NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Fraternity and Sorority Life
Division of Student Affairs

Fraternity & Sorority Life Relationship Statement
A statement between Greek chapters, councils and Northern Illinois University

Minimum Expectations for the University
Fraternities and sororities at Northern Illinois University should benefit from and take advantage of the many privileges provided. At NIU, recognized sororities and fraternities can expect the following of its University:

- Chapters will receive assistance from Fraternity & Sorority Life staff and a full-time Faculty/Staff Advisor.
- Councils will receive support from a designated Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) Staff Member.
- Chapters will be eligible to apply to receive awards and honors for accomplishments.
- Chapters can book training sessions with FSL and other departments to provide educational and skills training for new and returning members.
- Student Conduct is available to provide training and support to Councils in the self-governance process in areas such as organizational conduct board training.
- FSL will maintain resources for purposeful and balanced membership education programming available by request to all chapters.
- FSL will provide annual trainings to chapters regarding policies and expectations; as well as a semesterly new member training.
- FSL will plan and execute a presidents' retreat for the educational benefit of all chapter presidents.

Minimum Expectations for Chapters
The following expectations are required of each recognized fraternity and sorority at NIU:

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE/SCHOLARSHIP

- Each chapter shall designate a Scholarship Chair to direct academic programming.
- Each chapter will designate a Faculty Advisor to assist with academic programming within the chapter.
- Each chapter will have a GPA requirement of a 2.50 every fall and spring semester. Any chapter who falls below this will not be able to host social events for the semester.
- Each chapter will adopt a comprehensive academic plan to improve active member, new member, and all-chapter semester grade point averages.
- If chapter academic performance is lacking, the chapter will be asked to submit its academic plan to the university.

CHAPTER OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

- Each chapter will follow the guidelines set forth by their Inter/National Organization.
- Each chapter will abide by the bylaws and constitution of their respective organization.
- Each chapter will abide by the bylaws and constitution of their respective council.
- Each chapter member must be a student at Northern Illinois University. An enrolled student shall be defined as anyone taking a credit hour course at NIU, without respect to part-time or full-time status. Anyone duly enrolled for the Spring and Fall Semesters of the same calendar year shall be considered a member of the organization for the intervening Summer Term.
- Each chapter will designate one Faculty/Staff Advisor (must be a full-time employee of Northern Illinois University)
    - The Faculty/Staff Advisor shall:
        - Serve as a liaison between the chapter and the university
        - Help with chapter academic performance and programming
        - Assist in planning/booking process for on-campus events
        - Communicate regularly with chapter officers and alumni advisors
- Each chapter will use an alumni advising structure in accordance with organizational headquarters. If a chapter does not have a national structure, it will implement an alumni advising structure under the guidance of the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office.

Financial

- Each chapter will pay all dues to their respective council on time.
- Each chapter that does not meet its financial obligations will be suspended until such obligations are met. Suspension can include loss of social event privileges.

Paperwork (including Huskie Link forms)

- Each chapter will turn all Student Association (SA) and FSL documents, as wells as the *Prospective Membership Forms* on time.
- Each chapter will update member rosters with the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office
    - By Sept. 15 for returning members in the fall; by Nov. 15 to reflect fall new members.
    - By Jan. 30 for returning members in the spring; by April 15 to reflect spring new members.
- Each chapter will update Huskie Link each time a new officer is elected/appointed.
- Each chapter will submit all paperwork in on time to meet deadlines; the University, specifically the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office, has the right to postpone any events, activities, etc. if the chapter has outstanding paperwork.
- Each chapter will register events via Huskie Link in accordance with the on-campus and off-campus social event policies. Chapters that do not submit the proper paperwork are subject to disciplinary actions.

- Each chapter will use Huskie Link to manage all member service hours. FSL will pull service hour reports from Huskie Link on December 15 and May 15 of each year.

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

- Each chapter will send designated delegates to their respective council meetings.
- Each chapter will provide opportunities for members to become involved in student leadership positions outside of their chapter.
- Each chapter will encourage/promote sending an executive member to a national or regional leadership program each year.
- Each chapter will send seventy-five percent (75%) of its members to educational programs approved by its respective council or the University.

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION

- Each chapter will send the chapter president or executive delegate to attend the presidents' retreat.
- Each chapter will send one hundred percent (100%) of new members to participate in the new member education training.
- Each chapter will collaborate with University departments for programming initiatives as needed.

NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT/INTAKE

- Each chapter will establish a minimum GPA for potential new members seeking to participate in recruitment and initiation.
- Each chapter will submit a *Notification of Conducting/Abstaining from Intake* form to FSL by September 15 and February 15 – or two weeks prior to the first informational meeting, whichever is earlier. *(IFC and PHA chapters participating in the fall formal recruitment period for those councils do not need to submit this form in the fall; they must submit it in spring if they are recruiting.)*
- Each chapter should register planned recruitment events on Huskie Link two weeks prior to the event.
- Each chapter will submit signed *Prospective Membership Forms* to FSL within one week of a student beginning the new member education process.
- Each chapter will abide by the intake/recruitment rules set forth by their respective council and national policies.
- Each chapter is prohibited from providing alcohol at recruitment activities.
- All new member presentations must be registered as a social event on Huskie Link at least two weeks prior to the show.
- Northern Illinois University does not condone summer intake/recruitment. If a chapter wishes to conduct intake and run new member meetings over the summer, they must submit an exemption request to FSL outlining the reason for summer intake, and a detailed outline of the summer intake plan. Summer is defined as the dates between the last day of classes in the spring semester and the first day of classes in the fall semester.

NEW MEMBER EDUCATION

- Each chapter will establish a maximum process time for new member education; chapters without a time limit must not exceed the eight-week time limit set forth by the university.
- Each chapter must abide by the new member education time limits set by their inter/national organization.
- Each chapter will submit a copy of their new member education plan before the program begins.
- Each chapter will educate new members regarding this *Relationship Statement*.

NONDISCRIMINATION/HAZING

- Each chapter will abide by the University policy on hazing.
- No chapter will haze any member of the fraternity and sorority community, regardless of active, new, or potential status.
- Each chapter will foster an environment for learning, and protect the safety, rights and dignity of every new and current member.
- Each chapter should promote inclusivity within its membership and across the Greek community at NIU.

ORGANIZATIONAL CONDUCT

- Each chapter will abide by its Inter/National Organization's policy on alcohol and drug use.
- Each chapter will follow Federal, Illinois State and DeKalb City laws on alcohol and drug consumption.
- Each chapter will follow NIU policy as it applies to student organizations.
- Student Conduct will partner with inter/national headquarters, as appropriate, when dealing with organizational conduct cases.
- Chapter conduct status will be publicly posted.

CHAPTER HOUSING

- Each chapter house will adhere to DeKalb fire codes.
- Each chapter house will adhere to DeKalb building codes and will provide documentation regarding inspection once each academic year; inspections to be arranged by each chapter.
- Each chapter inhabiting a house will maintain the general upkeep of the property, which includes items such as shoveling snow and mowing lawns.
- Housed chapters will submit the number of members currently living in the house, total capacity of the house, and fire code capacity for any social area by Sept. 15 in the fall and Jan. 30 in the spring.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- Each chapter will sponsor at least one alumni/ae program each year unless told otherwise.
- Each chapter will recognize that every action by an individual member of the fraternity and sorority community, whether it be verbal or non-verbal, deliberate or unintentional, shapes the external perception of NIU's and the national fraternity and sorority community.
- Each chapter will seek opportunities to strengthen partnerships across campus and the community.
- Each chapter will establish and maintain trusting relationships with all constituents, including: members, prospective members, parents, alumni, volunteers, sorority and fraternity members, chapter house directors, university faculty, staff and administrators, local and campus community, and vendors.
- Each chapter will encourage members to experience and exercise citizenship.
- Each chapter will identify and communicate community needs that may be served by sororities and fraternities.

MISCELLANEOUS

- All chapters are responsible for awareness of and adherence to university and SA policies that govern student organizations. Chapters should expect to be held accountable if their actions do not live up to the values and standards set forth for student organizations at NIU.
- Greek chapters not governed by an inter/national headquarters that exist at NIU as of August 2018 shall continue to exist unless disciplinary action removes them from campus. No new local chapters will be recognized by NIU.
- If an organization is found not adhering to this agreement, the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office has the ability to implement non-conduct sanctions for chapters, and may revoke student organization privileges until the chapter fulfills this agreement.
- All chapters should submit a copy of liability insurance coverage by September 15 each year. For housed chapters, this includes facility insurance.
- Chapter presidents, alumni advisors and faculty advisors will all review and sign this relationship statement every August (and/or January, as needed).

I have read and understand the expectations of my organization as a recognized Greek letter chapter at Northern Illinois University. I will uphold these expectations, and will educate the membership of my chapter about these expectations.

Chapter President: _____ _____ _____
printed name *signature* *date*

Alumni Chapter Advisor: _____ _____ _____
printed name *signature* *date*

Faculty Advisor: _____ _____ _____
printed name *signature* *date*