



2017 - 2018 Annual Report

Introduction

The 2017-2018 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 2017 had 535 women participate in the first round, with 430 women attending Preference. 423 women were matched through the formal process, representing 79% of the women who participated in Go Greek Round (first round). 20 women were released through recruitment and 92 women withdrew. 401 women were matched with their first choice, and 22 were matched with their second choice. Quota was 46 new members, an increase from 44 in fall 2016. 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 154 in fall 2017, compared to 157 for fall 2016. All chapters except Delta Zeta reached quota and total during the formal recruitment process. Our Panhellenic sorority membership in the fall 2017 semester was at 1551 women, an increase from fall 2016's 1515 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 154 to 137, based off the membership numbers of the 5th largest chapter. For spring 2018, that was Alpha Xi Delta with 137. Because of this reset of total, only four NPC chapters participated in COB: Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Omicron Pi, Delta Zeta, and Sigma Kappa. Overall, the NPC sorority community welcomed 28 women in the spring 2018 semester and 36 counting Sigma Alpha's new members (Sigma Alpha is not part of NPC, but is part of the WKU Panhellenic community).

Exactly 291 men signed bids in fall 2017, one of the largest totals in WKU history. This is down from the 310 who signed during the fall of 2016. The fall 2017 fraternity membership was 958 men with the average fraternity chapter of 71. This is down from fall 2016, where membership was at 980. For Spring 2018, fraternity membership was 881 men with an average chapter size of 66. This is down from Spring 2017, where membership was at 927.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council fraternities and sororities decreased their membership. NPHC membership this spring was 82 members (27 men and 55 women). The fall 2017 average NPHC fraternity chapter size was 6. The spring 2018 average NPHC fraternity chapter size was 5 members. The fall 2017 average NPHC sorority chapter size was 8 members. The spring 2018 average NPHC sorority chapter size was 14. 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 64,000 service hours and \$289,430 donated to various causes in 2017-2018, 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 32 years of the WKU Greeks Blood Drive by collecting 1,322 pints of blood, allowing the Greek community to potentially help save over 3,200+ lives. This total was the highest in 6 years. Philanthropy Day of Greek Week found the Greek community collecting 61,000+ canned goods for various local Bowling Green food pantries, an increase of approximately 14,000 cans and a record total! 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

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 3.29 during fall 2017 and 3.32 during spring 2018 as compared to the All-Women's average of 3.12 during fall 2017 and 3.08 during spring 2018. The All-Fraternity average was 2.84 during fall 2017 and 2.88 during spring 2018 as compared to the All-Men's average of 2.81 during fall 2017 and 2.77 during spring 2018.

Greek Week

Greek Week is one of the largest student run programs in the Greek Affairs Office. The Greek Committee consisted of 30 students from 17 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. 1,322 pints of blood were donated to the American Red Cross during the Blood Drive. Approximately 1,000 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 approximately 1,800 people – this year in Diddle Arena as it's the only venue large enough to host all of our Greeks. Philanthropy Day saw us collecting 61,000+ cans, almost 14,000 more cans than were collected in 2017 (this represented an all-time high). 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:** Krysten Barlow, Colleen Coomes, Molli Guelde, Laryn Hilderbrandt, Kayla Walters
- **Alpha Gamma Delta:** Savannah Brant, Cejay Moore, Amy Wyer
- **Alpha Kappa Alpha:** Parish Richard, LaRosa Shelton, Patrice Thomas
- **Alpha Omicron Pi:** Lauren Elliott
- **Alpha Phi Alpha:** Cameron Brooks
- **Alpha Tau Omega:** Alex Mallonee
- **Alpha Xi Delta:** Amelia Kolb, Keaton Woodliff
- **Chi Omega:** Hailee Bernard, Ashleigh Porter, Caroline Simpson
- **Delta Zeta:** Heather Carpenter, Kelsey Humpert, Ariel Moore, Erin Waggoner
- **Kappa Delta:** Anne Thomas Belcher, Michael Ann Burris, Kylie Schaefer, Christa Segro
- **Kappa Sigma:** Billy Adams, Tyler Mattingly
- **Lambda Chi Alpha:** Michael Fuller
- **Phi Delta Theta:** Justin Downey, Kaleb Hampton, Jeff Ranger, Kyle Smith
- **Phi Gamma Delta:** Matthew Millay, John Logan Reynolds
- **Phi Mu:** Hayley Armstrong, Heather Duke, Sarah Michaelree, Cassidy Ratterman
- **Sigma Chi:** Nathan Kaminski
- **Sigma Kappa:** Maddie Antonovich, Rachel Baas, Kayla Geistman, Yasmine Sadrinia
- **Sigma Phi Epsilon:** Luke Anderson, Dalton Harshbarger, Max Winebrenner

Greek Week Award Winners:

