Trinity Fraternity and Sorority Life
“Standards” Initiative

TRINITY UNIVERSITY

Spring 2018
Fraternity and Sorority Life
Mission and Purpose

These Standards have been created in conjunction with the Greek Council Executive Board and representatives of individual organizations as a means to encourage and recognize excellent practices displayed by Trinity University’s fraternity and sorority community. Our members strive to enrich student life and community at Trinity throughout all aspects of “Greek Life.” Every recognized fraternity and sorority endeavors to create meaningful value for the Trinity community as a whole, and the “Community Standards” reflect the specific activities that help contribute to this ultimate objective.

The Trinity University fraternity and sorority community live out these purposeful values through the adoption of “The Four Pillars.” The Four Pillars represent our community’s contributions through four crucial aspects of student life on campus: 1.) Scholarship, 2.) Service, 3.) Leadership, and 4.) Camaraderie.

The Standards Framework should help provide a roadmap for fraternities and sororities to objectively measure their standing in relation each of the Greek community’s four pillars. The Standards scoresheet should be used by organization leadership to identify both areas of strength and areas of difficulty for that organization. Standards are structured primarily to reward organizations for what they do well, not punish them for areas that need improvement. Points are earned, not subtracted. Organizations should strive to reach the maximum amount of points possible, rather than simply meet “minimum requirements.” This is an opportunity for organizations to prove that their letters truly stand for something great. Top groups are rewarded for their efforts. Standards are not meant to be punitive, but rather Standards represent activities that are inherently enjoyable, engaging, and purpose-driven. Over time, organizations can challenge themselves and each other to improve in all facets of Greek Life.

Significance of Points Earned

The maximum number of points that can be earned each semester for Standards is 500. At the end of each semester, the one fraternity and one sorority that have earned the most points overall are deemed the champions of that semester and both organizations will be presented with Greek Council’s “Champion’s Award.” Champion’s Award winners receive a prize package as recognition for their hard work and dedication to the Trinity community (to be determined in conjunction with Greek Council and the Student Involvement office).

Each organization and the Greek community as a whole expect a certain level excellence and commitment from University-recognized fraternities and sororities. While groups should without exception strive to earn the maximum 500 points available, organizations have the responsibility to reach 250 points at a minimum each semester in order to demonstrate their commitment to the Greek community. Any score under 250 indicates that a respective organization is not providing value to the extent it is capable. The Coordinator for Fraternity and Sorority Life (F/S
Coordinator) will work closely with organization leadership throughout the semester in an attempt to ensure the 250 point threshold is achieved. If an organization is not on track to meet this threshold, all parties will develop an action plan to take steps towards identifying and meeting goals by the end of the semester. **In the case an organization fails to meet the 250 point threshold, the following steps will be taken** to help the organization make improvements in subsequent semesters:

- **1st Occurrence:**
  - President and Standards Chair meet with the Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
  - Club President and Standards Chair will develop and turn in a Plan of Action for the next semester signed by every active member of their organization. This plan will be shared with the organization’s alumni and/or faculty advisor.

- **2nd Consecutive Occurrence:**
  - All items associated with “1st Occurrence” above, and:
  - Social events will be disallowed for four weeks. Organizations may not schedule any social events until the Plan of Action is signed and submitted.
  - Organization will assist in sponsoring an educational Fraternity & Sorority Life Program for Trinity’s Greek Community.

- **3rd Consecutive Occurrence:**
  - All items associated with 1st and 2nd Occurrences above, and:
  - Loss of tailgating privileges
  - Potential loss of Formal/Beach event

- **4th Consecutive Occurrence:**
  - All items associated with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Occurrences above, and:
  - Official review of the organization’s charter

### Calculation of Points Earned

For most categories, the completion of each achievement is worth 10 points individually. Higher-point categories do not necessarily require the completion of lower-point categories to receive credit. For example if you participate in Jersey Monday (10 point box) and sponsor at least one intramural sports team (30 point box) you will not be penalized for not participating in Greek Week (20 point box). Instead, your organization would be awarded 20 points overall (10 points for Jersey Monday and 10 points for intramurals) for the Organizational Pride subcategory.

Points will be added on a rolling basis. As accomplishments are completed, the organization’s Standards Chair should notify the F/S Coordinator. The F/S Coordinator will then assign the points to the organization as necessary. Certain items require documentation (see specific requirements below), but these too may be submitted to the F/S Coordinator on a rolling basis as soon as the item is achieved.
Scholarship

1. GPA:
   - Organizations will receive 10 points if the GPA of their club is greater than the average all-campus GPA.
   - Organizations will receive an additional 10 points if the club improved their GPA from the previous semester. Alternatively, if the club’s overall GPA is greater than 3.30 then the club will receive the points for this objective (Scholarship 1-20).
   - Finally, the organization will receive the last 10 points if 15% of their active members from the previous semester achieved GPAs to be recognized on the Dean’s List (3.65+).

