

Greek Living Leaders: Working the Ultimate Organization

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

Fraternalities and sororities must operate as a business first, and a

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[ειδήσεισf; σήμερα](#) socialite second in order to be successful. I want to point out some key concepts that show the relation between Greek organizations and businesses.

Greek organizations:

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

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

As president, I see all sides of running a Greek organization and must help every officer no real matter what team her position is really a part of. My days are filled with constantly making decisions and weighing the consequences. I have learned to produce fair decisions that benefit the higher 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 example, we'd a tiny crisis with flyers which were made to market an event we were having. Once they came in, we noticed the contact email on the flyers was spelled wrong. After some deliberation, we chose to use the flyers we'd and made a new email with the typo included.

An enormous section of owning a successful organization is effective and professional communication. Our main forum of communication between officers and the advisory board is emailing. I have learned just how to properly send and respond to emails in an expert manner. My communication skills have improved substantially since being truly a leader of my chapter. I have discovered to communicate concisely and format information in the very best way. I am finding providing information in bullet lists is the greatest way to have members to read messages fully. Our officers must hold team meetings and get reports of progress in different areas on the team. Officers are in charge of organizing their own meetings and taking minutes to record what was discussed. Greek organizations teach members to effectively and professionally communicate through emailing, holding meetings, and working with others.

One of the very most valuable traits that I am still learning through my presidency, is how to get more comfortable with hard conversations. I work closely with our Director of Standards and Ethics to make sure our members are holding themselves to the high ideals and values. If someone is falling behind, it's our job to own conversations using them about why this is happening and what we can do to ensure it generally 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'm learning how to have these hard conversations while staying in control of myself and the conversation.

Greek life has so much more to supply compared to social aspect of the business, and can truly prepare young adults to become listed on the professional world. Through developing members personally, and developing officers professionally, Greek organizations can offer life-changing collegiate experiences that can't be found elsewhere.

About the Author

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