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

Spring Sing

- 4th place – Alpha Omicron Pi
- 3rd place – Alpha Xi Delta
- 2nd place – Alpha Gamma Delta
- 1st place – Kappa Delta

- 4th place – Farmhouse
- 3rd place – Sigma Phi Epsilon
- 2nd place – Phi Delta Theta
- 1st place – Phi Gamma Delta

Banner

- 3rd place – Kappa Delta
- 2nd place – Alpha Gamma Delta
- 1st place – Phi Mu

- 3rd place – Farmhouse
- 2nd place – Phi Gamma Delta
- 1st place – Alpha Tau Omega

Events Day

- 3rd place – Alpha Delta Pi & Alpha Omicron Pi
- 2nd place – Phi Mu
- 1st place – Kappa Delta

- 3rd place – Alpha Gamma Rho, Kappa Alpha, Kappa Sigma, Phi Delta Theta
- 2nd place – Phi Gamma Delta
- 1st place – Pi Kappa Alpha

Blood Drive

- 3rd place – Alpha Delta Pi
- 2nd place – Phi Mu
- 1st place – Kappa Delta

- 3rd place – Phi Gamma Delta
- 2nd place – Phi Delta Theta
- 1st place – Alpha Gamma Rho

Greek Feud

- 3rd place – Phi Mu
- 2nd place – Alpha Gamma Delta
- 1st place – Delta Zeta

- 3rd place – Lambda Chi Alpha
- 2nd place – Sigma Nu
- 1st place – Phi Delta Theta

Tug

- 4th place – Sigma Kappa
- 3rd place – Alpha Xi Delta
- 2nd place – Chi Omega
- 1st place – Phi Mu

- 4th place – Phi Gamma Delta
- 3rd place – Alpha Tau Omega
- 2nd place – FarmHouse
- 1st place – Sigma Phi Epsilon

Canstruct for Cause

- 3rd place – Kappa Delta
- 2nd place – Alpha Delta Pi
- 1st place – Delta Zeta

- 3rd place – Phi Delta Theta
- 2nd place – Sigma Nu
- 1st place – Phi Gamma Delta

Philanthropy Day Cans donated (per member)

- 3rd place – Kappa Delta
- 2nd place – Alpha Omicron Pi
- 1st place – Alpha Delta Pi

- 3rd place – Alpha Gamma Rho
- 2nd place – Phi Gamma Delta
- 1st place – Phi Delta Theta

Greek Week Overall

- 3rd Place – Alpha Delta Pi
- 2nd Place – Phi Mu
- 1st Place – Kappa Delta

- 3rd Place – Sigma Phi Epsilon
- 2nd Place – Phi Delta Theta
- 1st Place – Phi Gamma Delta

Chapter Achievement Awards:

Alumni Development Award:

Alpha Delta Pi
Alpha Gamma Delta
Kappa Delta
Lambda Chi Alpha
Phi Delta Theta
Phi Gamma Delta
Phi Mu
Pi Kappa Alpha
Sigma Kappa

Outstanding Intramurals Award:

Alpha Delta Pi
Kappa Delta
Phi Mu

Outstanding New Member Program:

Alpha Delta Pi
Delta Zeta
Kappa Delta
Phi Delta Theta
Phi Gamma Delta
Sigma Chi

Philanthropic Service Award:

Alpha Omicron Pi
Chi Omega
Kappa Delta
Phi Delta Theta
Phi Gamma Delta
Sigma Phi Epsilon

Chapter Development Award:

Alpha Omicron Pi
Chi Omega
Kappa Delta
Phi Gamma Delta

Scholastic Achievement Award:

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

Campus Involvement and Leadership Award:

Alpha Delta Pi
Alpha Omicron Pi
Chi Omega
Delta Zeta
Kappa Delta
Phi Delta Theta
Phi Gamma Delta
Sigma Kappa

Greek Involvement Award:

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

Most Improved Fraternity: Lambda Chi Alpha

Most Improved Sorority: Alpha Kappa Alpha

Sorority Outstanding New Member: Allyson Taylor, Omega Phi Alpha

Fraternity Outstanding New Member: Noah Moore, Sigma Phi Epsilon

Sorority Outstanding Advisor Award: Ashlee Manley, Phi Mu

Fraternity Outstanding Advisor Award: Joe Morel, Phi Delta Theta

Charley Pride Spirit Award: Amy Teta, Alpha Delta Pi & Casey Birge, Kappa Delta & Dalton Harshbarger, Sigma Phi Epsilon

Greek Man of the Year: Daniel Correll, Kappa Sigma & Carson Kuhl, Pi Kappa Alpha

Greek Woman of the Year: Emily Pride, Alpha Omicron Pi & LaRosa Shelton, Alpha Kappa Alpha

Karen Towell Sisterhood Award: Chi Omega

M. Reed Morgan Award: Phi Gamma Delta

Scott Taylor Chapter Achievement Award: Kappa Delta

Greek Programming

New Member Symposium: On Saturday, September 9th, 540 new members of the WKU Greek community came together for a morning of pertinent breakout sessions and a keynote by Chris Woods, Owner of Plaid, a consulting company that specializes in Greek Risk Management. The students divided into smaller groups where they attended two breakout sessions hosted by Fraternity/Sorority Headquarters Staff, Judicial Affairs, Student Activities, and the IFC/Panhellenic Officers.

Greek Leadership Symposium: On Saturday, February 24th, 630 Greek students participated in the Greek Leadership Symposium. The keynote was led by Megan Talcott, Director of Prevention Education at Hope Harbor, discussing consent and what it means to get consent. The students then attended two breakaway sessions of their choosing on various topics such as: mental health, financial management, relationship issue, and transferrable skills such as home buying and traveling, etc.

Leadership and Volunteerism Programming: Many of our Greek students participate in Leadership and Volunteerism programming throughout the year. Numerous Greeks participate in the Dynamic Leadership Institute and over half of those attending LeaderShape were greek. Several sorority women participated in the Alternative Spring Break trips and 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 these 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 20th, 540 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+ last year because over 1,000 students were qualified using the 3.6 GPA and capacity for the venue was only 600 people.

Highlights

Greek Membership: *This fall, Greek membership hit 2,500 total members for the first time in WKU's history.* Fall 2017 membership was at 2509, a 14 person increase from the Fall 2016 total. Spring membership was down slightly; Spring 2018 membership was at 2291, down 58 people from the Spring 2017 membership of 2349. The Spring 2018 membership was the second highest of all time.

Academic Milestones: *This fall, both our greek men and greek women earned the highest ever grade point average in WKU Greek History.* The All-Sorority Average was a 3.29, .17 higher than the All-Women's Average. The All-Fraternity Average was a 2.84, .03 higher than the All-Men's Average. It's worth noting that the Greek Life office uses the most aggressive All-Women's and All-Men's averages in that we count part-time students. Both the All-Women's and All-Men's averages would be down approximately .05-.10 GPA points if we only included full-time students.

Walk a Mile: On Wednesday, April 11th, the Interfraternity Council hosted the 8th annual Walk-a-Mile fundraiser to raise money and awareness about sexual violence and the local rape and crisis center, Hope Harbor. Over 80 men walked up and down the Hill in heels. ***This event raised over \$2,500 for Hope Harbor, tied for the highest amount ever donated.*** This event got terrific news coverage from the College Heights Herald and local TV stations, WBKO and WNKY.

Coalition for Collegiate Women's Leadership Conference (formerly SEPC): This year, 30 students and staff traveled to Atlanta from Thursday, February 1st through Sunday, February 4th 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. Former Panhellenic President, Laryn Hilderbrandt, served as a 2018 CCWL Conference Coordinator. ***Our Panhellenic Council won the Outstanding Circle of Sisterhood Award and Leadership Development Award at the Coalition for Collegiate Women's Leadership Conference (CCWL). In addition, Panhellenic executive council members Kylie Schaefer and Caroline Simpson won the Order of Omega Case Study Competition.*** Amy Teta, who served as the 2017 Circle of Sisterhood Director, presented to other Panhellenic Councils on how to effectively program and raise money for the Circle of Sisterhood program.

Southeastern Interfraternity Conference (SEIFC): This year, 8 students and staff traveled to Atlanta from Thursday, February 15th through Sunday, February 18th for the SEIFC conference. This conference proved to be a great success just like the CCWL conference. ***Our InterFraternity Council won the Outstanding Service Project Award and was one of three IFC councils to win the Fraternal Excellence Award at the Southeastern Interfraternity Conference (SEIFC). In addition, IFC executive council members Daniel Correll and Justin Downey placed second in the Order of Omega Case Study Competition.***

Issues/Concerns from 2016-2017 School Year:

Academic Performance in NPHC organizations: There have been some real improvements in this area compared to last year.

During the Fall 2017 semester, the NPHC fraternity average was a 2.513, up from a 2.368 during the Fall 2016 semester. During the Fall 2017 semester, the NPHC sorority average was a 2.960, up from a 2.782. Although both are lower than their IFC and Panhellenic counterparts, real improvement was made (0.15+ for NPHC Fraternity Men and 0.18+ for NPHC Sorority women) during the fall 2017 semester.

During the Spring 2018 semester, the NPHC fraternity average was a 2.753, up from a 2.387 during the Spring 2017 semester. During the Spring 2018 semester, the NPHC sorority average was a 2.779, down from a 2.927. Although both are lower than their IFC and Panhellenic counterparts, major improvement was made on the NPHC Fraternity side (0.37+ for NPHC Fraternity Men) while slight losses were sustained for the NPHC Sorority side (0.14- for NPHC Sorority women) during the Spring 2018 semester.

