An Analysis of Challenges and Solutions Facing Fraternity and Sorority Advising Programs

Follow this and additional works at: https://ecommons.udayton.edu/stander_posters

Recommended Citation
https://ecommons.udayton.edu/stander_posters/929
## Abstract

Fraternity and sorority advising programs (FSAP) provide support to Greek letter organizations and serve as a liaison between the organization’s leadership and the institution. Four main challenges facing FSAP professionals today are autonomy, facilitating a culture of diversity, scrutiny and member behavior (Whipple, 1998). Specific solutions for each of these challenges recommended to FSAP staff are rooted in fostering self-authorship in members that is necessary to change campus culture.

## History of Organizations and FSAP

1776 – First fraternity, Phi Beta Kappa, was founded
1875 – First sorority, Kappa Alpha Theta, was founded
1906 – First Black fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha, was founded
1908 – First Black sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha, was founded
1909 – National Interfraternity Council was formed
1950s & 1960s – Institutions began to offer services/offices dedicated to advising Greek organizations (Torbenson, 2009)

## Challenges to Professionals

- Autonomy of local chapters and national organizations.
- Facilitating culture of diversity in Greek organizations.
- Combating the “climate of scrutiny” (Fussell, 2000).
- Addressing the culture of unethical behavior.

## Suggested Solutions

- Forge strong, intentional relationships with chapter advisors and their national organization leadership and representatives (Whipple, 1998).
- Provide and encourage cross-cultural opportunities or standards for Greek members (Martin, Parker, Pascarella, & Blechschmidt, 2015).
- Attract senior student affairs officers to the idea of “engineer[ing] positive and developmental change” in chapters (Whipple, 1998).
- Educational efforts focused on members aligning the values of their Greek organization with the values of the institution (Whipple, 1998).

## References