CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERFRATERNITY SYSTEM
OF
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

REVISED AS OF MARCH 27, 1962
CONSTITUTION

Preamble

Recognizing that sound Interfraternity, University-Fraternity, and Community-Fraternity relationships are-needed to promote and perpetuate the best interests of the Ohio State University, Community, and the Fraternity Movement, we, the undergraduate fraternity men do hereby establish the Interfraternity System of the Ohio State University.

ARTICLE I-POWER

All powers herein granted by the University and the Fraternity Men shall be vested in the Interfraternity Government, and those powers not granted to the Interfraternity Government shall be retained by the chapters.

ARTICLE II- LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Section I: Name
The name of the Legislature shall be the Council of Fraternity Presidents.

Section II: Membership
The membership of the Council shall include all fraternities exclusive of the honorary and professional fraternities now officially existing or which may hereafter officially exist at the Ohio State University; and each shall be represented by its chapter president. The President of the Fraternity Advancement Council shall have a voting seat on the Council. The President of the Freshman Fraternity Council shall have a permanent ex-officio seat on the council. The five officers of the IFS shall also be voting members of the Council.

Section III: Duties
The council shall establish all policy concerning Interfraternity, University-Fraternity, and Community-Fraternity relations.

Section IV: Powers
A. The Council shall have the power to establish policies for the Interfraternity System.
B. The Council shall have the power to pass and enforce all laws, regulations, and rules governing the Interfraternity System.
C. The Council shall have the power to create and disband such subsidiary councils and organizations as it deems necessary for the maintenance and improvement of the Interfraternity System.
D. The Council shall have all other powers necessary to carry out its duties.
ARTICLE III-EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Section I: Composition
The Executive Branch shall consist of the President, the VP, the Executive Secretary, the Treasurer, the Director of Fraternity Relations and the Executive Committee of the Interfraternity System; and all committees and personnel necessary to carry out the duties of this branch.

Section II: Duties
The Executive Branch shall be responsible for carrying out all policies established by the Council of Fraternity Presidents.

Section III: Powers
The officers and the Executive Committee shall have all powers necessary to carry out their duties except those powers expressly forbidden by the Council of Fraternity Presidents.

Section IV: Responsibilities
A. The President shall report to the Council of Fraternity Presidents.
B. The VP, the Executive Secretary, Treasurer, and the Director of Fraternity Relations shall report to the President.
C. All subsidiary councils and organizations created by the Council of Fraternity Presidents shall be responsible to the Council of Fraternity Presidents, and their chairman shall report to the President.

ARTICLE IV- JUDICIAL BRANCH

Section I: Name
The name of the Judicial Branch shall be the Interfraternity Court of Justice.

Section II: Membership
The Interfraternity Court of Justice shall be appointed by the Executive Committee with the approval of the Council. It shall consist of two (2)-Senior Justices, two (2) Junior Justices, a Chief Justice, and one Alternate Justice, no two (2) of whom shall be from the same fraternity. At the time the Justices take office, the Junior Justices shall have a class rank of junior, and the Senior Justices and the Chief Justice shall have a class rank of Senior. The Justices shall be appointed each spring quarter, and they shall take office the following fall quarter. Their expected graduation dates shall not fall sooner than June of the academic year in which they take office.

Section III: Duties and Powers
The Interfraternity Court of Justice shall have original jurisdiction and authority to rule upon any case involving any fraternity member or chapter accused of committing any breach of rules, regulations, standards, and criteria generally accepted by the Council of Fraternity Presidents as those requisite to good fraternity management and government. Its standards and penalty provisions shall be subject
to annual review or revision by the Court with the advice and consent of the Council of Fraternity Presidents. These standards shall be made available to all member chapters.

Section IV: Vacancies

If a vacancy should occur in any of these positions for any reason, the Executive Committee with the approval of the Council shall appoint a man to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

Section V: Appeals

Appeals from this Court may be made to the Dean of Men; or may be directed to the Student Court within seven (7) days.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

Section I: Composition

The officers of the Interfraternity System shall be a President, a VP, an Executive Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Director of Fraternity Relations. These officers, by virtue of their respective positions shall be voting members of the Council of Fraternity Presidents. The President and the Vice-President shall be elected annually by the Council of Fraternity Presidents. The Executive Secretary, Treasurer, and Director of Fraternity Relations shall be appointed by the outgoing Executive Committee subject to the 2/3 approval of the members of the Council of Fraternity Presidents which is assembled for the annual election.

Section II: Eligibility

A. President, Vice President: To be eligible for this office a person must be a member of the Fraternity System, and he must be a present chapter president, or past chapter president, or hold or have held the office of Executive Secretary, or of Treasurer, or of Director of Fraternity Relations; and his expected graduation date shall fall not sooner than June of the academic year following the year in which he is elected.

B. Executive Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Fraternity Relations: To be eligible for these offices a person must have been a Sophomore Secretary in the Fraternity Affairs Office. No two (2) men from the same fraternity may immediately succeed each other in an office.

Section III: Duties

A. President: As the executive head of the Interfraternity System, it shall be his duty to see that all Interfraternity System policy is efficiently and effectively implemented and that the Interfraternity System is well informed on its present and future responsibilities.

B. Vice-President, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Fraternity Relations: As officers they shall have general responsibility for the execution of the duties of the Executive Branch; and they shall have specific responsibility and authority to carry out the duties peculiar to their respective positions.
Section IV: Removal

Any officer may be removed from office by a 3/4 affirmative vote of the full membership of the Council of Fraternity Presidents for non-performance of duties, or formal performance, or for conduct not befitting a gentleman or an officer of the Interfraternity System.

Section V: Vacancies

If a vacancy should occur in any of the offices for any reason, the vacancy will be filled for the remainder of the term of office by a man chosen under the same selection procedure stated for that office in Article V Section I.

ARTICLE VI - FINANCE

Section I: Revenue

The Interfraternity System shall be financed mainly through revenue collected from Pledge Registration fees, fines by the Council of Fraternity Presidents, fines by the Interfraternity Court of Justice, solicitation collections, pro-rated assessments, or by donations.

Section II: Budget

At least two(2) meetings prior to the end of Spring Quarter, the Treasurer with the approval of the President shall submit to the Council of Fraternity Presidents a budget setting forth a complete plan of proposed expenditures and anticipated income of the Interfraternity System.

ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS

Any member of the Council may propose amendments to the Constitution. Such proposed amendments shall be filed with the Executive Secretary for submission to all fraternities. Each President shall obtain the opinion of his chapter, and he or his designated representative shall be vested with the right to cast the official vote for his Chapter. At the next meeting of the Council, or any meeting thereof, such amendments shall be valid of all intents and purposes as part of this Constitution, when and if approved by two-thirds(2/3) of the full membership of the Council.
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I - MEETINGS

Section I: Regular Meetings
The Council of Fraternity Presidents shall assemble for regular meetings at least twice a month during the school terms of Autumn, Winter, and Spring Quarters. Whenever possible, the regular meetings shall be held on Tuesday evening at intervals of two (2) weeks.

Section II: Quorum
The presence of delegates from sixty percent (60%) of the member fraternities shall constitute a quorum.

Section III: Parliamentary Procedure
Robert's Rules of Order, Revised shall govern the procedure of all meetings of the Council of Fraternity Presidents.

Section IV: Voting
Voting shall be done in person. No vote by proxy or by mail will be valid.

Section V: Election Procedure:
All elections shall be decided by a preferential, simple majority ballot.

ARTICLE II - OFFICERS

Section I: President
A. Duties
1. He shall keep in close touch with the work of the other officers, expedite the projects and the business of the Interfraternity System and be prompt in bringing before the Council of Fraternity Presidents any matter of importance to the Interfraternity System.
2. He shall preside at meetings of the Council of Fraternity Presidents.
3. He shall have the power to appoint such special committees and their chairmen as he deems necessary for the efficient conduct of the business of the Interfraternity System.
4. He shall represent the Interfraternity System on the Student Senate. In case of absence, one of the other officers shall
be designated as his official alternate.
5. He shall maintain his office in the Fraternity Affairs Office and, whenever possible, be present during established office hours.
6. He shall submit to the Council a yearly written report on the functions of his office.
7. He shall be the chairman of the Executive Committee.