2. Academic Development:
   - NAC members must make an appointment with Academic Coaching in the TLC, attend an Academic Success Workshop, or have Betty Curry host a personal mini-workshop for new members to complete to receive 10 points.
     - If a new member cannot participate in the personal mini-workshop set up by Betty Curry, they still must complete one of the previous options.
   - Another 10 Points can be earned if the club has at least 10% of its members attend a “Making Connections,” or “Career Fair” event hosted by the Center for Experiential Learning and Student Success.
     - 10% can be a cumulative number between these two events.
   - A final 10 points will be earned if the club sends 1 member to an academic conference approved by the Greek Council Standards Chair.

3. Involvement:
   - Organizations will receive 10 points if they have 35% of their members attend lectures from either the Lennox, Stieren, or Distinguished lecture series. This 35% will be cumulative from all the lectures across the semesters. Each member can only be counted once, even if attended more than one lecture, in the final count.
   - An additional 10 points will be earned if the club has an updated Academic Roster with all active members majors and classes they are willing/can tutor in which will be shared with NAC. Template available upon request.
   - A final 10 points is awarded for organization sponsored study halls that occur at least 3 times per semester. Greek Council recognizes that during the Spring Semester, study halls will be hosted each day during orientation for the NAC, so the points will be earned if 25% of the people in attendance not be from the NAC.
     - Documentation Needed: Proper documentation includes an email message promoting the study hall to members (cc: the Coordinator), a snapshot of members studying in the room, a confirmation of the room reservation (T-Space), and other methods as pre-approved by the Coordinator.

4. Engagement:
   - Organizations will receive 10 points if 25% of the organizations NAC schedules and attends an appointment with Career Services for resume help, job search, internship advising, etc.
• Another 10 points is awarded if a member attends the FSL Faculty Networking Event hosted by Greek Council. More information on this event will be sent early in the spring semester.
• Lastly, 10 points is available if 25% of the club’s members attend a single TU Lecture or theatre discussion.

## Service

1. **Community Service:**
   - 10 points will be awarded to an organization if they can provide documentation that each member has completed at least one activity of community service.
   - An additional 10 points will be awarded if the organization has 20% of its members present at an all-community service event hosted by Greek Council predetermined by the philanthropy chair. All-community service events will be hosted on March 26th and March 27th. Attendance from the two dates can be combined (i.e., 20% need not come solely from one of the aforementioned dates).
   - The final 10 points will be awarded if the club averages at least 7 hours of community service per member.
     - **Note:** Hours for this block can be recorded from as early as the end of Spring Semester 2017; however, the amount of hours to be recorded from summer activities will be capped at **3 hours per member**.

2. **Philanthropy:**
   - Organizations will receive 10 points if they can provide documentation that they have had correspondence with their respective philanthropy organization over the course of the semester.
     - **Documentation Needed:** Proper documentation of correspondence can include a screenshot of an email, or a cc to the F&S Life Coordinator.
   - Another 10 points will be awarded to organizations that promote their philanthropy on an organization run social media page.
   - A final 10 points will be awarded to organizations that host an event or fundraiser benefiting their partnered philanthropy.

3. **On-Campus:**
   - Organizations will be awarded 10 points if 50% of their active members attend at least two campus events (50% attendance must come from the same event).
   - Another 10 points will be awarded to organizations if 50% of their active members attend three or more all campus events.
   - A final 10 points will be awarded to organizations that host their own on-campus event.
     - **Documentation Needed:** Organizations must have complete sign-in sheets on the day of the event. No form of absences will be excused when calculating the percentage of members present. Organizations are also encouraged to take photos at the event and post them to social media.
   - **Note:** No excused absences will be taken into account for these events.

4. **University Events:**
• Organizations will be awarded 10 points if they co-host an on campus event with another organization. This organization need not be limited to Greek Life; the co-sponsor can be from any other club recognized by the Trinity University administration.
  o Cannot be the same event counted in the philanthropy row for hosting a fundraiser event for philanthropy. The event co-hosted can still be a fundraiser but has to be two different events.
• An additional 10 points will be awarded to organizations who have a member participating in TigerThon (February 24th) in the form of competing in the dance competition or another form of participation pre approved by Greek Council Standards Chair. “Participation” is defined as determined by the Greek Council Standards Chair.
• A final 10 points will be awarded to organizations who have submitted a completed Service Partner Agreement, for which a template will be provided by Greek Council.

**Leadership**

1. Faculty Advisor:
   - Organizations will receive 10 points if they have a current official faculty advisor.
   - An additional 10 points is awarded if at least one member checks in with the faculty advisor at least twice during the semester. This check in should include any scholarship challenges the organization is facing, an update regarding the organizations current and upcoming events, a current breakdown of the organization’s standards score, and any other pertinent information.
     o **Documentation Needed:** This information can be shared with the advisor via email. The Coordinator should be copied (cc’d) on the email.
   - Finally, the last 10 points is earned if the organization hosts a reception or a dinner, on-campus or off-campus, for their faculty advisor.

