OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

fraternity &
sorority affairs

2012-2013 Annual Report

Respectfully Submitted By

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Manager

And

Liz Osborne
Coordinator

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2012-2013 Annual Report
Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs

I. General Comments

During the 2012-2013 academic year, the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs reinforced existing policies and procedures, created new policies and procedures, and implemented new programs. All of these efforts have but one goal in mind. That goal is to enhance the fraternity and sorority community at Oklahoma State University and make being a member of a Greek-letter fraternity or sorority an extremely beneficial experience for the students of Oklahoma State University. The fraternity and sorority community at OSU responded by excelling in academics, leadership, community service and philanthropy.

II. Liaison Reports

Welcome Week

Manager continued to serve on the Welcome Week Steering Committee. The Manager met with Welcome Week Steering to implement the program for the fall of 2012 and continues to meet with them in preparation for the fall of 2013. The most important event fraternity and sorority students were involved in during the festivities was the Convocation on Friday, August 17, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. in Gallagher-Iba Arena. Efforts continue to make this the case in the fall of 2013 as well.

Alumni Association

While a liaison assignment of the Manager, both professional staff members meet periodically with Melisa Parkerson, Director of Student Programming for the OSU Alumni Association. Meetings allowed for updates to Campus Life on Homecoming, SAB and other events of interest.

University & Community Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition

The University & Community Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition met monthly for the first few months of the 2012-2013 academic year; the Manager attended these regularly. While the majority of the membership comes from the campus, there are representatives from ABLE, PanOK, and Stillwater PD. This group met at OSUPD while Lt. Leon Jones is chair. The group is reorganizing to become more oriented to serving OSU, Stillwater, and Payne County.

Back On Trac Program

The Manager is currently available for consults relating to fraternity and sorority students for the staffing committee of a fully functioning Back On Track program here at Oklahoma State University. Both the Manager and Coordinator attend graduation ceremonies when they take place.
ACUI Region 11 Meeting

The Coordinator volunteered to co-chair this committee with the Coordinator of Student Union Programming. This group meets monthly to discuss the event, which occurred on November 1 – 3, 2012.

III. Staffing

The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs consists of the Manager of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs, Ival Gregory; the Coordinator of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs, Liz Osborne, who joined the office on February 2, 2009; a half time graduate teaching assistant for IFC, Cody Tripp, who joined the staff on May 31, 2011; a half time graduate teaching assistant for MGC and NPHC, Landry Underwood, who joined the staff on May 23, 2012; a half time graduate teaching assistant for the Panhellenic Council, Courtney Skaer, who joined the staff on May 29, 2012; Catherine Cooke, a half time graduate teaching assistant for fraternity and sorority programming, who joined the office on August 20, 2012; and, Senior Unit Assistant, Melisa Echols, who joined the staff on January 16, 2008. (Melisa reports to both Fraternity & Sorority Affairs and the Center for Ethical Leadership.)

Landry Underwood returns as MCG/NPHC graduate teaching assistant and as the senior member of the assistants will work on special projects as defined by the Manager and Coordinator. The addition of Catherine Cooke, a graduate teaching assistant to work primarily with Freshman Follies and Spring Sing as well as the social media presence of the office allows Cody and Courtney to focus more on the councils they help advise. Courtney and Cody also advised Order of Omega and Junior Greek Life respectively.

Liz Osborne became Coordinator of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs on Monday, February 2, 2009. Her professional enthusiasm has infused a new and different perspective into the OSU fraternity and sorority community. She continues to be involved with fraternity/sorority activities on the regional and national levels. Liz has accepted the responsibility of directly advising NPHC and has been an integral part of the creation of the newly revised NPHC Constitution. Liz’ energy has also guided the exponential growth of the Multicultural Greek Council which could see eight member organizations in the fall of 2013.