Alcohol-Free Housing: Education is one of the only ways we can fight issues related to alcohol-free housing. The Greek Life office used platforms such as IFC meetings, Panhellenic meetings, and Greek Presidents' Roundtables to educate chapter presidents that chapter houses were alcohol free and what the consequences were if found violating alcohol free violations. There was a consistent late-night presence led by Dr. Charley Pride and assisted by Randall P. Bogard and Andrew Rash to walk around fraternity houses to ensure everyone followed the policy. During the 2017-18 school year, there were zero alcohol-free violations whereas there were 7 alcohol-free violations during the Spring 2017 semester alone.

Having a real presence where chapter members see Greek Life staff during typical party nights has been the best deterrent we have in fighting alcohol-free housing.

Overprogramming: Greek Life is still likely over programmed in a sense, however, the scheduling of the programs is likely much better. This year, we enforced 1 philanthropic event per week per council (IFC, NPHC, Panhellenic) so that there aren't numerous philanthropies all during the same week. Some chapters have started pairing for philanthropic events (i.e. Pi Kappa Alpha and Alpha Omicron Pi for a Golf Scramble) – ideally, more chapters would need to pair together.

When you think about Greek Philanthropic programs, intramural programming, athletic events like football/basketball, Greek Week practices (*spring only*), and students activities programming (i.e. – Dynamic Leadership Institute, The Leadership Conference, Midnight on the Hill, etc.), Greeks honestly have several options each day to participate with. This in a sense is both a positive and a negative. Thus, it is imperative that the Greek Life office stay on top of the schedules of large-scale events (athletic events, large-scale Student Activities events like Midnight on the Hill finale, Greek Week, etc.) so that there isn't programming gridlock.

Issues/Concerns from 2017-2018 School Year:

Communication between Councils: Throughout the year, there were instances of poor communication between the three councils (IFC, Panhellenic, NPHC) that resulted in frustration as it applied to programming. This was first evident when NPHC hosted a unity walk and only a few members of IFC fraternities and Panhellenic sororities showed up. This led to divisive social media posts. After the incident, all three council presidents, various other executive officers, and the NPHC co-advisors and the IFC/Panhellenic advisor discussed what transpired and how to best move forward. Moving forward communication between the councils is going to be paramount. From the meeting, we left where all groups have a standing invitation to each respective council meeting. In addition, the three council presidents need to make sure that other councils are aware of what the other councils are doing (possibly having a meeting before Greek Presidents' Roundtable). Having a goal-setting session during a Presidents retreat would also be advantageous in setting better communication.

Nationwide Risk Management Issues: Throughout the year, there have been numerous high-level risk management issues stemming from drinking deaths to hazing deaths (even within our Commonwealth). This has led to the suspension of Greek Life at several of these campuses and even (failed) legislation to do away with Greek Life in the state of Tennessee.

Although WKU has not faced any deaths or major risk management incidents, we must continually assess ourselves, our programs, and our policies to ensure that we are doing everything within reason to educate and prevent major risk management incidents from happening.

Currently, we heavily use our New Member Symposium and Greek Leadership Symposium to talk about Consent, WKU policies (presented by the Office of Student Conduct), working with the police (presented by the WKU Police), mental health issues, etc. We also continually educate our chapter advisors and presidents about WKU policy and what our expectation is if a chapter faces a potential risk management incident.

Moving forward, it would be wise to create a task force made up of undergraduates, chapter advisors, WKU faculty and staff, and police to look at our policies and various facts about WKU Greek Life to see if there are any improvements to be made.

Public Relations regarding Greek Perception: From listening to WKU faculty and staff, WKU Greeks still have some public relations issues that sometimes overshadow all the good that's being done. An example of this is Greek Week; during Greek Week, over 1,300 pints of blood was donated to the Red Cross (the largest blood drive Red Cross does in the Kentucky/Tennessee region), over 61,000 cans of food were donated to local food banks and backpack programs, and several students showed tremendous displays of hard work and leadership during programs like Spring Sing, Tug, and Canstruction. All of this was overshadowed by an unfortunate dancing incident during Spring Sing. More than discussing all the positive points of Greek Week, WKU Administrators were aware of the one negative incident.

A greater emphasis needs to be done to highlight the positive aspects of Greek Life such as GPA's, retention percentages, philanthropy dollars, service hours, etc. Educating faculty/staff/administrators of these positive traits will help change perception of Greek Life. This can come from inviting more people to programs like the Greek Academic Banquet, Greek Convocation, semesterly newsletters, letters from undergraduates regarding how Greek Life has impacted them, etc.