

Student Life Committee Minutes November 6, 1997

Present: Anton, Balaam, Fitzhugh, Kay, Mace, Mileti, Piccardo, Washburn

The minutes of the meeting of October 24, 1997 were approved as amended.

After careful reordering of the relevant Board of Trustees documents that were distributed, the committee decided to evaluate whether the two main objectives outlined for Greek Rush/Deferred Residence had been met. These objectives were: 1) a common freshmen experience (Board minutes of January 28 & 29, 1988) and 2) responsible self governance (Board minutes of October 23 & 24, 1986). Furthermore, the Student Life Committee interpreted these goals to imply that freshmen were to "effect early adjustment to the curricular goals and intellectual rigor of the academic program," and to "encourage student involvement in campus life and to develop a sense of identity with the campus community as a whole." (Board minutes of January 28 & 29, 1988)

The committee then addressed the stipulations of the Early Rush/Deferred Residence Program as outlined in the Board of Trustees minutes of July 23, 1987.

1. Access to University Residence:

Stipulation 1a. "All fraternity and sorority residences must be occupied at capacity for both Fall and Spring semesters. Any chapter which falls below the minimum 90% requirement will be asked to accept guests or to make other suitable arrangements with the Residential Life Office to ensure a minimum occupancy rate."

Dean Kay reported that this stipulation is not being met by four of 11 Greek residence facilities. The Greek Partnership Committee is discussing consequences of not meeting the 90% rule. Dean Kay will report to the Student Life Committee their findings when they are available.

Stipulation 1b. "In agreement with the policy decisions reached by Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic in the Spring of 1986, all fraternities and sororities must maintain a mandatory live-in requirement for all upperclass members until the minimum 90% occupancy level is reached. This rule must be in effect for both Fall and Spring terms. Moreover, compliance with this requirement should be reported to Interfraternity Council or Panhellenic for communication with the University."
Dean Kay will research this question.

Stipulation 1c. "Upperclass fraternity and sorority members will not be permitted to occupy other University owned housing unless their chapter is occupied at 100% and all independent student needs have been met so that no independent students are currently wait-listed for University owned housing."
Dean Kay reported that this stipulation is being met.

Stipulation 1d. "Any general fraternity or sorority which considers forming a colony on the University of Puget Sound campus should understand that provision of a new chapter house for its members will be one of the requirements which the general fraternity or sorority would be required to meet before colonization could be considered."

Dean Kay shared that this stipulation is no longer applicable. However, guidelines concerning this issue are being proposed by the Greek Partnership Committee and may be considered by the Board of Trustees at some later date.

2. Alcohol Use

"All fraternities and sororities are expected to provide programs of education on alcohol abuse which alert their members to the requirements of responsible self-governance. A copy of that program will be submitted annually to the dean of students for review, (and) by the Trustee Student Life Committee if need

be. Particular emphasis should be placed upon the University Honor Code stipulation that members of the University community should report any infraction of University violations which they, themselves, commit."

"In accordance with the University Alcohol Policy and the University Honor Code, use of alcohol or other substances which is contrary to state and federal law is prohibited at all social events sponsored formally or informally by any fraternity, sorority, or other campus organization, This means that fraternities and sororities must make diligent and effective efforts to ensure that no pledge or member not of legal drinking age consumes alcohol and the chapter will enforce this rule. In addition, the chapter will develop and enforce procedures to ensure that no individual, regardless of age, is served alcohol while intoxicated."

Dean Kay noted that the "Honor Code" has been replaced by a "Student Integrity Code." She also noted that risk management programs had been instituted in all fraternity and sororities and that these programs are attended by senior staff of the dean of students office. Furthermore, Dean Kay reported that IFC and Panhellenic Council have reported alcohol use violations in the past. Dean Kay will request Panhellenic, Residential Life, Security Services and IFC to provide the committee with data regarding compliance with these stipulations.

3. Academic Performance:

"The average academic performance of freshmen fraternity and sorority members should be at least equivalent to the performance of independent freshmen. Also, upperclass Greek academic performance should be at least equivalent to the upperclass independent academic performance. Fraternity and sorority members should also be recognized for scholarly achievements by their admission to campus honor societies in numbers which are at least proportional to their overall representation within the campus student community."

Kay noted that these data are available from Associate Dean John Finney and she will ask him for these data. Mace noted that some students who are selected for honor societies choose not to join, thus skewing the data. Fitzhugh said that as scholarship chair of his fraternity, he was provided data by the university regarding members' academic performance.

There being no further time to address additional objectives, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Anton