Elevating
The University of Tampa’s Fraternity
and Sorority Community
Spring 2009
Background

• T. Jelke Solutions
• Identify strengths and opportunities for growth
• Provide recommendations to increase performance
• Identify how the University can build a stronger relationship with the fraternities and sororities on campus
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nationwide</th>
<th>UT’s Campus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>127 Fraternities and Sororities</td>
<td>20 Fraternities and Sororities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72 North-American Interfraternity</td>
<td>5 North-American Interfraternity</td>
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<td>Conference Men’s Fraternities</td>
<td>Conference Men’s Fraternities</td>
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<td>26 National Panhellenic Women’s Fraternities</td>
<td>5 National Panhellenic Conference Women’s</td>
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<td>9 National Pan-Hellenic Groups</td>
<td>6 National Pan-Hellenic Council Groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 National Association of Latino Fraternal</td>
<td>2 National Association of Latino Fraternal</td>
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<td>Organizations</td>
<td>Organizations Groups</td>
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<td>10% is the national average for Greek</td>
<td>11% of the total campus population</td>
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<td>membership on campuses</td>
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<td>*UT also has 2 Music-based Groups</td>
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Primary Finding

“There are some strong points to The University of Tampa fraternity and sorority community. It is not what I would consider a detrimental or harmful community. It is underperforming, however, because of both internal issues and external constraints. The community could be performing at a higher level if chapters and councils had a clear and consistent understanding of their role on campus and a better working relationship with the host institution.”

- Tom Jelke
Focus Areas of Strategic Plan

• Membership in fraternity/sorority will enhance and promote members’ development and learning through:
  – Values Integration
  – Intellectual Development
  – Leadership Development
  – Developing Positive Relationships
  – Citizenship
“Some chapter and council leaders claimed that 50% of more of their membership was not interested in the more serious side of the organization...”

- Tom Jelke
Values Integration

• Fraternities and sororities are one of the largest and most visible values-based organizations on campus (North-American Interfraternity Conference)
• Values congruence will promote the relevance of Fraternity and Sorority life on campus
• Values that all Greek organizations encompass include:
  – Academic excellence
  – Brotherhood and sisterhood
  – Leadership
  – Community service and philanthropy
  – Social development
Intellectual Development

“For the community as a whole to be able to show that they indeed provide a value to members and to the University, GPA’s need to be better. Until then, fraternities and sororities will not have the respect they need with the administration and faculty, nor the statistics to combat one of their biggest recruitment issues...”

- Tom Jelke
Intellectual Development

- Anecdotally, fraternities and sororities nationwide perform above the all men’s and all women’s average GPA
- At UT, last fall, 6 chapters of 20 were above the all men’s and all women’s average GPA
- “Faculty members need to be engaged in a way where they provide guidance and support for chapters...”
Leadership Development

“High performing fraternity and sorority communities have leadership development programs that provide both a theoretical basis and practical opportunities. The chapters at UT do have some strong leaders who are involved on campus.”

- Tom Jelke
Leadership Development

• Provide further community wide education on community structure, operations, and available leadership opportunities
• Provide purposeful training for new member educators that complement existing new member education programs
• Conduct IMPACT institute on a regular basis
• Further invest in student participation in campus based, regional, and national leadership programs and institutes
• Create a multi-tiered leadership program for the Fraternity and Sorority community
Developing Positive Relationships

“The University assumes we are doing something wrong, and it is their duty to find out what that is and catch us doing it.”

- UT Greek Student

“I don’t believe we are at each other’s throats anymore, but we definitely do not get together as a community as often as we should.”

- UT Greek Student
Developing Positive Relationships

• Enhance relationships with:
  – National organizations
  – UT senior staff
  • “Have UT administrators beyond just OSLE have quality interactions with members of the fraternity and sorority community”
  • “Develop a consistent and intentional effort from University administrators to publicly recognize the positive contributions of fraternities and sororities more often”

--Faculty/staff advisors
  – Alumni advisors
  – Internal relationships in and between chapters
“We’ll print up 500 flyers about a party, and none about a service project.”

- UT Greek Student
Citizenship

• Fraternities and sororities are the largest network of volunteers in the US *(North-American Interfraternity Conference)*
• Collectively, UT Greeks volunteer over 3,000 hours annually
• Continue building working relationships with the PEACE Volunteer Center and community services organizations in Tampa
• Develop community-wide initiatives that all chapters can participate in equally
Moving Forward

• Strategic Planning Weekend – April 3rd and 4th
  – 1, 3, 5+ years of strategy

• Commitment by all stakeholders
  – Individual members, chapter, advisors, councils, Office of Student Leadership and Engagement, Administration

• Education/Discussion
  – Open forums, attendance at chapter meetings during September/October 2009 to present and discuss plan
Moving Forward

• Fraternity/sorority advisory council
• Advisory council subcommittees
  – Subcommittee for each focus area identified in the plan
• Preparation for future assessment processes
  – 2011 AFA/EBI Assessment
  – Coalition Assessment Project