

Valparaiso University Fraternity and Sorority Life

Strategic Initiatives for Future Growth

Prepared by the leaders of the 2023 Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils and the 2023 Chapter Presidents

Mission: The fraternity and sorority community at Valparaiso University, led by the Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils, will provide members an experience that is rooted in academic achievement, brotherhood and sisterhood, community, continued growth, leadership, service, and shared purpose.

- **Education and Learning:** Fraternity and sorority members will be provided opportunity to grow as a person and a student at Valparaiso University. This growth can be in multiple areas utilizing campus resources and opportunities in the greater Valparaiso community.
- **Welcoming and Inclusive Environment:** Inclusivity promotes open-mindedness because it allows leadership from all backgrounds to be a part of the conversation. The Valparaiso University fraternity and sorority experience will be welcoming to all individuals who express interest in membership.
- **Community:** Actively develop a community that strives to learn about the other chapters on campus, makes an effort to involve themselves with other chapters, commit to improve community relations, and to promote and support the fraternity and sorority life experience.
- **Service:** Fraternity and Sorority members will use our presence on campus to benefit others through multiple avenues of service. This service will be used to build a relationship not only on campus, but also with the greater Valparaiso community.
- **Leadership:** Leadership is integral to the personal and professional development of our community and individual members. Fraternity men and sorority women will strive to develop and foster life-long leadership skills. Leadership in the fraternity and sorority community will focus on emerging leaders, motivation, change management, and continuous success.
- **Academic Achievement:** Fraternity men and sorority women will strive for high academic achievement in our pursuit of excellence and in alignment with the expectations of the Valparaiso University mission statement. We will hold ourselves to a higher standard through recognition of hard work at both the individual and chapter level.
- **Public Representation:** Members of fraternities and sororities will be viewed as campus leaders who give back, perform well academically, and contribute to the positive student environment at Valparaiso University.
- **Respect:** Mutual respect helps advance the mission of all fraternities and sororities and allows our community to flourish. Living this value on a daily basis allows us to create strong, positive, and meaningful relationships with the entire Valparaiso University community.

Valparaiso University Fraternity and Sorority Life Goals for 2023

1. Welcoming and Inclusive Environment:

- a. The Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils will work to identify campus resources to provide to chapter leaders in developing.
- b. The Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils will work with Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chairs through hosting regular roundtable meetings. All chapters will have an opportunity to send a representative to these meetings.
- c. Chapter leaders will work to identify opportunities to build more relationships with the Office of International Programs and Athletics and increase membership within the community from these populations.

2. Community:

- a. Chapter leaders will seek ways to creatively develop opportunities to partner with a wide range of chapters on social events, member experiences, and other events.
- b. Collaboratively host Welcome Week events that help introduce the Fraternity & Sorority Community to new students.
- c. Encourage other student organizations to be involved with the Fraternity and Sorority community through collaboration on programs.

3. Academic Achievement:

- a. The Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils will explore the establishment of community-wide study groups.
- b. The Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils will seek ways to spotlight individual and chapter academic excellence of fraternity and sorority members.
- c. The Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils will explore other academic programming to benefit the community (i.e. Study Habits Workshop, Academic Resource Fair, etc.)

4. Service:

- a. The Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils will provide and promote signature service opportunities to the community (i.e. Women's United, Our Greater Good).
- b. Chapter leaders will encourage chapters to host service events as unity activities.

5. Leadership and Member Development:

- a. The Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils will develop programming opportunities that bring back (or virtually) alumni and allow current undergraduate members to network with alums.
- b. The Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils will provide mentorship programming and training to ensure chapter members are able to serve as effective mentors to younger members.
- c. Chapter leaders will work together to identify opportunities to provide shared programming opportunities that promote member personal and professional development.