Melisa continues to exhibit a sincere desire for knowledge of our office and the processes of the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs and the Center for Ethical Leadership. Her membership in one of our sororities during her undergraduate program continues to be extremely helpful. Her enthusiasm and energy combined with her longing to serve the students are genuine assets to the office. Melisa continues her pursuit of a master’s degree in Higher Education.

IV. Programs/Activities

Some of the regular activities of the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs are:
• Continued regular Fraternity & Sorority Affairs staff meetings.
• House Corporation Presidents’ quarterly meetings continued to take place with the Manager leading the meeting.
• Panhellenic Council Chapter Advisor meetings continued to take place monthly with the Coordinator leading the meeting.
• National Pan-Hellenic Council graduate advisor meetings resumed and took place twice per semester and on an as needed basis.
• Manager and/or Coordinator attend House Directors' meetings with support from several campus resources, including OSU Legal Counsel for example.
• Both professional staff members met with the appropriate traveling consultants for inter/national fraternities and sororities represented on the OSU campus.
• Met with, or conversed by telephone with, parents, faculty, etc. concerned about the wellbeing of their students in the fraternity and sorority community.
• Manager met with upper administration and local governing officials on an as needed basis. This includes but is not limited to Dr. Bird, Gary Clark, Dan Galloway (City Manager), and Norman McNickle (Stillwater Director of Public Safety).
• Manager attended Interfraternity Council meetings on a regular basis.
• Manager and Graduate Teaching Assistant met with the Interfraternity Council executive officers on a weekly basis.
• Manager, Graduate Teaching Assistant and IFC executive officers met monthly with Chapter Presidents while inviting other officers to attend as needed.
• Coordinator and Graduate Teaching Assistant attended Multicultural Greek Council meetings on a regular basis.
• Coordinator met with Multicultural Greek Council executive officers weekly or on an as needed basis.
• Coordinator and Graduate Teaching Assistant attended National Pan-Hellenic Council meetings on a regular basis.
• Coordinator and Graduate Teaching Assistant met with NPHC executive officers on a biweekly or an as needed basis.
• Coordinator and Graduate Teaching Assistant attended Panhellenic Council meetings on a regular basis.
• Coordinator and Graduate Teaching Assistant met with the Panhellenic Executive Council officers on a weekly basis.
• Coordinator, Graduate Teaching Assistant and Panhellenic Executive Council officers met with the Panhellenic Council Presidents, Panhellenic Council Delegates, etc. individually and/or collectively outside of council meetings once per semester.
• Continued good working relations with Stillwater Police Department.
• Continued “Exit Interviews” with all young men who de-pledged a fraternity.
• Manager had as needed meetings with Kevin Kraft then Aleigha Mariott, Student Conduct Officer, to discuss discipline issues. Both professionals welcomed Aleigha Ford to the role of Coordinator of Student Judicial Affairs following Kevin Kraft’s departure.
• Worked closely with Caitie Abrahamson, Student Conduct Graduate Research Assistant, to create Panhellenic and IFC J-Board trainings each semester. Also, worked closely to investigate allegations of various violations by members of the fraternity/sorority community and recommended possible sanctions.
• Graduate Teaching Assistants jointly advised Order of Omega with Courtney Skaer taking the lead. In total, 75 students were initiated into Order of Omega throughout the year.
• Graduate Teaching Assistants jointly advised Junior Greek Life with Cody Tripp taking the lead.
• Sent letters of congratulations to members of the fraternity/sorority community who received special recognition or awards. Throughout the academic year a total of thirteen Top Ten Freshmen, twenty-five of forty-eight Seniors of Significance, seven of nine Homecoming Executives, forty-one of fifty-two Mortar Board inductees, and eight of fourteen 2013 Outstanding Seniors were Greek students.
• After being incorporated as a not-for-profit Oklahoma corporation on August 21, 2007, the Greek Neighborhood Association of Stillwater, OK, continues to evaluate projects which will benefit the health and safety of those who live in the fraternity and sorority houses at OSU.
• Work continues on the Greek Centennial projects. The sundial has a location, in the center of the Formal Gardens and fundraising efforts have been intensified.

