greek community continues to be a large supporter of Midnight on the Hill (formerly Up 'til Dawn), Dance Big Red, and the Student United Way.

Scholarship

Academic Milestones: WKU Greeks continue to earn grade point averages that are the highest in WKU history! The All-Sorority average was 3.388 during fall 2020 and 3.652 during spring 2020 as compared to the All-Women's average of 3.063 during fall 2020 and 3.337 during spring 2020. The All-Fraternity average was 2.990 during fall 2020 and 3.301 during spring 2020 as compared to the All-Men's average of 2.831 during fall 2020 and 3.091 during spring 2020. **Our sorority women are roughly a quarter point above the All-Women's Average and our fraternity men are nearly two tenths above the All-Men's Average.**

Greek Week

Greek Week is one of the largest student run programs in the Greek Affairs Office. The Greek Week Committee consisted of 31 students from 18 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 despite COVID restrictions. This year was different as we could not have large crowds due to COVID restrictions, however on social media, we had a Facebook reach of 135,506 and a Facebook engagements of 22,515 through the weeks' worth of events. Philanthropy Day saw us collecting 104,000+ cans, and a Greek Week Blood Drive with 1,167 pints collected, the largest in the Kentucky/Tennessee Region. 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:** Chloe Benningfield, Haley Cooper, Kate Kaetzel, Gabrielle Sledge, Olivia Warren
- **Alpha Gamma Delta:** Kaylee Basham, Kristen Duncum, Hannah Godby, Adie Hogue, Makayla Mack
- **Alpha Kappa Alpha:** Kimberly Jefferson
- **Alpha Omicron Pi:** Annclaire McGee, Abbey Norvell, Caitlyn Smith
- **Alpha Phi Alpha:** Kanaan Lightsey
- **Alpha Xi Delta:** Hope Bednarczyk, Elena Brownlee, Rachel Gumbel, Megan Morrow, Hannah Nafziger
- **Chi Omega:** Madison Boothe, Bridges Cunningham, Valentina Pinilla, Caroline Singleton, Katie Wheeler
- **Delta Zeta:** Abby Brown, Savanna Hinchcliffe, McKenna Mitchell, Mia Sword, Cameron Yson
- **FarmHouse:** Brenton Ryan
- **Kappa Delta:** Harper Anderson, Haley Doerr, Erin Gibson, Ali Meehan
- **Kappa Sigma:** Stephen Hillenmeyer, Noah McVay
- **Phi Gamma Delta:** Ken Barlow, Jack Blair, Garrett Edmonds, David Weafer
- **Phi Mu:** Clara Kaelin, Caroline Kremer, Celine McClain, Makayla Mosier, Sydney Remmers
- **Pi Kappa Alpha:** Eric Barry, Alec Brothers
- **Sigma Chi:** Dalton Lewis, Adam Storms
- **Sigma Kappa:** Deiona Camargo, Mallory Jent, Jackie Ramirez, Emily Toombs
- **Sigma Phi Epsilon:** Carlos Gomez, Nathaniel Hoey, Anthony Itzol, Clay Lilla, Mason Whistle

Greek Week Award Winners:

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

Banner

3rd Place Sorority – Sigma Kappa

2nd Place Sorority – Alpha Delta Pi

1st Place Sorority – Chi Omega

3rd Place Fraternity – Phi Delta Theta

2nd Place Fraternity – Kappa Sigma

1st Place Fraternity – Alpha Gamma Rho

Events Day competition

3rd Place Sorority – Kappa Delta

1st Place Sorority TIE – Phi Mu

1st Place Sorority TIE – Alpha Xi Delta

3rd Place Fraternity – Alpha Gamma Rho

2nd Place Fraternity – Sigma Chi

1st Place Fraternity – Sigma Phi Epsilon

Blood Drive

3rd Place Sorority – Phi Mu

2nd Place Sorority – Alpha Omicron Pi

1st Place Sorority – Kappa Delta

3rd Place Fraternity – Phi Delta Theta
2nd Place Fraternity – Phi Gamma Delta
1st Place Fraternity – Alpha Gamma Rho

Greek Feud

3rd Place Sorority – Kappa Delta
2nd Place Sorority – Alpha Delta Pi
1st Place Sorority – Delta Zeta

3rd Place Fraternity – National PanHellenic Council
2nd Place Fraternity – Delta Tau Delta
1st Place Fraternity – Sigma Phi Epsilon

Tug

4th Place Sorority – Omega Phi Alpha
3rd Place Sorority – Kappa Delta
2nd Place Sorority – Chi Omega
1st Place Sorority – Phi Mu

4th Place Fraternity – Kappa Alpha Order
3rd Place Fraternity – Farmhouse
2nd Place Fraternity – Alpha Gamma Rho
1st Place Fraternity – Phi Gamma Delta