B. Salary
The President shall receive for his services a sum of sixty-five dollars ($65) per quarter excluding Summer Quarter, payable in monthly allotments.

Section II: Vice-President

A. Duties
1. He shall serve as the Council of Fraternity Presidents' representative on the Fraternity Managers' Association Board of Directors.
2. He shall be chairman of the Interviewing and Petitioning Committee.
3. He shall serve as chairman of the Interfraternity Rushing Committee.
4. He shall serve as co-ordinator and be responsible for the efficient function of all the committees established by the Council of Fraternity Presidents.
5. He shall maintain his office in the Fraternity Affairs Office and, whenever possible, be present during established office hours.

B. Salary
The Vice-President shall receive for his services the sum of fifty dollars ($50) per quarter excluding Summer Quarter, payable in monthly allotments.

Section III: Executive Secretary

A. Duties
1. He shall be responsible for seeing that the functions of the Fraternity Affairs Office are carried out.
2. He shall serve as secretary of the Interfraternity Court of Justice.
3. He shall serve as secretary of the Council of Fraternity Presidents.
4. He shall serve as secretary of the Executive Committee of the Council of Fraternity Presidents.
5. He shall submit to the Council a yearly written report on the functions of his office.
6. He shall oversee the work of such committees as the President assigns to him.
7. He shall be directly responsible for the Sophomore and Freshmen Secretaries.
8. He shall maintain his office in the Fraternity Affairs Office and, whenever possible, be present during established office hours.
9. He shall be responsible for keeping the Code of Acts up to date.
10. He shall compose the Interfraternity Brochure and see that it is submitted to the yearly N_rLC.

B. Salary
The Executive Secretary shall receive for his services the sum of eighty dollars ($80) per quarter, excluding Summer Quarter, payable in monthly allotments.

Section IV: Treasurer
A. Duties
1. He shall serve as Treasurer of the Interfraternity System and of all its councils, activities, organizations and offices, and by virtue of his position shall have all the responsibility and authority necessary for the efficient management of the funds of the Interfraternity System.
2. He shall submit a budget for the Interfraternity System to the Council of Fraternity Presidents at least two (2) meetings prior to the end of Spring Quarter.
3. He shall serve as Treasurer of the Council of Fraternity Presidents.
4. He shall oversee the work of such committees as the President assigns to him.
5. He shall submit to the Council a yearly written report on the functions of his office.
6. He shall maintain his office in the Fraternity Affairs Office and, whenever possible, be present during established office hours.

B. Salary
The Treasurer shall receive for his services the sum of sixty-five dollars ($65) per quarter excluding Summer Quarter, payable in monthly allotments.

Section V: Director of Fraternity Relations
A. Duties
1. He shall promote and publicize all Interfraternity activities and shall assume responsibility for and co-ordination of all public relations of the Interfraternity System.
2. Wherever possible, he shall aid the individual chapters
in their public relations work.

3. He shall act as editor of the Buckeye Leaf and shall be directly responsible to the Executive Committee for its publication.

4. He shall act as supervisor for the Fraternity Life booklet and other publications of the Interfraternity System.

5. He shall submit to the Council of Fraternity Presidents a yearly written report on the functions of his office.

6. He shall maintain his office in the Fraternity Affairs Office and, whenever possible, be present during established office hours.

7. He shall oversee the work of such committees as assigned to him by the President.

8. He shall act as advisor to the Freshman Fraternity Council.

B. Salary

The Director of Fraternity Relations shall receive for his services the sum of fifty dollars ($50) per quarter, excluding Summer Quarter, payable in monthly allotments.

Section VI: Elections

Selection of Officers and of the Executive Committee of the Interfraternity System shall take place yearly at the second meeting in Spring Quarter of the Council of Fraternity Presidents.

ARTICLE III - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section I: Membership

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, the Vice-President, the Executive Secretary, the Treasurer, the Director of Fraternity Relations, four (4) Presidents elected by the Council of Fraternity Presidents, the President of the Fraternity Advancement Council (non-voting), and the Assistant Dean of Men who serves fraternities as their advisor. The elected Presidents shall be presidents of their chapters while serving on the Committee. However, an elected member of the Executive Committee whose term as president of his fraternity expires within one (1) quarter of the regular Spring Quarter elections shall have his tenure on the Executive Committee extended until regular elections.

Section II: Duties

A. The Executive Committee shall aid the Council in establishing policies and carrying out functions.

B. The Executive Committee shall appoint all Standing Committees, the Chairmen of these Committees being approved by the Council.

C. The Executive Committee shall make all major appointments with the approval of the Council.

D. The Executive Committee shall make recommendations to the Council concerning policies and programs.
October 19, 2011

Kai A. Landis, Special Projects
Office of Student Life
The Ohio State University
2052 Ohio Union
1739 North High Street
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear Kai:

Enclosed are additional materials which I promised to send to you some time ago. Please feel free to keep the originals and use them or not as you see fit.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

James K. L. Lawrence

JKL:sw
Enclosures

Received in the Archives from Kai Landis on October 27, 2011.
Greeks explore plans for councils

By Robert Billerman

The possibility of a Greek judicial board, the future of black fraternities and plans for this year's Greek Week were the major topics at the Interfraternity Council (IFC) meeting Tuesday night.

IFC members discussed the proposal to create a seven-member judicial board which would resolve minor disputes within the Greek system. A vote on the proposal will be taken at IFC's next meeting.

David Grant, who drew up the judicial board proposal, said he felt IFC would vote to adopt the board.

"Greek problems now go to Dean Alex Thomson or to the police," Grant said, adding that with a judicial board, conflicts would be out in the open and the court would decide who is right or wrong.

'Houses take cases'

Problems could be taken to such a court by a fraternity house against another fraternity house or IFC against a fraternity house.

"A house takes a case to court, not the individual," Grant said.

'Greeks solving Greek Problems' is the theme for the proposed Greek judicial system.

IFC used to have some sort of a judicial board but it didn't work and fell apart, according to Michael Kurman, president of IFC.

Kurman put the blame for the previous judicial court failure on "not having enough strength, too many weaknesses and not enough dedicated people."

Other actions taken

In other action, IFC voted to assess every member $1 to provide funds for Greek Week, April 14 to 16. By using the Autumn Quarter membership lists each house will be billed accordingly.

In addition, IFC will allocate up to $300 to reach the goal of $2,200 needed for the three days of Greek fun.

IFC discussed a proposal to create a Black Greek Council that would provide financial aid for social programs for the seven black organizations on campus.

Under the proposal, which will be voted on at the next meeting, the council would give each black fraternity and sorority a $1,000 line of credit.

The black fraternities and sororities need to be "built up to keep the entire Greek system built up," Kurman said.

"The Black Greek Council is concerned with pulling the blacks back into IFC, making IFC relevant to the blacks, and producing profit for the black fraternities and sororities," he said.
Greeks reject sex rule
2-15-73
By Alan Ponzo
Ohio State fraternities and sororities are asking to be exempt from any rules prohibiting student organizations from discriminating on the basis of sex.
The presidents of the Interfraternity Council (IFC) and Women's Panhellenic Association recently submitted a statement to the Council on Student Affairs (CSA) subcommittee on sex discrimination in student organizations.
The statement, which was prepared by Michael Kurman, IFC president, and Alex Thomson, dean of students for Greek affairs, asks that chapters be allowed to decide whether they want to become coed.
Members ask option
Kurman said fraternities and sororities have requested "local option" on opening up membership to both sexes.
Since the announcement of the CSA sex discrimination review, the presidents of all undergraduate fraternities and sororities met to discuss the issue of sex-restrictive membership policies.
The presidents were encouraged to talk with their chapters' membership so that the statement would represent the consensus within the greek community.
Housing problems
The statement is a capsule summary of a number of major concerns singleed out by the chapter presidents. It deals to a great extent with the housing problems which would be faced if fraternities and sororities were required to become coed.
The statement says "a number of affiliated students have indicated that they would find coeducational living in their chapter house to be a less attractive living situation."
Coed living
The statement predicts "a coeducational living unit for a chapter's membership would produce fragmentation" within the chapter, "which would most likely spill over into the organization's corporate life."
This, the statement says, "could dilute the experiences and benefits."
Other problems which the statement says may come from the coed fraternity and sorority are "broken romances, disappointing dating contacts," and "the desire for privacy."
It concludes that the question of sex-restricted membership among fraternities and sororities is best answered by a "local option" deal, whereby the individual chapter decides whether or not it should be coed, "based on internal support and conviction."

