

Greek Life Leaders: Working In Final 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 wish to challenge that stereotype by focusing on the professional development and self-improvement opportunity that's presented to Greek life members - especially people who hold leadership positions. Currently, I serve my one-hundred member sorority as chapter president and work with other officers to keep up a well-balanced, structured, and involved organization.

Fraternities and sororities must operate as a business first, and a [κορυφαίεσf;ειδήσεισf;σήμερα](#) socialite second to be able to be successful. I would like to point out some key concepts that show the relation between Greek organizations and businesses.

Greek organizations:

- . Divide officers into teams to work on specific aspects of the chapter
- . Must operate on a strict budget, fueled solely from member's dues
- . Must market themselves well to be able to continue steadily 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, as well as many policies and procedures in place for holding events

They are just a few points that show how Greek organizations are ran as the best business, combining friendship with professionalism and offering members a good 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 have discovered to make fair decisions that benefit the more good, while remaining unbiased in the process. I also respond to everyone's questions and concerns while problem solving when an unplanned event takes place. For instance, we had a tiny crisis with flyers that have been made to promote 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 utilize the flyers we had and made a brand new email with the typo included.

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

One of the very 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. When someone is falling behind, it's our job to possess conversations with them about why this really is happening and what we could 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 to have these hard conversations while staying in control of myself and the conversation.

Greek life has a lot more to provide than the social aspect of the business, and can truly prepare adults to become listed on the professional world. Through developing members personally, and developing officers professionally, Greek organizations can provide life-changing collegiate experiences that can't be found elsewhere.

About the Author

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