Some of the activities of the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs are during Fall Semester of 2012 were:
• The Coordinator and Panhellenic President attended the Texas Christian University session of the Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute on May 13 to 17, 2012.
• The OSU Colony of Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority, Inc. obtained its charter and is now the Epsilon Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Lambda Gamma on June 13, 2012.
• The MGC/NPHC Graduate Teaching Assistant, Landry, and the Panhellenic Council Graduate Teaching Assistant, Courtney, attended the Region IV Drive-in hosted at the Texas A&M University on June 21 – 22, 2012. This was a fantastic opportunity to obtain new ideas regarding MGC, NPHC and Panhellenic.
• In collaboration with the Phi Delta Theta Chapter Advisor, the F&SA Coordinator continued pursuing a permanent course designation for the leadership course for fraternity and sorority leaders. In late July approval to teach the course in the fall 2012 was received; this was the second time the course was taught. The course is worth three credit hours and covered student development theory, values-based leadership, career development, etc.
• Coordinator and all three Graduate Teaching Assistants taught their own sections of Arts & Sciences Freshman Orientation (A&S 1111).
• Managed and coordinated an extremely successful women’s formal recruitment at the onset of the fall semester. 853 participated in recruitment, which is a 2.77% increase from the previous year. 754 were extended a bid.
• Conducted an evaluation of women’s formal recruitment with the Executive Council, PNMs, parents, recruitment counselors, and chapter recruitment chairs.
• Facilitated the councils in their presentation of Kim Novak, one of the nation’s foremost authorities on risk management, for the hazing seminar in the fall. For the second time, the presentation’s material was expanded to include alcohol and sexual violence awareness in addition to hazing prevention. Over 1,000 students and advisors attended this event. Kim Novak reported back regarding the positivity of the students who reached out to her following the program.
• Presented one educational forum in the fall for the Panhellenic Association to reduce programming. The educational forum took the form of a retreat in September and covered topics such as liability, working with advisors, and values.
• Junior Greek Life continues to exceed all expectations while they act as ambassadors for Fraternity & Sorority Affairs. The exceptional freshmen who make up JGL are selected through an application/interview process and travel with Undergraduate Admissions in order to man browse tables here on campus to promote fraternity/sorority life at OSU.
• Panhellenic Recruitment Coordinators were selected in October. A timeline for Recruitment Counselor training and chapter chairsmen training was established and implemented.
• For the fifth year, Freshman Follies operated as an entity of the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs. The event was held in the Student Union Theater after being held in the Seretean Center as a result of construction in the Student Union. The advisory responsibilities for this project were split between the F&SA Manager and one of the F&SA Graduate Teaching Assistants (Catherine Cooke).
• F&SA Manager and Graduate Teaching Assistant met weekly with Follies Executives and Follies Steering.
• For the second time, a philanthropy project was included in the Freshman Follies production. The student leaders selected Positive Tomorrows to receive the proceeds from “Cheesing for Charity.” The philanthropy project consisted of an additional evening performance (Wednesday night) for members of the community only. Donation buckets were also passed around during intermission of the other performances. Following the show, $10,426.86 was donated to Positive Tomorrows.
• IFC J-Board continued to gain stature in the community and heard an extremely small number of violations this semester.
• IFC Executives re-affirmed the office of IFC Recruitment Chairman. There will be one this summer and compensation will be adjusted accordingly.
• Coordinator sat on the Top Ten Freshman Women Interview Panel on October 14, 2012.
• Coordinator guided and encouraged the Multicultural Greek Council and the National Pan-Hellenic Council as they submitted all AFLV awards binders for the first time.
• At the final Panhellenic Council meeting of the semester, the community voted to open for extension again.
• Liz attended the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors Annual Meeting. This provided priceless networking opportunities, excellent ideas for growth and improvement of the OSU fraternity and sorority community and some insight into the future of the fraternal movement.
• While at the Annual Meeting, Liz also attended the training for Association volunteers. She will serve as the Editor and chair the Essentials Editorial Board for 2013-2014.
• The F&SA staff took on a new initiative entitled the “Return to Civility Tour” to meet with chapters regarding their civil behavior towards members of the fraternity and sorority community, and the Stillwater community as a whole. Topics included parking, addressing neighbors respectfully, and avoiding entitled behaviors.
• Throughout the fall and into the spring, F&SA staff members visited every housed organization to talk to them about appropriate behavior and representing their organizations in a positive light.