IFC service award recognizes Greeks
By Daniel Menerey
1-3-77
The Interfraternity Council (IFC) is sponsoring a community service award to be given to the fraternity that has done the most for the University and community in service projects.
The purpose of the award is to promote and recognize outstanding achievement by a fraternity in the field of community service.
Any IFC member, initiate or pledge is eligible for the award and must be currently enrolled.

Points are given in three categories: fund-raising projects, nonfund-raising projects and petitioned projects.
The fraternity with the most points at the end of the year will receive the award.
Fraternities may petition the IFC executive board for community service projects that are not covered in the above groups.

Greeks shrug coed concept
1-15-73
By Cindi Bolton
Fraternity and sorority members at Ohio State see themselves as exceptions to sex discrimination bans which may apply to other campus organizations, according to a survey of 25 fraternity and sorority members.
The survey concerned greek sex discrimination and the possibility of greek organizations becoming coed in the future.
The Council on Student Affairs (CSA) Interfraternity Council (IFC) and Panhellenic are holding hearings concerning possible sex discrimination among Ohio State social fraternities and sororities.
The CSA has also been considering sex discrimination in various campus organizations, and had been investigating the University Marching Band until it announced plans to go coed last month.
Alex Thomson, assistant dean of students for Greek affairs, said the difference between greek organizations and the band is that the band is a University course.
"It is part of the University curriculum and uses public money to support it," he said.

Greeks object
As private groups, the fraternities and sororities object to the idea of another organization being able to force them to open membership policies, Thomson said.
"The position we're going to take is to let each group make that decision to go coed themselves. It is as wrong to say 'you must' as it is wrong to say we won't," Thomson said.
All 25 greeks interviewed predicted fraternities and sororities would not go coed in the near future.
"The fun of being in a sorority is to get close to a group of girls," said Thalia Nikles, a sophomore from Cambridge and a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

Involves problems
Randy Bevan, a alumnus of Chi Phi fraternity said, "Our chapter has always been a small, tight-knit group. To make the fraternity coed would be detrimental to it, in spirit, and later in numbers."
Housing was one of the first issues mentioned by many of the members interviewed.
Cynthia Baurer, a sophomore from Somerville, N. J., and a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority, said, "In a living situation, there would be too much competition and jealousy. The living structure would totally fall apart."
Cheryl Blank, a senior from Pittsburgh, said men living in the sorority house would be too restricting. "In the house, you're free to do what you want without the restrictions of guys around," she said.
Blank is a member of Alpha Delta Pi.
Robert Stofere, a junior from Kettering and a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity said, "You have to realize that it's not up to the person joining. It's the fraternity's policy on choosing its members. We can say 'we'll rush girls,' but we won't pledge them."
Sticker may provide discounts

Sororities, fraternities get I.D.s

By Beth Harris
Lantern staff writer

The Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC) is planning to place stickers on greeks' OSU identification cards to restrict admittance at greek-funded events and intramurals.

The stickers also will allow greeks to receive discounts from campus-area businesses, said Chip Blickle, chairman of the IFC committee.

The stickers would cut down on the time needed to check rosters at greek intramurals, he said.

The stickers will be similar to those used at Larkins Hall and the total cost will be about $40 a year. They also will have the letters of the students' houses printed on them, Blickle said.

The stickers would not segregate the greeks from the rest of the students on campus, he said.

"Being a member of a greek house is as open to students as going to Larkins or living in a dorm. We are patterning our idea after them as a control idea," he said.

"IFC was created to help those people who have chosen to be greeks. Greeks have paid money and worked hard to be in their houses," he said.

Several area businesses have indicated an interest in giving discounts to those greeks with stickers, Blickle said.

"Merchants are hoping for more greek support," he added.

Some businesses, however, said they did not want their places to be a greek hangout, he said. They would like to reach another segment, he added.

Blickle refused to disclose which businesses were interested in the discounts.

Dave Douglass, advertising director for the "Greek Vine," a greek newspaper, said they will send greek houses a newsletter listing businesses offering discounts.

Alan Brown, president of IFC, said the newsletter would cut advertising costs of businesses participating in the program.

Brown said merchants who offer discounts will not get free advertising or discounts in the "Greek Vine."

Area businesses are interested in the stickers because, even though greeks have no more money than other students, they are more likely to spend it, he said.

By soliciting greek business they will get a large turnout and greek customers usually patronize a business frequently, Brown said.

Patsy Hewes, vice president of Women's Panhellenic, said the stickers would be useful at philanthropic events, such as a fraternity's Fite Nite.

"The original intent of the stickers is not for discounts; they will be used to make the system more organized," Hewes said.

Jim Loeb, of Alpha Epsilon Pi, said the stickers are a good idea, however, he is unaware of any problems with non-greeks playing in greek intramurals.

The stickers would not cause problems between greeks and non-greeks since they usually don't do things together anyway, Loeb said.

Colleen Corbett, a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, said the stickers are a good idea because it would help the greeks, as well as businesses who give discounts.

Problems might arise if a greek wanted to bring a non-greek to an event and they did not have a sticker, she said.

"It is a privilege to be a greek and we're not getting any rights over them (non-greeks)," Corbett said.
Black Greek system
Leaders argue value of joining main governing bodies

By Steve Jeffers
Lantern staff writer 5-30-85

Black Greek leaders are in disagreement about whether or not their organizations will join the prevailing white Inter-Fraternity Council and Women’s Panhellenic Association in addition to participating in the Black Greek Council.

The Inter-Fraternity Council and Women’s Panhellenic Association are the governing bodies for the majority of the fraternities and sororities in the OSU Greek system.

Roder Q. Ball, a member of Omega Psi Phi fraternity, said the Black Greek Council was recently formed to solve problems among black fraternities and sororities. It discusses problems such as participation, membership recruitment and the use of Ohio and Drake Unions.

Another goal is to resolve some of the animosity that exists between the groups caused by competition for new members from the small number of blacks at Ohio State.

Most black Greeks feel comfortable with the black council. Some said they did not see any movement toward a union with the rest of the Greek community.

"Frankly I don’t see it happening in the near future, but I could be wrong," Ball said. "The Black Greek Council has been formed and hopefully it will be able to work things out. I wouldn’t discourage anyone from joining, but that is my personal view on the issue."

Ball said it would be advantageous for black and white Greeks to associate with each other because “it would provide more awareness on the poor group level.”

Lawrence Rasberry, president of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, said the Black Greek Council is composed of two representatives from each black fraternity and sorority and will meet on a regular basis in the Ohio Union.

“We want it to be an advisory body and not a governing body. We tried it a couple of years ago and it ended up becoming a governing body which created animosity,” Rasberry said. “We just want to unite black Greeks. We’re getting together to help us better communicate with the rest of the university community.”

Barbie Toole, coordinator of Greek Affairs in the Office of Student Life, said the Inter-Fraternity Council sent invitations to the black fraternities but has not had any response.

However, Delta Sigma Theta sorority has been a member of the Women’s Panhellenic Association for the past two years.

Delta Sigma Theta participated in the 1984 Greek Week and has an Inter-Fraternity Council partner to work with on homecoming activities this fall.

Tori Washington, president of Delta Sigma Theta, said her sorority is trying to improve relations between black and white organizations to broaden their horizons.

“I felt a little uncomfortable at the meetings at first because I was a minority in a predominantly white group. But, it is just a matter of getting used to being involved,” Washington said. “I can tell they really want our involvement.”

Washington also said she plans to bring up the issue of joining the white Greek system at the next Black Greek Council meeting.

Donald Bean, OSU-NAACP president and member of Kappa Alpha Psi, said the current separatism which exists between black and white Greeks is detrimental to both parties.

“Everyone seems to be scared to socialize with people from different races. A definite phobia exists and it needs to be addressed. I can’t understand why 20 or 21-year-old people can’t get together to resolve these issues. We all need to be more racially and culturally educated,” Bean said.

