

## Greek Life Leaders: Running the Ultimate Company

Many may only see collegiate Greek life as a cultural group who hides their partying behind community service hours and charitable donations. However, I wish to challenge that stereotype by concentrating on the professional development and self-improvement opportunity that is presented to Greek life members - especially those who hold leadership positions. Currently, I serve my one-hundred member sorority as chapter president and assist other officers to maintain a well-balanced, structured, and involved organization.

Fraternities and sororities must operate as a company first, and a [kappa;omicron;rho;upsilon;phi;alpha;#943;epsilon;sigma;epsilon;iota;delta;#942;sigma;epsilon;iota;sigma;sigma;#942;mu;epsilon;rho;alpha](#); socialite second to be able to be successful. I want to indicate some key concepts that show the relation between Greek organizations and businesses.

Greek organizations:

- . Divide officers into teams to focus on specific areas of the chapter
- . Must operate on a strict budget, fueled solely from member's dues
- . Must market themselves well to be able to continue to recruit new members
- . Have mission statements and values to put up their members to and gear their brand
- . Must follow rules from, and are accountable to, their national headquarters
- . Have insurance to cover their organization and its members, as well as many policies and procedures in area for holding events

They're just a few points that report how Greek organizations are ran as the best business, combining friendship with professionalism and offering members a great opportunity for personal development.

As president, I see all sides of owning a Greek organization and must help every officer no matter what team her position is really a part of. My days are filled with constantly making decisions and weighing the consequences. I discovered to create fair decisions that benefit the more good, while remaining unbiased in the process. I also response to everyone's questions and concerns while problem solving when an unplanned event takes place. For instance, we'd a tiny crisis with flyers that were made to promote an event we were having. If they came in, we noticed the contact email on the flyers was spelled wrong. After some deliberation, we made a decision to use the flyers we'd and made a brand new email address with the typo included.

An enormous part of managing a successful organization is effective and professional communication. Our main forum of communication between officers and the advisory board is emailing. I discovered how to properly send and react to emails in a professional manner. My communication skills have improved substantially since being fully a leader of my chapter. I have discovered to communicate concisely and format information in the most truly effective way. I have discovered providing information in bullet lists is the greatest way to get members to see messages fully. All of our officers must hold team meetings and get reports of progress in different areas on the team. Officers are in charge of organizing their very own meetings and taking minutes to record the thing that was discussed. Greek organizations teach members to effectively and professionally communicate through emailing, holding meetings, and working together with others.

One of the very valuable traits that I'm still learning through my presidency, is ways to get confident with hard conversations. I work closely with this Director of Standards and Ethics to make sure our members are holding themselves to your high ideals and values. When someone is falling behind, it's our job to possess conversations with them about why this really is happening and what we can do to be sure it does not happen again. These tough conversations become even tougher when remembering that the members of our chapter are also our friends and sisters. As a leader of a Greek organization, I am learning how to have these hard conversations while remaining in control of myself and the conversation.

Greek life has so much more to provide than the social facet of the business, and can truly prepare teenagers to join the professional world. Through developing members personally, and developing officers professionally, Greek organizations could offer life-changing collegiate experiences that can't be found elsewhere.

### About the Author

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