2. On-Campus (other student organizations):
   - Organizations will receive 10 points for having member representation at Leadership and Lunch activities, indicating at least 1 member present one of the lunches.
   - An additional 10 points can be earned if an organization has at least 80% of its members present at the Spring Speaker provided by Greek Council.
     o Excused absences will be allowed for the following reasons: being out of town, having an academic excuse (exam, class), or having to participate in a university sponsored event other than the speaker.
   - The final 10 points will be awarded if the head Orientation Chair(s) attends the Orientation roundtable, hosted by Greek Council.
     o If the head Orientation Chair can not attend, then the next individual who will be interacting with the NAC the most or the president will attend

3. Organizational Development
   - 10 points will be awarded to organizations whose Standards Chairs meet with the Greek Council Standards Chair (Anika Jensen) by the end of orientation (March 2, 2018).
     o Meeting is to create a plan on how to complete the standards grid in the most effective way.
   - An additional 10 points will be given to organizations that have 2 members present at the Greek U. retreat this spring.
• The final 10 points will be awarded to organizations who have 3 members that are not part of Greek Council or an internal executive board meet with Jeremy.

4. Greek Council:
• The first 10 points is awarded to organizations that provide 2 members to serve on that semester’s Judicial Committee. These members may be randomly selected to serve on Judicial Board hearings at various points throughout the semester.
• Another 10 points is available for 90% participation at Greek Council general meetings. Two members of the organization are required to attend (President + 1 representative), so any less than two members present at the meeting will affect the % participation.
• Lastly, an organization will earn a final 10 points if every member of the organization’s internal Executive leadership team meets at least once during the semester with their Greek Council Executive counterpart (organization president meets with GC Executive President, organization judicial chair meets with GC Executive Judicial Chair, etc.).

Camaraderie

1. Website Presence:
• An organization will be awarded 10 points for the promotion of a campus event on their internet platforms (website, Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, etc.)
• An additional 10 points is earned if the organization has an active website that is updated with the NAC profiles (including picture & information) on their website.
• A final 10 points is available if the organization makes a weekly post on one of the following forms of social media: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or another as approved by the F/S Coordinator.

2. Alumni Relations Chair:
• Organizations will receive 10 points for sending a newsletter to their alumni at least twice during the semester. The newsletter should include at least some of the following: current and upcoming events, profiles of current members, an alumni “spotlight” profile, an editorial on important campus events, etc.
  • Documentation Needed: A copy of the newsletter should be forwarded to the F/S Coordinator.
• Another 10 points is earned if a representative from the organization checks in monthly with the organization’s official alumni advisor(s). This check in should include any current challenges the organization is facing, a current breakdown of the organization’s standards score, an action plan for both areas of strength and areas of improvement, and any other pertinent information.
  • Documentation Needed: This information can be shared with the advisor via email. The F/S Coordinator should be copied (cc’d) on the email. Any sensitive or confidential information can be blacked out (redacted) before sending.
• The final 10 points will be awarded by the submission of minutes from the club’s weekly meeting once each month. Minutes should be sent during that month—not all at the end of the semester.
  • Documentation Needed: This information can be shared with the F/S Coordinator via email. Any sensitive information can be redacted before sending.
  • NOTE: months will include January-April for a total of 4 check-ins/minutes
3. **Alumni Relations:**
   - 10 points is possible if the organization has one alumni serve as a member on a Leadership and Lunch committee. Alumni should reach out to Jeremy Allen directly.
   - Organizations that host at least one event for alumni during the semester earn 10 additional points.
     - Non-NAC members must be present and interact with the alumni
     - **Documentation Needed:** A picture, Facebook post, or other evidence of the event is sufficient as determined by the F/S Coordinator.
   - A final 10 points will be awarded to organizations who have a presence at a minimum of 1 orientation event
     - **Documentation Needed:** Photo featuring actives and Alumni or email exchange confirming attendance or other forms of evidence determined sufficient by the F/S Coordinator.
   - **NOTE:** Event hosted for alumni and alumni involvement in orientation event must be two different events

4. **Organizational Pride:**
   - 10 points is earned for an organization’s participation in Greek Jersey Mondays. This requirement is within the discretion of the F/S Coordinator—if the F/S Coordinator observes organizational representation on a regular basis, the points will be awarded.
   - Another 10 points will be awarded to organizations that submit 2 active spotlights highlighting accomplishments, involvement, etc. that differentiates the active.
   - Finally, 10 points are awarded if the organization has member attendance for at least one “Greek Unity Night” event hosted by Greek Council.

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**Bonus Points**

1. **Mid-semester check-in:**
   - 10 bonus points are awarded if the organization’s internal Standards Chair and/or President schedule a “mid-semester check-in” with the F/S Coordinator.
     - This check-in should occur sometime during the month of March, and the parties will discuss the organization’s progress towards completion of the Standards. This meeting is separate from the Standards plan meeting.

2. **Alumni Advisor sign-off**
   - An additional 10 bonus points is awarded for organizations that collect the signature of their official alumni advisor(s) within at least 1 week of receiving the completed scorecard (at the end of the semester).
     - The advisor(s) can simply sign the completed scorecard electronically, which is then submitted to the F/S Coordinator.