Rasberry said the reason he did not see a need to join Inter-Fraternity Council is because the council is not “tailored to our needs.”

He said most of the council’s business concerned chapter houses and issues which “don’t concern us and might limit the way we operate.”

At present, under the existing membership requirements, all black Greek organizations not presently members would be eligible to apply for council memberships and the financial obligations are relatively inexpensive at about $5 per member per year.

Robin Lampkin, president of Alpha Kappa Alpha, said her sorority is looking into joining the Women’s Panhellenic Association.

“We don’t know too much about it and we’re not sure whether it would be in our best interest considering the obligations involved,” Lampkin said. “I’m sure the move would be supported by our national office though.”

Rasberry said a move to join Inter-Fraternity Council would take time and initiative and “enough people willing to give it a try.”

“Everyone’s waiting for someone else to take that first step,” Rasberry said.

Sylvia Lawrence, president of Zeta Phi Beta sorority, said she thought it was unlikely that any other black fraternities and sororities would decide to join Inter-Fraternity Council or Panhellenic Association, but was still hopeful it might happen someday.

“So many people look up to the Greeks. If we can start something like this I think it would be a good influence on the whole campus,” Lawrence said.
OSU Greek system awarded top honors

By Tricia Colley
Lantern staff writer

OSU fraternity and sorority members received top regional honors last weekend at the annual greek council convention in St. Louis.

The Mid-America Interfraternity Council Association and the Mid-America Panhellenic Council Association presented Ohio State awards for overall excellence.

The OSU Interfraternity Council received the Jellison Award, for having the best interfraternity council in the region, said Mike Topalian, outgoing president of the OSU council.

The OSU Panhellenic Council, the governing body for sororities, received the Southerland Award in recognition for being the best panhellenic council in the region. The panhellenic council also won the award in 1984.

"To have both organizations win is incredible," Jennifer Heitmeyer, public relations coordinator for the women's council, said.

"This is a reflection on the Greek system at OSU," Topalian said. "It gets a bad rap but it is really the best in the country. People don't realize that."

More than 100 universities from the 15-state region competed for the awards, including many Big Eight and Big Ten schools, said Nancy Blozis, outgoing president of the OSU Panhellenic Council.

Each council submits reports detailing its activities for the year, from coordinating rush week to placing advertisements in the Lantern, Heitmeyer said.

The mid-America councils review the reports and present awards in areas such as inter-greek relations, community and campus relations, rush and scholarship, Blozis said.

The OSU Panhellenic Council also received first-place awards for inter-greek relations and campus and community relations. The OSU Interfraternity Council received honorable mention in the rush category.

Seven people represented Ohio State out of the 1,000 people who attended the convention, Blozis said.
Alcohol, open parties barred from autumn rush

By Crystal Benzies
Lantern staff writer

The Interfraternity Council has banned alcohol from formal fraternity rush parties beginning this fall, IFC President Mike McBride said. Furthermore, there will no longer be open parties that anyone can attend during formal fraternity rush, McBride said.

The Interfraternity Council has banned alcohol from formal fraternity rush parties beginning this fall, IFC President Mike McBride said. Furthermore, there will no longer be open parties that anyone can attend during formal fraternity rush, McBride said.

The 1986 Rush Rules state that a fraternity will be fined $300 for having alcohol present at a formal rush event and $500 for offering and/or serving alcohol to rushees at a formal rush event. Subsequent violations will have stiffer penalties decided by the Interfraternity Judicial Council.

One reason for the changes is liability. "If someone drinks too much, and they run out in the street and get hit, the fraternity is liable," McBride said. This has not happened at Ohio State, but has occurred at other universities.

"The thing we're trying to get away from is when (a prospective rushee) comes to a huge blow-out party, and this guy will see women and all these guys having a good time and think 'this is right.... this is for me,'" McBride said. "In fact, maybe it really isn't where he wants to be, maybe it's just the发酵 of the moment."

A third concern of the IFC is area law enforcement agencies, McBride said.

A police officer could come into an open fraternity party and ask one of the fraternity pledges for some I.D. If the member is not of age, the fraternity could be charged for serving alcohol to minors. This could result in the fraternity's charter being pulled, he said.

IFC Secretary Evelyn McCord said the changes were influenced by a national trend of alcohol awareness, reflected by groups such as Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD), Students Against Drunk Drivers (SADD), and campus organizations such as Greeks Affiliated to Modify the Mission of Alcohol (GAMMA) and Boost Alcohol Consciousness Concerning the Health of University Students (BACCHUS).

McCord said she believes an alcohol ban during formal rush would not affect the number of applications fraternities receive or that the new rules would change many of the fraternities' rush procedures.

Bill Johnson, a member of the Chi Phi fraternity, said, "the changes wouldn't affect this house much because we've pretty much always done it that way."

Tani Prieto, president of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, said, "If they want the dry rush, the only way is to enforce it with fines."

Formal rush will begin Sunday, Sept. 21 and continue through Sept. 26.
Greeks want share of renovation plans

By Kenneth Black
Lantern staff writer

The OSU Interfraternity Council and the Women's Panhellenic Association would like to see proposed High Street improvements extended up 15th and 14th avenues, but right now it's a question of money, said Mike McBride, president of the council.

The improvement plan, which is funded by the city and by area businesses, will cost approximately $900,000 and is designed to renovate sidewalks, plant trees, and improve the area east of High Street, said Brad Shimp, of the University Community Business Association.

Fraternities and sororities lining 15th and 14th avenues have expressed interest in improving the area at their cost.

McBride said although trees and Victorian-style streetlights are encouraging to the council, the individual fraternities and sororities don't have enough money to pay for such changes.

Although McBride would like to see improvements along 15th Avenue, he said there are no plans to collect money to pay for the renovation and individual chapters may have to pay shares of the cost.

He said the council plans to talk about the possibility of improvements with the University Area Commission and the business association in September. He said the council's interests 'should take a back seat to High Street.'

McBride said there has been little contact between the city and the council over extension of the improvement up 15th Avenue.

Many fraternity and sorority presidents like Tani Prieto of Phi Kappa Psi support the renovation.

Prieto, a senior from North Canton, said because costs of renovation would be assessed to owners of the fraternity and sorority buildings, costs to individual chapters should be minimal.

Improvements similar to those planned for High Street are what chapters would like to see, Prieto said.

Linda Ridhalgh of the University District Organization said little communication has occurred between the council and the UDO, but the organization would support any plans to renovate the streets.

The idea was first introduced to chapter representatives by the business association during a meeting last spring, said Loran Miracle, president of the University Community Business Association.

Improvements would include decorative, shorter street lights designed for appearance and safety, trees, benches, and trash cans.

Miracle said owners who would be assessed the cost of improvements would pay in the form of property taxes with a 10-year repayment program that wouldn't begin until a year after completion of the project.

The cost of renovations is still being discussed, he said.

Discussion with the council and the Panhellenic Association will continue through the fall.

The Adopt-a-Tree program, by which a fraternity or sorority can purchase a tree to plant in front of their building, is another method of beautifying the area, he said.

The idea for the improvements were suggested by the city to the UDO as part of the High Street renovation plan, said Pete Cass, economic and community development official for the city.

He said the city would like to see 15th Avenue improved as the main entrance to the campus.

The costs of any extension up the streets, however, would have to be assessed to the fraternities and sororities and they would also have to agree on design, Cass said.

He said it would be next year at the earliest before any improvements of 15th or 14th avenues could occur.
‘Rush’ at greek rush parties wasn’t obtained from alcohol

By Molly Huggins
Lantern staff writer

Men came to Ohio State fraternity rush this fall to find not only formal rush parties without alcohol, but the informal rush parties were dry as well.

The Interfraternity Council, a group of fraternity presidents and members interested in helping the greek system, voted last spring to serve no alcohol during informal rush parties, which were Sept. 19-27, said Margaret Miller, coordinator of greek affairs. Formal fraternity rush parties have been dry since 1977.

“The rule was changed for a concern to get men rushing for the right reasons,” Miller said.

“At first most guys disliked having no alcohol at the parties, but after a while, they got used to it and liked the idea,” said rush coordinator Jordan Perlin.

The rush parties have changed because houses have to come up with more creative ideas and themes for rush to keep everyone interested, Perlin said.