Some of the activities surrounding the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs during the Spring Semester of 2013 were:
• Council Officer Training occurred on Sunday, January 6, 2013, which is a training session with officers of the Interfraternity Council, Multicultural Greek Council, National Pan-
Hellenic Council and Panhellenic Council. The agenda included goal setting, the Social Change Model, etc.

- Coordinator planned and facilitated the Stillwater Alumnae Panhellenic Financial Meeting on January 19, 2013 at Pi Beta Phi. Very productive conversations regarding finances in addition to the growth of the community and the recruitment booklet took place.

- An extension committee was appointed to actualize the Panhellenic Council vote of the previous semester. Documentation was submitted to NPC for the Extension Bulletin with the deadline of accepting applications set as May 3 at 5 p.m.

- IFC re-affirmed the recruitment registration process, including a $40 fee, for fraternity recruits. The registration fee will be able to be paid by credit card this year as a part of the registration process.

- The Panhellenic Council re-affirmed the recruitment registration process as well as their dates and format. The fee for 2013 was set at $100.

- Reworked recruitment/intake marketing material in January and February; all councils' recruitment/intake booklets were available for Greek Discovery Day, April 6, 2013.

- Plans are set for the Panhellenic Council to again provide parents' emails as well as a Recruitment Notes booklet.

- Chapter Officer Training took place on Tuesday, January 22, 2013. Training sessions were held with chapter presidents, social chairs, recruitment chairs, intake officers, risk management chairs, secretaries, cultural programming officers, and philanthropy chairs of all chapters. This is also the third year in recent history that an evaluation of the program took place. Comments will be used to improve the 2014 edition of the program.

- Manager and Graduate Teaching Assistant (Catherine Cooke) met weekly with Spring Sing Executives and Spring Sing Steering.

- IFC chapters completed Chapter Quality Achievement applications designed by the Greek Life Task Force this year. This program provides a positive re-enforcement to fraternities to excel in several areas of the fraternal movement. Results are noted in the Fraternity Way.

- The Multicultural Greek Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and Panhellenic Council continued to utilize their awards process, which is based on the AFLV Awards and Assessment process.

- The Association for Fraternal Leadership and Values Conference took place February 7-10, 2013. Fraternity & Sorority Affairs Coordinator and Manager as well as Graduate Teaching Assistants accompanied IFC, Multicultural Greek Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and Panhellenic Council officers to Indianapolis, IN for this conference. This was an excellent opportunity for our students to see how other communities work. General sessions, breakout sessions, and informal time was spent learning from others and offering OSU practices to students and professionals from all over the country. An extremely valuable networking experience took place for both the professionals and the students. This conference provides opportunities to help select speakers for various programming opportunities on our campus. This was the seventh consecutive year leaders from both MGC and NPHC were able to attend AFLV. It was an extremely valuable experience for them. Three of the four Councils were recognized for excellence this year. Panhellenic won the Sutherland Award as the outstanding Panhellenic Council in their division, and IFC won the Jellison Award in their division. MGC was recognized in three categories: Academic Achievement, Council Management and Public Relations.
• The F&SA Coordinator met weekly with public relations officers for each council to plan Greek Discovery Day.

