IFC Fraternity Recruitment 101

Monday, July 27, 2015
Tonight’s Presenter:
Joe Gurreri, Director of Student Activities & Greek Life
Gettysburg Greek Life Overview

Organizations’ Summary
16 Greek Organizations
• 9 Fraternities
• 7 Sororities

2014-2015 Data
847 Total Members (46% of upper-class students)
Approximately $45,000 Raised for Charities
Over 6,000 Hours of Community Service
2.99 All-Fraternity GPA in Spring 2015
What Is A Fraternity?

Fraternities are…

- Values-based organizations that are both social and philanthropic in nature
- Tremendous resources that present great leadership opportunities
- Designed to enhance students’ academic and co-curricular experience
- Life-long commitments that create life-long friendships

Fraternities are not…

- Drinking clubs
- The Hollywood-created stereotypes seen on TV
- Supportive of hazing or demeaning activities
Fraternity Community Overview

Governing Council
   North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC)

9 Inter/nationally-Affiliated Organizations
   Alpha Chi Rho
   Alpha Tau Omega
   Lambda Chi Alpha
   Phi Delta Theta
   Phi Gamma Delta
   Phi Kappa Psi
   Sigma Alpha Epsilon
   Sigma Chi
   Sigma Nu
What Does It Mean To Be Inter/Nationally-Affiliated?

Men joining fraternities at Gettysburg become part of a world-wide brotherhood:
- Between 40 and 240 other collegiate chapters
- Between 30,000 and 305,000 initiated members

Inter/national HQ support for members and chapters:
- Organizational Structure and Support
- Annual Visits to Campus and National Leadership Conferences
- Membership Development and Educational Programs

Shared rituals, values and expectations of members
IFC Recruitment Requirements

Men Participating in Recruitment Must:

- Achieve at least Sophomore Academic Standing
- Maintain at least a 2.50 Cumulative GPA
- Accumulate 5 or Less Conduct Points
- Register for Recruitment ($20 fee)
- Men who fail to meet the requirements for joining a fraternity must wait until the next semester that they are in good standing to join
- Recruits who acquire additional points during Rush Week that put them over 5 will not be able to receive bids
IFC Recruitment Terminology

Rush Week – the first week of class when fraternities hold recruitment events for interested men to attend

Bid – invitation of membership to join a fraternity

New Members/Pledges/Associate Members – all terms to describe men during their initial phase of membership leading up to initiation

Initiation – the formal ritual or ceremony teaching the values and secrets of the organization
IFC Recruitment Schedule

**Spring 2015**
Tuesday, March 24\textsuperscript{th}: Registration Opens
Sunday, April 19\textsuperscript{th}: Fraternity Open Houses

**Fall 2015**
Sunday, August 30\textsuperscript{th}: Rush Week Begins
Saturday, September 5\textsuperscript{th}: Rush Week Ends
Sunday, September 6\textsuperscript{th}: Bid Day
Wednesday, September 9\textsuperscript{th}: Deadline to Accept Bid
Fraternity Open Houses: Sunday, April 19th

Participation in Open Houses was not required of interested men

Opportunity for both recruits and chapters to meet one another

Recruits had the opportunity to visit every chapter

Information Session to provide basic information about the recruitment process

Very informal gatherings
Rush week will include an information session during the early part of the week.

There is no formal structure to rush week and chapters plan events as they see fit.

Men are well-served to contact recruitment chairs, presidents or members they know in advance of Rush Week.

Rush Week events are NOT to involve alcohol.

As the week progresses, fraternities will become more selective in men they invite back to their events.

Common rush week events include trips to sporting events, meals with the chapter, invitations to chapter meetings, football games, etc.
IFC Bid Day: Sunday, September 6th

Bids will be distributed by groups of fraternity members to residence hall rooms between 11am and 1pm on Sunday, September 6th.

A recruit can receive bids from multiple fraternities and does not have to accept any bid at the time of distribution.

After all bids have been distributed, many chapters will host new member ceremonies or luncheons that same day or any day leading up to Wednesday.

Bid distribution, new member ceremonies and celebrations should never involve hazing or alcohol.
Each chapter has multiple fees that members must pay as part of membership:

- Association Fees, Initiation Fees and Badges – one-time costs ($200-$600)
- Non-Resident or Parlor Fees – billed each semester a member doesn’t live in the house (range from $0 - $500)
- Chapter Dues – billed each semester for local chapter programming ($300 - $600)
- HQ Fees and Insurance – billed each semester to pay for liability insurance and resources provided by inter/national organization ($100 - $400)
- Room Rates – billed for each semester a member lives in the house

Joining a fraternity is a financial commitment ranging from $300 - $1100 per semester.
Upon joining a fraternity, a new member commits to living in the house until the house is filled to capacity.

A house that is unable to be filled to capacity will require all members to live in the house.

Students hoping to move off-campus during their senior year must be sure that the fraternity house is full before the Office of Residence Life will release them. Signing leases before being approved will not be a reason for granting exceptions. Sophomore men planning to study abroad during their Junior year will be released before rising seniors who wish to live off-campus.
College-Owned Fraternity Houses

5 fraternities have facilities owned by Gettysburg College

These facilities have housekeeping staff clean 3 days per week and rooms are provided full furniture sets that residence hall rooms receive

Students may not keep personal belongings in the chapter house over summer breaks

Students may not paint or renovate any part of the house and all members are billed for common room damages

Chapters that do not fill to occupancy must work with alumni to pay the difference in room rates
Privately-Owned Fraternity Houses

3 fraternities have facilities owned by their local alumni housing corporations

These facilities do not have housekeeping, nor does the College guarantee furniture for bedrooms

The ability to keep personal belongings in the chapter house over summer breaks is determined by the housing corporation

Students may work with alumni to approve painting and renovation projects

Chapters are not billed for empty rooms and room rates are typically lower than the College’s room rates
New Member Education

New Member Education can be a time consuming educational process that will involve NM’s learning about the fraternity’s history and values.

This process should never include alcohol or hazing.

The new member process will conclude with the initiation ritual prescribed by the inter/national organization by Sunday, November 8th.

The Office of Student Activities and Greek Life will host a webinar describing this process after Bid Night.
Becoming a member of the Greek community is a financial commitment. New members will be billed for association fees, initiation fees and badges. Each semester there will be chapter dues, non-resident fees or room rates and national organization fees.

Joining a fraternity is a time commitment. There are standing weekly meetings and events throughout the semester at which all members are expected to be present. Men can then choose for themselves how much additional involvement in leadership roles they can handle.

Being a member of a fraternity means that individual behavior and academic success reflects on that of the entire chapter. Men in fraternities must positively represent themselves and maintain high academic standing or they can be sanctioned by the chapter, which could affect their future membership.
What Role Can Family Members Play?

Encourage your son to learn about multiple organizations
Remind him that fraternities are only one of the many student groups on campus
Maintain a balance of checking in to hear his thoughts and concerns and also allowing him to process alone if he prefers
Encourage your student to make decisions independently
Reminder him to balance academics and co-curricular commitments

Resources

www.gettysburg.edu/greeklife - Gettysburg Greek Life Website, Parents’ Tab
IFC Fraternity
Recruitment 101

Joe Gurreri, Director of Student Activities & Greek Life
717-337-6304
jgurreri@gettysburg.edu
greeklife@gettysburg.edu
Twitter: GburgGreeks
Facebook: Gettysburg Greek Life