Canstruct

3rd Place Sorority – Chi Omega
2nd Place Sorority – Alpha Delta Pi
1st Place Sorority – Kappa Delta

3rd Place Fraternity – Alpha Gamma Rho
2nd Place Fraternity – Phi Gamma Delta
1st Place Fraternity – Sigma Phi Epsilon

Spring Sing

4th Place Sorority – Alpha Xi Delta
3rd Place Sorority – Phi Mu
2nd Place Sorority – Alpha Omicron Pi
1st Place Sorority – Kappa Delta

4th Place Fraternity – Sigma Phi Epsilon

3rd Place Fraternity – Kappa Sigma

2nd Place Fraternity – Phi Delta Theta

1st Place Fraternity – Phi Gamma Delta

Overall Sorority Rankings

3rd Place Overall Sorority – Alpha Omicron Pi

2nd Place Overall Sorority – Phi Mu

1st Place Overall Sorority – Kappa Delta

Overall Fraternity Rankings

3rd Place Overall Fraternity – Sigma Phi Epsilon

2nd Place Overall Fraternity – Alpha Gamma Rho

1st Place Overall Fraternity – Phi Gamma Delta

Chapter Achievement Awards:

Alumni Development Award:

Alpha Delta Pi

Alpha Omicron Pi

Alpha Xi Delta

Chi Omega

Kappa Delta

Kappa Sigma

Phi Delta Theta

Phi Gamma Delta

Phi Mu

Sigma Kappa

Sigma Phi Epsilon

Outstanding Intramurals Award:

Alpha Xi Delta

Chi Omega

Delta Zeta

Kappa Delta

Pi Kappa Alpha

Phi Gamma Delta

Sigma Chi

Sigma Phi Epsilon

Outstanding New Member Program Award:

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

Philanthropic Service Award:

Alpha Delta Pi
Alpha Omicron Pi
Alpha Xi Delta
Kappa Delta
Phi Mu
Sigma Phi Epsilon

Chapter Development Award:

Alpha Delta Pi
Alpha Omicron Pi
Alpha Xi Delta
Kappa Delta
Phi Delta Theta
Phi Mu
Sigma Phi Epsilon

Scholastic Achievement Award:

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

Campus Involvement and Leadership Award:

Alpha Delta Pi
Alpha Omicron Pi
Alpha Xi Delta
Chi Omega
Delta Tau Delta
Delta Zeta
Kappa Delta
Phi Delta Theta
Phi Gamma Delta
And Sigma Phi Epsilon

Greek Involvement Award:

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

Most Improved Chapter: Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

Sorority Outstanding New Member: Alexis Brock, Alpha Xi Delta

Fraternity Outstanding New Member: Luke Wininger, Sigma Phi Epsilon

Sorority Outstanding Advisor Award: Aarika Gunn, Alpha Delta Pi

Fraternity Outstanding Advisor Award: David Serafini, Sigma Phi Epsilon

Howard Bailey Distinguished Service Award: Dr. Randy Capps, Sigma Nu

Charley Pride Spirit Award: Eli Lyons, Alpha Delta Pi and Kody Okert, Kappa Sigma

Greek Man of the Year: Noah Moore, Sigma Phi Epsilon

Greek Woman of the Year: Maddie White, Alpha Omicron Pi and Kate Adams, Kappa Delta

Karen Towell Sisterhood Award: Alpha Xi Delta

M. Reed Morgan Award: Sigma Phi Epsilon

Scott Taylor Chapter Achievement Award: Alpha Xi Delta, Kappa Delta, Sigma Phi Epsilon

Greek Programming

Greek Leadership Symposium: On Saturday, February 13th, 900+ Greek students participated in the Greek Leadership Symposium. The keynote was led by Father Mike Williams, priest at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Newman Center. His keynote was about enhancing your Greek Experience. Because of COVID and the complexity of handling 900+ students throughout different sessions, we did not offer any breakout sessions this year.

Leadership and Volunteerism Programming: Many of our Greek students participate in Leadership and Volunteerism programs throughout the year. Numerous Greeks participate in the Dynamic Leadership Institute, a 4 phase leadership program designed to hone one's leadership skills. Nearly everyone on Midnight on the Hill and Student United Way (volunteerism boards) are greek. Greek Life is committed to recruiting for Leadership & Volunteerism initiatives and setting Leadership & Volunteerism events as part of the Greek calendar. Likewise, Leadership & Volunteerism is a terrific partner in facilitating for various symposiums or chapter developments.

Greek Academic Banquet: On Tuesday, March 23rd, 50 students attended the annual Greek Academic Banquet at the Downing Student Union. This program recognized the scholastic success of our organizations and individuals. In a normal year, those with a Fall/Spring GPA of a 3.6+ are invited (which is about 600 individuals), however due to COVID restrictions, only chapter presidents, individual award winners, and Professors of the Year were invited.