• Greek Discovery Day, April 6, 2013, was another success in educating and entertaining prospective students and their parents. The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs coordinated and advised student leaders in the production of this premier recruitment event. A general session, council specific breakout sessions, mock recruitment events, and chapter tours, combined with a session for the parents in attendance made this another very successful event. Attendance was just over 1900 students and parents. The opening session was in Gallagher-Iba. President Burn Hargis and Vice-President Jason Kirksey welcomed our guests.

• Greek Awards Reception was held on April 2, 2013. Order of Omega produced this event for the twelfth year, with the overall theme of “Living our Values.” Awards acknowledging Greek accomplishments, in several areas, were distributed. For the twelfth year, outstanding faculty and staff in the eyes of the Greek community were recognized. Order of Omega accomplished their goal of taking full ownership of the awards judging process.

• Spring Sing was held on April 13, 2013. This annual event was held in Gallagher-Iba Arena. Nearly 3,000 general admission tickets were sold and 150 V.I.P. tickets were issued. For the ninth consecutive year there was a philanthropy committee component to Spring Sing Steering. The philanthropy committee collected donations from local businesses, a portion from every ticket sold was donated to Coaches vs. Cancer, and money buckets were passed during Spring Sing intermission. As a result, $14,749 was donated to Coaches vs. Cancer from the Spring Sing Steering Committee. This number exceeded the $1,000 per show goal ($13,000).

• The Panhellenic Council voted in the spring of 2011 to begin the intensive process of sorority extension. Alpha Omicron Pi celebrated its one year anniversary by breaking ground on a house on April 22, 2013.

• In collaboration with the Phi Delta Theta Chapter Advisor, the F&SA Coordinator will continue to teach a section of Student Development and Leadership in Fraternities & Sororities in fall 2013. Using the data collected from the Alpha and Beta Class, the course will be adjusted. Recruitment, with the help of the Center for Ethical Leadership, for this class began immediately upon receiving word it is finally listed on SIS.

• Panhellenic recruitment coordinators were selected in October 2012, and Panhellenic recruitment was planned throughout most of the spring semester. Fraternity & Sorority Coordinator and Fraternity & Sorority Graduate Teaching Assistant, Courtney Skaer, met weekly with the Recruitment Coordinators.

• Coordinator assisted and advised the Recruitment Coordinators in the interviewing and selection of 65 recruitment counselors. They are known as Gamma Chis.

• Coordinator and Graduate Teaching Assistant met weekly with recruitment counselors and with chapter recruitment chairmen.

• The timeline for Recruitment Counselor training and chapter chair training has been closely followed.

• Coordinator and Graduate Teaching Assistant and the Recruitment Coordinators represented OSU Panhellenic Council at the Tulsa, Edmond, Houston, and Oklahoma City Alumnae Panhellenic Recruitment Events. Materials were sent to other alumnae groups in Oklahoma and Texas.
• Coordinator continued planning recruitment with the student leaders by arranging programming elements for all potential new members during fall recruitment, including, values alignment.

• IFC member chapters signed the Dry Recruitment Agreement for the fourteenth consecutive year. Emphasis will once again be placed on the enforcement of the "spirit" of the policy as well as the "letter" of the policy. The Fraternity & Sorority Affairs Manager has announced on several occasions that, quite simply, if a recruit, a member, and alcohol are present at the same time, then a violation occurs, regardless of the circumstances.

• Dialogue continued with NIC inter/national fraternities who have expressed interest in coming to Oklahoma State University. Arrangements have been made for Alpha Sigma Phi to colonize during the fall 2013 semester. Other fraternities continue to express a desire to come to Oklahoma State University.

While the above mentioned activities do not represent all of the activity of the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs during the 2012-2013 academic year, they are representative of the Office's day to day procedures and projects.

Respectfully submitted, the 2nd day of July, 2013,

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Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs

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Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs