


MEMORANDUM

TO: Christine A. Gravelle
Director – Department of Student Activities

FROM: Daniel J. Pugh, Sr., Ph.D. 
Vice President for Student Affairs

CC: C.J. Woods, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President for Student Affairs

DATE: July 17, 2018

RE: Fraternity and Sorority Life Excellence Committee

ATTACHMENT: A Coalition among Southeastern Conference Universities to Enhance the Health, Safety & Well-being of our Fraternity & Sorority Communities

The history of Fraternity and Sorority Life at Texas A&M is firmly established and well chronicled. The growth and development of the Greek system over the past five decades has resulted in Texas A&M University having one of our nation's largest Greek systems. Despite the tremendous contributions made to the Aggie experience, our Greek community has experienced similar challenges consistent with national criticism linked to safety, mental health, and academic performance.

As you know, while Greek staff within the SEC have been discussing a more unified approach to these issues, so too have the SEC senior student affairs officers. In February, and with input from the SEC Greek staff and other national best practice efforts, we developed a list of strategies we believe will enhance the health, safety, and wellbeing of our fraternity and sorority communities. Simultaneously, efforts were underway by a coalition of Big 10 and AAU institutions as well as NASPA to similarly establish existing and future best practices for fraternities and sororities. These concomitant efforts have only served to validate the efforts of the SEC senior student affairs officers and the work by SEC Greek staffs.

As such, I am hereby directing you to establish and chair a Fraternity and Sorority Life Excellence Committee comprised of students, former students, and staff. The charge of this committee will be to develop a 3-year plan to implement all (20) twenty strategies developed by the SEC Coalition. You are to immediately begin this work and be prepared to present the implementation plan prior

to the end of fall semester 2019. This presentation will be provided to President Young, Dr. Woods, and myself.

Additionally, I am hereby establishing this Fraternity and Sorority Life Excellence Committee to be a standing committee within the Department of Student Activities, chaired by you and reporting to your Associate Vice President, with the additional responsibility for providing oversight and accountability to (1) implement the plan, (2) assess the progress and impact of the plan, and (3) to continue to develop next-best practices that will ensure Aggie Greeks are at the forefront of Greek excellence.

Finally, it is anticipated that Texas A&M University and the other SEC universities will be represented at an annual SEC student leadership summit regarding the Fraternity and Sorority Experience held each summer. The work of the Fraternity and Sorority Life Excellence Committee will be on full display annually as we are asked to report on our implementation of these strategies and the assessment of their impact as well as advance conference standards with best and next-best practices.