Valparaiso University Panhellenic Council Goals for 2023

1. Ensure that Zeta Phi Beta, Sorority Inc. is appropriately welcomed into our Fraternity & Sorority community.
2. Create a more inclusive, welcoming, and safe space in the fraternity and sorority community, and create stronger inter-sorority relationships
3. Develop two initiatives focused on increasing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion knowledge and education.

Valparaiso University Panhellenic Officers Goals for 2023

Panhellenic President: Emily Heggeland

- Be intentional with meeting each council woman and chapter president outside of our respected meetings.
- Utilize the Office of Multicultural Programs and other campus organizations to educate myself and to move our community forward.
- Promote Junior Panhellenic within the community, and provide members with opportunities to further their leadership skills.

Vice President of Standards and Conduct: Kendall Miller

- Be knowledgeable of all standards related practices.
- Provide ongoing training and programs that help educate the community on best practices as it relates to risk management.

Vice President of Operations: Ashley Velasquez

- Create a working document of all academic resources on campus for members in the community.
- Develop new ways to highlight academic success and excellence within the community.
- Explore how to best implement community wide study tables and other academic resource programs.

Vice President of Recruitment: Natalie Togtman

-

Vice President of Community Development: Olivia Maass

- Invite chapters to give specific feedback on Panhellenic Community events and how the council can create more educational and engaging activities.
- Include more organizations into Women's Empowerment Week.
- Have all Welcome Week Late Night events planned by June 1, 2023.

Vice President of Public Relations: McKenna Kalan

-

Head Recruitment Counselor: Josie Carden

- Have representation on the Recruitment Counselor team from all chapters.
- Create a recruitment counselor curriculum to ensure that recruitment counselors are getting a marketable experience
- Work closer with the Vice President of Recruitment on planning and execution of recruitment so that it goes smoothly.

Valparaiso University Interfraternity Council Goals for 2023

1. Develop, refine, and implement improved community recruitment events for 2023-2024.
2. Emphasize the importance of academic requirements in the recruitment process and develop ways to provide academic resources to the campus community.
3. Demonstrate to chapters that the goal of recruitments should be focused on growing community membership, in addition to individual chapter size.

Valparaiso University Interfraternity Board Goals for 2023

Interfraternity Council President: Sam Denaer

- Check-in and offer support/assistance to all council officers to ensure the council is operating effectively and serving the community.
- Incorporate educational components (leadership development, etc.) to the Interfraternity General Body meetings.
- Establish personalized relationships with fraternity chapter presidents to foster an environment of understanding and respect

Vice President of Standards and Conduct: Andrew Messerschmidt

- Stay organized and communicate efficiently to risk managers and the council
- Provide risk management trainings throughout the year to ensure risk managers are aware of best practices and equipped with the necessary tools to be successful.

Vice President of Operations: Spenser Lhota

- Explore how to best implement community wide study tables and other academic resource programs.
- Develop new ways to highlight academic success and excellence within the community.
- Be confident to show ideas to the council on how to better the community

Vice President of Recruitment: Matt McDonald

- Redevelop and creatively implement community-wide recruitment events in the Fall 2023 semester.
- Have 120 registered Potential New Members.
- Host regular recruitment chair roundtables/meetings to continue conversation about how IFC can best support chapters getting/maintaining their ideal chapter size

Vice President of Community Development: Jaylen Jude

- Make New Member Grand Chapter more engaging
- Reimagine FSL week and Welcome Week with different events to get more members of the community in attendance

Vice President of Public Relations: Drew Attinger

- Create “day in the life” videos or story takeovers of community members for the Instagram
- Highlight more members who may not have a specific leadership role in their chapter
- Have each chapter take over the Instagram story at least once

Fraternity and Sorority Chapter Goals for 2023

The following are the stated goals for 2023 per the Chapter President at the Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Retreat in January 2023

Alpha Gamma Delta

- Develop and implement Alpha Gamma Delta's Week of Service for Spring 2023
- Understand and use BillHighway effectively to manage chapter funds
- Implement academic support programming to improve our chapter GPA
- Strengthen and empower officers to ensure a strong foundation is built for the chapter's continued growth

Chi Omega

- Increase attendance at non-mandatory events/programs for the chapter
- Raise chapter's academic performance and focus on academic programming

Gamma Phi Beta

- Promoting a positive outlook and perspective regarding chapter event attendance, particularly for new members.
- Uplifting appointed officer positions, delegating more to these officers and elevating the work these officers do.
- Prioritizing transparency between the e-board and all other officers in addition to the chapter as a whole.