National alcohol laws are stricter and the state laws may change the legal drinking age, so this action will decrease a lot of changes in one year, Perlin said.

Miller said alcohol is a national problem in fraternities and sororities. Ohio State is becoming involved by not allowing houses to serve alcoholic beverages during formal rush dates.

During formal rush, fraternities may also have informal parties. This is the first year that alcohol has been banned from these informal parties, she said.

Many houses during this period were able to get around the regulation by having lot parties or open parties without including the word “rush” in the title, Perlin said.

This year Miller said there were 454 men registered for fraternity rush, which is slightly lower than last year. “We think this is because of the earlier registration date not because of dry rush,” she said.

When pledge cards come in next week, the effect of dry rush will be known by the number of men who pledge, Perlin said.
Greek community unites to raise money for diabetes

By Maggie Hermant
Lantern Staff writer

For the first time in its history, the Ohio State Greek community is pulling together to raise money for juvenile diabetes.

The Women's Panhellenic Association and the Intrafraternity Council are sponsoring a pre-game party and balloon lift-off on Nov. 8, before the Northwestern game. All proceeds will go to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, said Laurie Gross, community service coordinator for the Women's Panhellenic Association.

Gross and Matt Kaiser, the Intrafraternity Council community service co-ordinator, organized the joint effort between the sororities and fraternities. However, Gross said she suggested the idea of raising money for juvenile diabetes for a personal reason.

"I'm a diabetic and it's really important for me to find a cure," she said.

Gross said she picked the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation over other diabetes charities because all the money the foundation receives goes directly to research.

"One out of every three families now has a member with diabetes," she said, "and we figured the best way to get the most money for juvenile diabetes research would be to get a big crowd of people."

Kaiser said this is the first time the whole Greek community has worked together to raise money.

"Last quarter (the Greek community) did some community service, work at the Worthington Nursing Home, so this year we decided to raise money instead," Kaiser said.

The pre-game party and balloon lift-off will be the only combined effort to be sponsored by sororities and fraternities this quarter since the annual Greek block party has been cancelled, Kaiser said.

The Greek community is hoping to make $5,000 for the charity, Lisa Trenary, the sponsors' chairman for the balloon lift-off said.

"In comparison, one of the biggest fund raisers of the year in the Greek community is Sigma Chi's Derby Days for the Wallace Village for Children in Colorado. The fraternity usually averages about $2,000 throughout the week-long event, Mike Pfauemer, president of Sigma Chi said.

Trenary said she thinks the joint effort for charity will be a success.

The balloon lift-off will be at 11:30 a.m. Saturday and balloons will be sold for $1.

The pre-game party starts at 10 a.m. on the west lawn of the Ohio Union. There will be stands set up with food and beverages and a disc jockey.

Katy Marston, a Delta Delta Delta from Brunswick Hills, said the charity organizers in the Panhellenic and Intrafraternity offices aren't putting a lot of pressure on greeks to take part.

"They're just pushing the idea that this is the only Greek event this quarter, so please participate," Marston said.
Campus cook-out set

Balloon lift-off, barbecue to aid juvenile diabetes

By NANCY SUTTON
Lantern staff writer

Thousands of balloons will fill the sky Thursday night as the second-annual all-campus cook-out and balloon lift-off will be held on the South Oval.

The Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Association are co-sponsoring the event to raise funds for the Juvenile Diabetes Program.

The cook-out will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. and the balloon lift-off will take place at 6:45 p.m. The balloons were donated by the greek system, the Ohio Staters and others.

“We have sold 1,300 tickets for the cook-out,” said Laurie Halmi, community service co-ordinator for the Panhellenic Association.

David Gilbert, spokesman for the event said, “There will be about 5,000 scarlet and gray balloons released during the cook-out. I am looking forward to a big turn-out and a great time.”

The balloons were sold to various student organizations, students and alumni for one-dollar, he said.

“The proceeds benefitted from this year’s balloon lift-off will be going directly to research for Type 1, or Juvenile diabetics,” said Ellen Huck, former president of Juvenile Diabetes Foundation.

“Approximately 4- to-5 million dollars (nationwide) has been raised and donated to the research already.”

Gilbert said, “There will be a DJ for entertainment at the oval during the cook-out. I think the cook-out will be an improvement from last year, we have been planning for about four months and are expecting a big turn-out,” he said.

“I am looking forward to the good food and a chance to take a break from studying to socialize with students around campus and the rest of the greek system,” said Erin Triftshauser, member of Alpha Phi sorority.

“Last year we raised $2,500 and the event was a big success,” Halmi said.

Tickets can be purchased at the cook-out for $3.50.
Campus hazing is illegal, can be costly to fraternity

By Tim Doulin
Dispatch OSU Reporter

Hazing on college campuses is risky business these days.
What started as a ritual to test a prospective member's toughness now could land a fraternity in court.

"First of all, hazing is wrong," said Darrell Fletcher, president of The Ohio State University's Interfraternity Council and a member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

"But there is also a liability factor. Some chapters have found they can be held responsible for hazing incidents where people get hurt. Those who haze members are running quite a risk."

It is "rush" season for fraternity and sorority chapters at OSU and other campuses. About 500 men and 1,000 women are seeking to join 63 fraternities and sororities at OSU.

Those picked to be members must go through a pledge period. The pledges are required to learn the rituals, symbols and history of the fraternity.

Sometimes the new members are subjected to hazing, actions that can cause mental or physical harm. Hazing can involve telling a pledge to stay awake for 24 hours or forcing him to drink large quantities of liquor, leading to alcohol poisoning.

Hazing was banned by all fraternities about 20 years ago. In many states, including Ohio, it is against the law. Still, more than 40 students have died, and hundreds have been injured in hazing incidents nationwide during the last 10 years.

Last year, one chapter at OSU, Zeta Beta Tau, was placed on probation for hazing violations and eventually had its charter pulled by the national executive board.

The Interfraternity Council, a governing body of OSU's Greek system consisting of representatives from each fraternity, tries to educate fraternity brothers about the dangers of hazing.

"Some chapters have found they can be held responsible for hazing incidents where people get hurt."

— Darrell Fletcher

"We show them actual cases where fraternities have been found liable for hazing incidents. We say, 'Here guys, this is what happens, and take it to heart.' A lot of it is just common sense stuff," Fletcher said.

Hazing occurs at OSU — where there are about 4,000 fraternity and sorority members — but isn't a major problem, school officials said.

"We don't go out and police it, but we have a pretty good idea that it is not rampant on campus," said Richard A. Hollingsworth, dean of student life at OSU.

Edward A. Grandpre, acting coordinator of OSU's Office of Greek Affairs, credits the national fraternities with discouraging hazing. This year, two national fraternities eliminated pledging programs, reducing the chances of hazing.

"Some fraternities are taking a wait-and-see approach. But in a few years, other fraternities may move in that direction," Grandpre said.

The university does its part by talking to prospective fraternity members about appropriate behavior during rush week and by encouraging them to report hazing. Six years ago, OSU barred alcohol at rush events, which has helped keep the events from getting out of hand.

"We let them know that it only takes one person to screw up and destroy a person's life," Grandpre said.
Fraternities to attend conference on hazing

By Linda Loescher
Lantern staff writer

The OSU Interpresidents Council voted Sunday that member fraternities must send two of their members to a fraternity law conference on hazing and drinking.

An increase of dues for member fraternities was also proposed at the meeting.

The council is a committee for fraternity presidents of houses that belong to the Interfraternity Council.

Darrell Fletcher, IFC president, said the subject of the law conference will be university laws pertaining to the issues of hazing, drinking and member dues.

Three speakers will address fraternities at the conference about ways to decrease liability. Advice will be given on non-drinking parties and how to hold meetings on safe drinking.

The law conference will be held Jan. 27 at the South Terrace of the Ohio Union.

The speakers will be attorney Timothy Burke, Darrell Fletcher and Richard Hollingsworth, dean of student life.

The council also decided to raise dues because IFC owes the university $16,890 for three years of secretarial services performed by Evelyn McCord.

Ohio State is not charging IFC interest on the bill.

McCord receives a university paycheck but IFC reimburses the university for her secretarial services.

"The university is taking blame for not billing us, so they're not asking for repayment right away," said IFC treasurer Dave Nadolny.

The fraternities have two options of paying back the bill. IFC can raise the dues from $50 to $80 and tack on a special assessment of $485 for this quarter, or add an additional $110 each quarter for approximately four years.

Nadolny said dues have not been raised for 15 years.
Black Greek Council included in charters

By Stacey Auferheide
Lantern staff writer

The Inter Fraternity Council and the Women’s Panhellenic Association voted Sunday to include the Black Greek Council in three major parts of their constitutions.

WPA President Andrea Ferguson said the BGC was added because it is a greek organization. There is no reason not to include them, she said.

She said, “Traditionally, WPA and IFC have held hands in their constitutions.” Now the BGC will be added to the IFC/WPA constitution wherever one mentions the other.

According to the changes in the constitutions, BGC members will be able to apply for Greek Week Steering Committee positions, become members of the Order of Omega Honor Society and join the Junior Executive Board.

“We will still be three separate entities,” said Phillip Sutton, IFC president, but BGC members will share in all of the Greek Week responsibilities.

Sutton said members can also be honored for community services, campus activities and scholastic achievements.

Arthur Lard, BGC president, said he was approached by Ferguson and both felt the idea would be a good step for the greek community as a whole.

“We like helping out the community,” Lard said. By joining the other greek councils, the community can only benefit from the added support.

“We feel this is a positive step toward what the greek system will eventually become.”

Phillip Sutton
Inter Fraternity Council president

We feel this is a positive step toward what the greek system will eventually become.

Although it has not been determined how decisions will be made among the organizations, all three council presidents said they expect no problems and look forward to the future.
Greek system unified by change

By Gail Speedy
Lantern staff writer

The link-up of the three greek councils, Black Greek Council, Women’s Panhellenic Association, and Inter Fraternity Council, will not substantially change the constitution of the organizations but will allow for better communication and participation in greek events,” said Arthur Lard, president of BGC.

Lard said the BGC did not change their constitution at all and that the only changes made to the other two constitutions were to permit BGC participation in events.

Lard said the link-up occurred after the IFC asked how they could become involved in Greek Week events. The BGC has been involved on a limited basis for a couple of years, but wanted to fully participate, he said.

“(This will) bring the greek community closer to unity,” Lard said.

He said he hopes that this unification will also unify the whole campus community.

BGC did not have any reservations about linking with the two other organizations, but now is waiting to see if there is going to be any problems, Lard said. The problems can be solved if they are handled in a business-like manner, he said.

Phillip Sutton, president of the IFC, said he had noticed interest in coordinating events and spoke to the WPC president, Andrea Ferguson, about doing so. Sutton said they then took the BGC proposal one step further and offered participation in The Order of Omega Honor Society and Junior Executive Board.

Sutton said the decision was a strong ‘yes’ to BGC participation, but not a unanimous one. He said any reservations were because of a lack of communication and many people did not understand how much change was involved.

The goal of this link-up is to break down stereotypes and promote unity, Sutton said.

Ferguson said she was concerned that it might appear that the WPA and the IFC were pulling the BGC in, instead of offering participation. She said this was only an invitation and that there had been no pressure on BGC to become involved.

One problem with the link-up may be the sizes of the organizations, she said. Because IFC and WPA are much larger than BGC, costs for certain events may be unfair and participation could be limited for BGC. Ferguson said these were really only logistics problems and not unsolvable.

She said they were also trying to come together and not trying to invade cultures and that is one of the reasons not to completely melt these organizations.

“We have to work together toward the goals we are already developing. Together we can pool more resources,” she said. Several selections procedures are running in both the fall and the spring this year as a way to insure participation of BGC in the Order of Omega and the Junior Executive Board. This is the first time for BGC participation in these groups.
Greeks must develop policy to control drinking

By Holly O'Connor
Lantern staff writer

A new alcohol policy for Ohio State's
greek system is currently in the process of
being developed to increase safety and
reduce the risk of liability.

The policy should be developed before
the end of the quarter, said Inter Fraternity
Council President Matt Urbaniec.

The OSU greek system was recently
pointed out by the National Inter Fraternity
Conference as one of 15 systems in the
country that needs special attention.

"Target Campus," sponsored by the
National Inter Fraternity Conference,
visited Ohio State Oct. 20 to discuss the
major problem of risk management that
faces the greek system, program coordi-
nator Lon Turner said.

Risk management is a set of policies
that applies to students to planning and
assessing what constitutes a risk, said
Assistant Dean of Students Saunie
Schuster. It is a developing strategy to
address risk in certain groups, especially
the greek system.

When fraternities and sororities co-
sponsor an event, both are held liable if
someone was to get injured there, said S.
Michael Wallen, program coordinator.

Sometimes individuals are listed in cases
in such a way that all the members get
sued in one group, he added.

Inter Fraternity Council saw this as a
major problem at Ohio State, and the rep-
resentatives decided that together, as a
group, they were going to have to take
steps to protect themselves.

David Gilby, president of Kappa Sigma,
feels the extent to which Inter Fraternity
Council wants to make the policy is unfair.
Gilby agrees something should be done
but does not think an outside organization
should have the right to tell members how
much alcohol they should be allowed to
drink if they are over 21. But he feels his
fraternity is outnumbered.

"I feel that we got railroaded into this
country and that the outside organisation
is trying to scare us," Gilby said.

Most of the fraternities and sororities
belong to Fraternity Insurance Purchase
Groups, which means they all follow the
same risk management policies, greek
coordinator David Strauss said.

"Insurance policies are hard to get, so
we need to protect the ones that we have,
and also have a realistic sense of the law," Strauss said.

National Inter Fraternity Council
extended an offer to bring the "Target
Campus" program to the schools it
thought needed help. If the school agreed
and wanted the program's help, all it had
to do was accept, Strauss said.

"This campus needs help and wanted it.
We are here to help this campus develop a
way to better follow their national group
policies," Wallen said.

---

There were 22 national fraternity
representatives and six national
sorority representatives present for
the discussion, along with represen-
tatives from most of the chapters,
Strauss said.

"We need to support the program.
If all these representatives from
nations are all saying the same
thing, we will realize that we are all
in the same boat," Strauss said. "The
only way we are going to be able to
change it will be to do it as a system.

Perry Como, president of Delta Tau Delta, sees a different side of
the argument.

"My house has something to gain
from an strict alcohol policy since all of
our functions are at bars. We are not
allowed to have parties at our house
because of our national policy. The
undergraduate houses will not be
able to implement this without the
support of alumni, nationals and the
local chapters," Como said. "The
national offices need to realize that
they have to take action to help us
change our system," he added.

John Penn, president of Phi Gamma Delta, said he neither agrees
or disagrees with the proposed policy but sees it as a necessity.

"The general viewpoint of the greek sys-
tem is that we live in a bubble. It is
about time that we see reality," he
said. "It is past due. I've seen it hap-
pen at other schools and ours was just
a matter of time," he added.
Fraternity Forum is a flop for OSU rush

By Monica Setar
Lantern staff writer

The Fraternity Forum scheduled for today has been canceled because of low turnout from students and the chapters themselves during Tuesday’s forum, said Mike Harvey, Interfraternity Council rush coordinator.

The purpose of the forum is for the fraternities to meet as many new faces as possible and to appeal to the men who might not seek out information on the greek system said Jim Kerpsack, president of IFC.

Harvey said one reason Tuesday’s forum was not successful was because only 16 of the 25 chapters he was expecting to participate showed up.

Student turnout was also low, but no figures were available, Harvey said.

Poor publicity and younger men feeling too intimidated to approach the tables is also to blame for the forum’s bad turnout, said Brian Burdette, a member of Delta Tau Delta.

“This is a great idea, but the publicity wasn’t there,” Burdette said, who recruited during forum.

“Also, although it’s in a great location, it’s intimidating for the younger guys to see a group and come up and talk to them.”

Burdette thinks the forum could be more successful if the greek system had more support from the university.

“People don’t hear the good part about rush, such as job networking afterward,” Burdette said. “Everyone always just hears the horrible stories about those parties. But we have things going for us like the networking and the brotherhood.”

Forums are a new, aggressive means of recruitment that are necessary at Ohio State because the university enrollment has declined and the greek system has felt that decrease in numbers, said Kerpsack.

The way the forum is supposed to work is the fraternity members talk to the male students walking by. After meeting the person and informing him of their organization, the student can leave his phone number. Later, the fraternity can call the student and invite him to their chapter for dinner or a party, Harvey said.

“These fraternity fairs are becoming a national trend,” Kerpsack said. “Other schools have seen as much as 100 percent increases in the number of men rushing while holding a fair.”

Harvey does not expect this to be the end of the Fraternity Forum at Ohio State.

“This will probably take a couple of years before it really takes off,” He said. “Ohio State is such a big university that it’s hard to get enough PR to inform so many people. But we want to stick with it and eventually phase out the formal rush process.”

Bill Canton, left, Clayton Hall, center, and Derek Carter, all fraternity members, look over materials that were to be used to entice students to rush a fraternity at Tuesday’s forum.
BROTHERHOOD

IT'S EASY TO FEEL LOST IN THE CROWD, JOINING A FRATERNITY NOT ONLY MAKES OSU FEEL SMALLER, BUT ALSO PROVIDES A SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND A HOME AWAY FROM HOME. As a fraternity man, you will meet students with similar interests. More importantly, you will meet students from diverse backgrounds with different interests and this is where the real potential for growth within the fraternity setting begins. Brotherhood is the backbone of the fraternal experience. The brotherhood you find in a fraternity is one of trust, virtue, and respect; it is founded upon common values and ideals and built by living and learning together. By collaborating with like-minded, motivated individuals to achieve all your goals, you will create a bond of brotherhood that will continue long after college.

LEADERSHIP

GOAL SETTING, ACTION PLAN DEVELOPMENT, VALUE-BASED LEADERSHIP, PROBLEM SOLVING, AND DECISION MAKING SKILLS ARE CULTIVATED AND IMPROVED IN THE FRATERNITY SETTING. Not only does each fraternity offer its members leadership opportunities within the organization, but fraternity men hold many leadership positions on campus in a wide range of student organizations. As a member of a fraternity, you decide the direction of your organization through a variety of leadership roles—be it election or appointment to the head of a committee, a position on the executive board, or by forming your own committee within the organization. Because every chapter is self-governed and managed by its members, each individual has the capacity to determine the success of their organization. Fraternities provide members with opportunities to acquire leadership skills and gain experience in a setting much like that which they will encounter in the business world. Some fraternities provide the opportunity to attend leadership retreats and leadership skills workshops. By joining a fraternity you will practice networking skills and when you graduate you will join a vast network of alumni who are also fraternity men.

PHILANTHROPY

COLLECTIVELY, FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES AT OSU HAVE RAISED AND DONATED MORE THAN 10,000 HOURS, AND $500,000 TO LOCAL AND NATIONAL CHARITIES AND SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS ANNUALLY. Community service and philanthropy are not only a major focus of each individual fraternity, but it is a top priority to the fraternal community at large. Community service is a cornerstone of fraternity life at OSU. By joining a fraternity you will be exposed to a multitude of community service opportunities, both from outside organizations that work with fraternities, and with your fraternity's own community service projects and programs. Fraternities strive to make community service opportunities available for all their members and most have service as a requirement for membership. Not only do fraternity men donate their time and energy to better their community through service, fraternities regularly hold philanthropic events that are highly entertaining. These events raise money and awareness for specific philanthropies that each fraternity chooses. Community service and philanthropy are sources of pride within the fraternal community and are one of the most important manifestations of the ideals of fraternity life.

ACADEMICS

EVERY FRATERNITY AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY WORKS TO HELP THEIR NEW AND CURRENT MEMBERS LEARN AND DEVELOP THROUGHOUT HIGHER EDUCATION. Fraternities promote academic excellence through peer tutoring, class selection assistance, group study sessions, resource information, learning incentives, and scholarship opportunities. Many organizations work to provide new members with upper-classman study partners, offer quiet study hours in their chapter facility, and arrange for informational programming to improve time management skills, study skills, and test taking skills. Academic excellence is a cornerstone of the fraternal tradition at OSU, and is the first priority for all fraternity men. The all fraternity GPA consistently surpasses the OSU all-men's average.
Ohio State male students squeeze into high heels for good cause

Thursday March 21, 2013 12:16 PM

More than 100 Ohio State University men crammed their toes into high-heeled shoes Wednesday night to draw awareness to rape, sexual assault, and gender violence. Believing that "you can't really understand another person's experience until you've walked a mile in their shoes," the event draws many laughs from the participants.

"It's painful," said participant Tony Cannon. "But it's rewarding at the same time because we know we are supporting a good cause."

The Ohio State Interfraternity Council hosted the third annual Walk-a-Mile in Her Shoes Philanthropy event.

If the video does not appear on your device, see it on the Columbus Dispatch YouTube channel: http://tinyurl.com/osuhighheels

Ads by Yahoo!

Be A MegaMillion Winner
This Is The February Surprise The Lottery Is Trying To Avoid...
(www.secretmasterformula.com/en/)

Transportation Software
Transportation and Logistics software including accounting
(omni-inf.com)

Is He Cheating On You?
1) Enter His Email Address 2) See Facebook, Hidden Profiles & More!
(Spoken.com/Find-Cheaters)

Dispatch Software
Find Providers of Dispatch Software Solutions on Business.com
(www.business.com)
GREEK LIFE

OSU halts all social activities of 37 frats

By Jennifer Smola and Jim Woods The Columbus Dispatch

Ohio State University has suspended all activities of all fraternities governed by the Interfraternity Council because of a high number of investigations into their conduct this semester.

The suspension of “all social, recruitment and new member activities” applies to all 37 fraternities at OSU that fall under the IFC.

Eleven fraternities are under investigation this semester for possible violations of the student code of conduct, mostly for cases involving hazing and/or alcohol, the university said. That represents more than a quarter of the chapters and is the highest number of investigations in recent years.

“The Greek community at Ohio State has a long and rich tradition of leadership, service and brotherhood/sisterhood. However, when individual members or organizations fail to live up to the standards and values set forth by the university, your chapters and your international organizations, the entire Greek community suffers,” said Ryan Lovell, Ohio State’s senior director of sorority and fraternity life, in a letter to IFC chapter presidents, their national organizations and others.

Lovell said “it’s deeply troubling” that 11 IFC chapters are under investigation. “This is an unacceptably high number, and the university will not tolerate behavior that puts the health and safety of students at risk.”

Lovell suspended all activities until further notice “so that the IFC community takes a pause to reflect... Our expectation is that each chapter will develop a plan and implementation timeline to ensure that the culture of their organization is aligned with the stated values of Ohio State’s Greek community, responsibilities outlined in the university’s Code of Student Conduct and expectations of their respective national or international organization.”
During the suspension, Lovell said, Ohio State fraternity chapters may request to participate “in essential activities only,” including but not limited to standing chapter/executive board meetings and long-standing philanthropic events.

“Social activities of any kind are not essential activities, nor are any activities that include alcohol,” Lovell warned.

The 11 fraternities under investigation are Alpha Epsilon Pi, Beta Theta Pi, Delta Chi, Kappa Sigma, Phi Delta Theta, Phi Kappa Psi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Alpha Mu, Sigma Chi, Tau Kappa Epsilon and Zeta Beta Tau.

Representatives of several fraternities along “fraternity row” on East 15th Avenue declined comment Thursday night when a Dispatch reporter came to their door, including Beta Theta Pi and Delta Chi, among those under investigation.

Phi Sigma Kappa also declined comment in a response to one of numerous Dispatch inquiries sent to fraternities and IFC officials via social media and email.

At least one Ohio State fraternity, Alpha Sigma Pi, is unhappy about the suspension, according to an email response sent from its national organization.

“Alpha Sigma Phi is not and has not been under investigation for any violations of the Code of Conduct and that’s been the case for at least the last ten years,” said Gordy Heminger, president and CEO of the Alpha Sigma Phi International Fraternity, the Ohio State chapter’s parent organization. “Obviously the students in our group, who have not done anything wrong, are disappointed and frustrated that they are being punished because of the unacceptable actions of others.”

