

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

GREEK PRIDE: A RETURN TO GLORY

PLEDGE OF COMMITMENT

We, the stakeholders within the Greek community of The Pennsylvania State University, pledge our commitment to the realization of our collective Dream through the fulfillment of our Bold Ideas and corresponding Goals, as outlined below. Symbolized through our signatures and manifested through our actions, we pledge to enhance Penn State University by enhancing the Greek experience. As the stakeholders—students; alumni; advisors; university leadership, faculty, and staff; International/National organizations; councils; communities; parents; families; and friends—we collectively own our future and shape our destiny.

DREAM STATEMENT

In 2014, the fraternities and sororities of The Pennsylvania State University are heralded as the premiere Greek community in the nation. As fraternity men and sorority women, we recognize that the Greek experience touches the lives of many and we engage all stakeholders in our community. Sacred bonds unite us; our ritual, values, and principles form our core purpose. We live our creed every day.

Our role in the community is significant: by embracing inclusiveness, we demonstrate positive leadership, committed service, and academic excellence. We are the responsible students of today; we are the respected leaders of tomorrow. We take ownership for our decisions and actions, hold one another accountable to the high standards we set for ourselves, and are applauded for our accomplishments and contributions to the community. We know that the Greek experience lasts a lifetime and as we move into the future, we respect tradition and look to our alumni and advisors to engage and strengthen our community.

We are leadership councils, individual chapters, and thousands of focused students united around one proud statement: We are Friends. We are Family. We are Penn State Greeks.

BOLD IDEAS AND CORRESPONDING GOALS

I. Standards and Rewards for Excellence

- a. The Greek community embraces and actively supports the ideals, mission, and core values of the Penn State community, governing councils, chapters and International/National organizations by establishing clear and concise expectations that the University and chapters agree to support and uphold
- b. The University and the councils support a rewards and recognition system for those chapters and individuals meeting and exceeding levels of excellence
- c. The University and governing councils provide the necessary programs and support for maintaining standards and developing excellence

II. Partnerships with the University

- a. The University community publicly acknowledges and rewards the positive experience and contributions of the Greek community while providing support systems to enable success and prosperity even through challenging times
- b. The University encourages and recognizes the engagement of faculty and staff in supporting the Greek experience
- c. The Greek chapters and governing councils appreciate the privilege of being part of the University community and support its core mission by being accountable for, and living up to, the agreed upon standards
- d. The University initiates and maintains ongoing partnerships with all stakeholders in support of the Greek experience

III. Alumni, Advisor and National Office Engagement

- a. All chapters have active and engaged advisors and alumni groups who empower success and support accountability
- b. Consistent and frequent communication exists between and among chapters, governing councils, advisors, International/National organizations, House Corporations, and alumni to facilitate support and understanding of the needs, challenges, and successes of the Greek community
- c. A clear and well-defined relationship exists with International/National offices and their engagement provides support, guidance, resources, and standards to enrich our community as a whole and the individual chapters within

IV. Financial and Facility Resources

- a. All chapters and governing councils are financially sound
- b. All chapters provide safe, comfortable and secure learning environments for meeting and/or living
- c. Mutually beneficial partnerships between and among the University, International/National organizations, House Corporations, the community, and alumni exist to support financially healthy and successful chapters, governing councils, and facilities

V. Community Service

- a. On-going service is an expectation of all prospective and active members and is appreciated and celebrated throughout the community
- b. By living their core values, Greek men and women understand what it means to be good neighbors and act accordingly, thus Centre County views the Greek community as an asset and partner
- c. There is an awareness and commitment to respond to the needs of the community as a result of utilizing existing resources and venues

VI. Leadership Training and Organizational Development

- a. A comprehensive leadership training and development model exists, offering educational programs and experiences for both formal and informal Greek leadership roles in which all members of the Greek community must participate
- b. Appropriate training, education, and resources with which to support chapters' pursuits of excellence are provided for all individuals working with chapters, including advisors, mentors, and alumni chapter leaders
- c. A continuity plan and transition process exists for each governing council and chapter Executive Board, reinforcing and supporting the vitality and growth of the Greek community
- d. A systematic plan for chapter development-based on the individual chapters purpose and values and proven organizational development strategies-is embraced by the Greek community and supported by the University and International/National organizations

VII. Greek Marketing: In Pursuit of Excellence

- a. A comprehensive Greek marketing and public relations campaign promotes core values in action
- b. A unified Penn State Greek identity exists and is easily adaptable for each council and chapter
- c. All chapters benefit from increased recruitment and retention of values-based members by utilizing University, national and community resources

VIII. Fun + Traditions = Greek Unity

- a. The governing councils have a shared understanding of their unique constituencies, core values, and tradition; they have agreed upon common goals through collaboration; and they promote the Greek experience on the Penn State campus through a variety of programs and activities
- b. Chapter members, advisors, and alumni promote the overall Penn State Greek experience in addition to their individual chapter affiliation
- c. A spirit of community built upon traditions, pride, and shared fun permeates the governing councils, chapters, and alumni groups

Signed

Date