



Arizona Board of Regents
2020 North Central Avenue, Suite 230
Phoenix, AZ 85004-4593
602-229-2500
Fax 602-229-2555
www.azregents.edu

Arizona State University

Northern Arizona University

University of Arizona

June 28, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

As the governing body for Arizona's public universities, the Arizona Board of Regents is concerned about the safety of our students, some of whom are members of local chapters of your organization. We are fundamentally accountable to students, families and the public for helping students to succeed academically and for taking all reasonable steps to manage the risks associated with our student activities. In this time of limited resources, we want to be sure that all student activities, and particularly activities with a long history of university support, are highly focused on student success and safety.

The Board is increasingly concerned about reports of dangerous and criminal behavior associated with student activities, including reports of alcohol-related injuries, suicides, sexual assault and fatalities. We know that alcohol abuse contributes substantially to high-risk behavior and an increased danger for our students.

As a Board we have a Student Code of Conduct that provides very serious sanctions for individuals and organizations that engage in unsafe behavior. The universities also have expertise and resources dedicated to responding to violations and enforcing this Student Code of Conduct and for addressing criminal behavior. No doubt your organization also has bylaws and rules that similarly prohibit dangerous behavior.

Prohibiting bad behavior is not enough. The Student Code of Conduct, bylaws and the law come into play only AFTER misconduct has occurred. We are looking to engage you and other national student organizations in finding ways to work with us to implement best practices to change the culture with the goal of dramatically reducing behaviors that contribute to an unsafe environment.

We are contacting you because your national corporation has a local chapter that currently is recognized by one or more of Arizona's public universities. We recognize the value that being a member of a fraternity or sorority may provide a student, so long as the risks associated with alcohol and social events are managed appropriately so that the safety and well-being of students comes first.

As part of our due diligence, we are asking you and other representatives of the leadership of fraternities and sororities to provide the following information for our review:

Board Members: Chair Rick Myers, Tucson Dennis DeConcini, Tucson Anne Mariucci, Phoenix
LuAnn H. Leonard, Polacca Mark Killian, Mesa Jay Heiler, Paradise Valley Ram Krishna, Yuma
Greg Patterson, Scottsdale *Student Regents:* Tyler Bowyer, ASU Kaitlin Thompson, NAU
Governor Janice K. Brewer Superintendent of Public Instruction John Huppenthal

Enterprise Executive Committee: Eileen I. Klein, Board President Michael M. Crow, ASU President
John D. Haeger, NAU President Ann Weaver Hart, UA President

1. Please provide your perspective on the value your organization can add to creating a safer climate on our campuses. Please explain what can be done in addition to or to enhance programs that are already in place.
2. Please describe the responsibility of student organizations, including yours, to prevent, address, and manage the risks associated with issues of very serious misconduct, including alcohol use, sexual harassment, discrimination, criminal activity and hazing.
3. How are your local alumni engaged with current students to manage risks associated with social events and other activities?
4. Please provide any data you have to demonstrate the value of your organization in successfully promoting student academic success?

If you would like to provide input to the Arizona Board of Regents in this process, please respond no later than July 31, 2013. You may provide your response by email to: Nancy.tribbensee@azregents.edu or mail your submission to:

Nancy Tribbensee
Senior Vice President for Academic, Legal and External Affairs
Arizona Board of Regents
2020 N. Central, Suite 230
Phoenix, AZ 85004

The Board will work closely with the Presidents to evaluate the information provided through this process. Our shared goal is to promote the safety and academic success of our students, the integrity of our governance, and the safety of the communities surrounding our institutions. We want to embrace organizations that share this goal, while we cannot tolerate groups that ignore or condone continued high-risk behavior.

We especially look forward to continuing positive relationships with partners, including fraternities and sororities that are committed fully to the success of our students. If your organization wishes to meet with a representative of the Board as this review moves forward, please let us know. On behalf of the Board, students, parents and the public, we thank you for your careful consideration of steps we can take to promote successful and safe student activities.

On behalf of the Board,



Rick Myers, Chair



Eileen I. Klein, President

C: Members of the Board of Regents
University Presidents
The National Panhellenic Conference
North-American Interfraternity Conference