All IFC fraternity chapters at Ohio State will be required to submit to the university a list of essential activities through Jan. 7, including dates, times, locations and “the rationale behind why your organization believes the activity is essential,” Lovell wrote. The lists must be received by 4:30 p.m. Monday, and they will be reviewed. Until approval is received, Lovell wrote, “you are not to engage in any activities.”

Failure to comply with the directive may result in disciplinary action under the code of student conduct, Lovell stated. “To be direct, we expect the Interfraternity Council community to join together and become a full partner in creating a culture that truly reflects the values of the Ohio State Greek community. We need your action in making clear that misguided and inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. You have our full support in this effort, and we look forward to working collaboratively with each of you and with the IFC Executive Board in setting a positive path forward.”

Many students at the Ohio Union on Thursday night said they were unaware of the university’s action taken Thursday afternoon.

Adam Supel, 20, a third-year student from Elyria, said the action doesn’t affect him, “but a couple of my friends are in fraternities, so it must be devastating to them.”

The North-American Interfraternity Conference, which provides support and educational resources for 66 campus Interfraternity Councils, is “ready to help Ohio State as it address the critical issues facing the campus community,” according to a statement issued Thursday night.
"We seek a path forward that enhances safety and accountability, while respecting the rights of students and chapters that live up to high fraternal standards."

Dispatch Reporter Michael Huson contributed to this story. jsmola@dispatch.com jwoods@dispatch.com @jennsmola @Woodsnight
Justice for all?

Some frats feel unfairly punished by OSU decision

By Jennifer Smola The Columbus Dispatch

A homemade banner, mocking Ohio State University's decision to suspend all activities for Interfraternity Council chapters campus, hangs from a house at Summit Street and 17th Avenue on Friday. Because 11 frats are under investigation for possible misconduct, the university decided to halt activities at all. [JOSHUA A. BICKEL/DISPATCH]

The electric-blue glass of discarded Bud Light Platinum bottles glistened in the sun along 15th Avenue.

Crushed plastic Solo cups dotted yards and plant beds as if they were red flowers, not beer pong targets. A giant speaker hung silent from the threshold of a brick house with Greek letters.

All was quiet on Ohio State’s fraternity row Friday afternoon.

As Thursday’s news of Ohio State University’s decision to suspend activities at all 37 of the fraternities governed by its Interfraternity Council spread, some fraternities expressed frustration with the school’s decision to punish all fraternities for the actions of 11 under investigation for violations of the student code of conduct, mostly involving hazing, alcohol or both.
The suspension of “all social, recruitment and new member activities” is in effect indefinitely, the university said.

“This is an unacceptably high number, and the university will not tolerate behavior that puts the health and safety of students at risk,” said Ryan Lovell, Ohio State’s senior director of sorority and fraternity life, in a letter whose recipients included IFC chapter presidents and their national organizations.

Ohio State said the 11 fraternities under investigation are Alpha Epsilon Pi, Beta Theta Pi, Delta Chi, Kappa Sigma, Phi Delta Theta, Phi Kappa Psi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Alpha Mu, Sigma Chi, Tau Kappa Epsilon and Zeta Beta Tau.

A review of Columbus police calls to those 11 fraternity houses includes disturbances and noise complaints. At Sigma Chi, police threatened to issue a noise citation and shut down a party.

Three houses — Delta Chi, Phi Kappa Psi and Sigma Chi — had reports of young women who were suffering from alcohol poisoning. At least one was taken to Ohio State’s Wexner Medical Center for treatment.

Officials at several of the 26 fraternities that aren’t under investigation expressed disappointment with the school’s blanket suspension.

“We have not received information that our chapter is under investigation, and it is disappointing the institution would penalize students who have done nothing wrong,” the Delta Upsilon International Fraternity said in a statement. “Justice is the foundation of our Fraternity, and suspending the entire community for the actions of a few is neither just nor fair.”

Nicholas R. Zuniga, executive director for Phi Sigma Kappa, said: “We are disappointed and frustrated that our men are being set back because of the actions of others, however we remain committed to providing a positive fraternity experience for fraternity men at OSU.”

Leaders from Alpha Gamma Rho said in an email that they also would comply, but noted that “a level of frustration does exist as they are being disciplined for the offensive actions of others.”

Ohio State’s suspension follows actions taken by a number of universities to get control of hazing and partying activities within their Greek systems.

Texas State University suspended all fraternity and sorority activity this week after the death Monday of Matthew Ellis, 20, a Phi Kappa Psi fraternity pledge. Earlier this month, Florida State University announced it had suspended Greek activities after the suspected alcohol-related death of Andrew Coffey, 20, a Pi Kappa Phi pledge, and an unrelated arrest of a Phi Delta Theta member on drug charges.

In September, Louisiana State University suspended all Greek activities for a week after the suspected alcohol-related death of freshman Maxwell Gruver, 18, after a fraternity party. Arrest warrants were issued for eight current and two former students for misdemeanor hazing, which carries a maximum penalty of 30 days in prison. One man, Matthew A. Naquin, 19, also was charged with negligent homicide.

At Penn State University, the February death of 19-year-old pledge Timothy Piazza at the now-defunct Beta Theta Pi chapter led to a shutdown of Greek life for several weeks. Prosecutors last month reinstated some of the dismissed criminal charges against about a dozen former fraternity members.

Last week, the Interfraternity Council at the University of Michigan voted to suspend all Greek activities and new-member programs following allegations of sexual misconduct and hazing.
Ohio State has said it took the proactive step of suspending its fraternities based on the high number of investigations, not the nature of any specific case.

Will Towers, a member of Beta Theta Pi, which the university has said is under investigation, said the suspension treats fraternity members “like we’re still children, like they don’t think we can think for ourselves.”

“We didn’t kill anybody, we’re not hazing anybody,” said Towers, a junior. “We’re just trying to have fun. They’re raining on our parade.”

Towers said the suspension won’t stop his fraternity brothers from continuing to gather and socialize as usual.

“Twenty dudes that all know each other through the same fraternity end up at the same party, how are they going to stop that?” he said.

Dispatch Reporter Beth Burger contributed to this story. jsmola@dispatch.com @jennsmola
HIGHER EDUCATION

Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity suspended at Ohio State

By Jennifer Smola The Columbus Dispatch

Another fraternity has been suspended at Ohio State University following a temporary ban on all Interfraternity Council-governed organizations last fall stemming from a high number of investigations.

Ohio State’s chapter of Sigma Alpha Mu was suspended by the fraternity’s international organization last week due to violations of fraternity and university hazing and alcohol policies.

Sigma Alpha Mu was one of the 11 fraternities under investigation at Ohio State last fall when the university imposed a temporary suspension on all 37 of its Interfraternity Council-governed fraternities. The university’s investigation of Sigma Alpha Mu is still pending, said Ohio State student life spokesman Dave Isaacs.

Specifically, Sigma Alpha Mu headquarters found the Ohio State chapter continued to conduct new member activities while under cease-and-desist status last fall, and that “big brothers”—typically older members paired with new or younger members—provided bottles of liquor to their “little brothers,” said Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity spokesperson Kelby Dolan in an email.

The chapter is closed indefinitely, Dolan said. All 54 initiated members have been moved to alumni status and will not be eligible to have their undergraduate membership reinstated. Forty-six fraternity candidates from the fall and spring new-member classes who have not been initiated are officially released.

“Based on the nature of the policy violations, the failure to follow directives and the intent by members to hide these activities, the international headquarters and local advisory board had no confidence that educational sanctions would rehabilitate the chapter,” Dolan said in his emailed statement.

Of the other fraternities which had been under investigation at Ohio State, Tau Kappa Epsilon has been suspended for three years, while Beta Theta Pi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and Zeta Beta Tau each have been placed on disciplinary probation.

Ohio State distributed guidelines and required all IFC fraternities to submit detailed plans for conducting recruitment, new member and social events, requiring them to identify and address high-risk behaviors, emphasizing reducing alcohol use and ending hazing. Nearly all of the suspended fraternities have been approved to resume recruitment events and new member activities, with 26 also approved to resume social activities.

Sigma Alpha Mu submitted plans and had been approved for recruitment and new member activities, according to Ohio State’s Greek life website, but Isaacs said the university’s ongoing investigation superseded that process and that the fraternity has not been active recently. jsmola@dispatch.com
@jennsmola