Highlights

Academic Milestones: WKU Greeks continue to earn grade point averages that are the highest in WKU history! The All-Sorority average was 3.388 during fall 2020 and 3.652 during spring 2020 as compared to the All-Women's average of 3.063 during fall 2020 and 3.337 during spring 2020. The All-Fraternity average was 2.990 during fall 2020 and 3.301 during spring 2020 as compared to the All-Men's average of 2.831 during fall 2020 and 3.091 during spring 2020. **Our sorority women are roughly a quarter point above the All Women's Average and our fraternity men are nearly two tenths above the All Men's Average.**

Incredible amount of Service Performed & Philanthropic Dollars Donated: Despite COVID limitations, WKU Greeks performed over 37,000 hours of service and gave over \$234,000 to local/national charities! Outside of dollars donated the Greek Week Blood Drive is one of the largest collegiate blood drives in the country. This year, we celebrated 35 years of the WKU Greeks Blood Drive by collecting 1,167 pints of blood, allowing the Greek community to potentially help save over 4,000+ lives. **During Philanthropy Day of Greek Week, the Greek community collected 104,000+ canned goods items to help local backpack programs across the Southern Kentucky region.**

Walk a Mile: On Wednesday, April 3rd, the Interfraternity Council hosted the 10th annual Walk-a-Mile fundraiser to raise awareness about sexual violence and raise money for the local rape and crisis center, Hope Harbor. ***125 men walked up and down the Hill in heels, the most who have ever walked this event; the event also raised \$6,000 for Hope Harbor, the highest amount ever donated.*** This event got terrific news coverage from the College Heights Herald and WNKY local news station.

Issues/Concerns from 2021-2022 School Year:

Communication between Councils: This has been an issue for the past several years and was not improved in any measurable way this past year. There must be efforts made to have chapters and chapter leaders from different councils communicate with each other. Currently, we cannot even get leaders from all councils to attend a Presidents' Roundtable together.

Efforts to have NPHC attend Presidents' Roundtables, Greek Presidents' Retreat, Greek Academic Banquet, Convocation, etc. have been futile.

I feel the best way moving forward is to have NPHC/IFC/Panhellenic all supervised through one person. The current staff arrangement has not worked. NPHC needs to be asked and encouraged to participate in all-Greek programming and important programs/initiatives from NPHC must be communicated to IFC/Panhellenic.

Negative PR, both Locally and Nationally: This year has seen major traction of the Abolish Greeks movement. Abolish Greeks has arisen on several campuses with numerous members choosing to quit from their respective chapters. This, paired with multiple national hazing deaths (not at WKU) have amplified negative PR.

Although WKU Greek Life has avoided the abolish Greeks movement thus far, we have faced negative PR and scrutiny from risk management incidents and by chapters not following proper COVID protocols throughout the year.

Institutions cannot prevent every bad incident from happening, nor can it keep people 100% compliant for all policies (like COVID protocols). With that said, institutions can do their best to educate people to prevent issues as best possible through programming. WKU Greeks looks to help educate Greek undergraduates through the New Member Symposium, Greek Leadership Symposium, Presidents' Roundtables, Presidents' Retreat, and new to this year, development series for councils titled, "5 Things You Need to Know." Example topics will include (but are not limited to): Consent/Title IX, Judicial/WKU Expectations, Diversity/Equity/Inclusion, Social Media Responsibility, etc.

Chapter Meeting/Room Reservation Space: Chapter meeting and room reservation space has been a slight issue the past few years. Having 34 groups, with roughly three-quarters using meeting space outside of their chapter house, creates a small nightmare for those scheduling meetings. Our chapters consistently use the Downing Student Union (DSU) for chapter meetings, discipline meetings, philanthropies, probate shows, and even educational programming. Our chapters sometimes get disgruntled with student union policy of so many meetings per week or for only a certain length of time. While chapters have to understand that there are over 350+ student organizations and student union policies are necessary, I feel this issue will be magnified even more with Meredith hall no longer being used for sorority housing and sorority meeting spaces.

Fall 2021 sorority recruitment will have to be carefully planned well ahead of time to avoid room reservation issues. Chapters that once used Meredith will also have to find spaces on campus for their

chapter meetings, sisterhood, Spring Sing practices, etc. This will put further schedule pressure for DSU and other spaces large enough for our chapters.

Our office has communicated the importance for groups building new houses to building a chapter meeting space in their new facility. Our office will have to further educate groups about meeting spaces outside of DSU that can be reserved. I'm sure we will also have to champion for our groups to be able to use such spaces outside of DSU (some spaces have informed Greeks that they do not take reservations for Greek groups). In order for our Greek groups to maintain their high level of production, finding solid meeting spaces will be important.