Kappa Alpha Psi

- Complete a President Transition document
- Increase the campus understanding of chapter's philanthropy

Kappa Delta

- Facilitate and enhance an interactive and engaging senior member experience within the chapter.
- Increase leadership opportunities for chapter members outside of the governing council.

Kappa Kappa Gamma

- Utilize chapter accountability processes
- Improve chapter semester GPA

Lambda Chi Alpha

- Raise \$30,000 for St. Baldricks.
- Have 24 members by February 1, 2024

Phi Delta Theta

- Work with an ALS family through Live Like Lou
- Raise chapter's academic performance

Phi Kappa Psi

- Host safe and well-planned social events
- Implement structure and organization within operational aspects of the chapter

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia

- Revise and revisit budget to meet needs of chapter
- Increase the role of the DEI chair within the chapter

Phi Sigma Kappa

- Increase chapter engagement with campus events
- Host a service event with another chapter

Pi Beta Phi

- Increase chapter involvement with Read, Lead, Achieve
- Implement LDC feedback
- Build stronger connections with other chapters

Pi Kappa Alpha

- Increase involvement with on campus and FSL events
- Develop a scholarship fund with Alumni Board

Sigma Chi

- Receive a Pillar of Excellence
- Improve and modify the structure of Derby Days 2023
- Develop a documented recruitment plan

Sigma Lambda Gamma

- Host more unity events within the Fraternity & Sorority community, and focus on chapter's we have not traditionally hosted events with
- Increase the presence of our philanthropy events
- Maintain our chapter's academic performance
- Complete all Standards and Expectations items at the Arete level in all areas

Sigma Phi Epsilon

- Recruit at least 1 additional new member in the Spring 2023 semester
- Ensure the chapter follows all risk management policies and hosts safe events

Sigma Pi

- Develop a recruitment plan for the 2023-2024 academic year
- Increase involvement of chapter in Fraternity & Sorority Community events

Fraternity and Sorority Community Long Term Goals

These long term goals for the growth and development of the Valparaiso University Fraternity and Sorority Community were established in 2014 and are revised annually at the Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Retreat

Progress toward these long-range goals is noted in **red** below.

1. The fraternity and sorority membership will make up 35% of the total undergraduate enrollment by 2025
 - a. 2015: 24%
 - b. 2016: 25%
 - c. 2017: 27%
 - d. 2018: 27%
 - e. 2019 - 2022: 29%
 - f. 2023: TBD
2. Fraternity and sorority chapters will be within 10% of their idea chapter size.
 - a. 2023:
3. Implementation of the Fraternity and Sorority Housing Project
 - a. 2016 - Sorority Housing Project completed
 - b. 2021 - Phi Kappa Psi Housing Project completed
 - c. 2022 – Sigma Pi 803 Brown St Renovation
 - d. TBD - Sigma Phi Epsilon Housing Project
 - e. TBD - Sigma Chi Housing Project
 - f. TBD – Pi Kappa Alpha Housing Project
4. Establish a historically African-American sorority chapter and a historically Hispanic/Latino fraternity by 2025
 - a. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. – in process for 2023
5. All fraternity and sorority chapters will have created an officer position responsible for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives by 2024.
 - a. 2023 – 10 of 17 chapters
6. The community will initiate one alumni/ae member each academic year beginning in 2014.
 - a. 2014 - John Ruff, English Department, Sigma Phi Epsilon
 - b. 2015 - Ryan Bye, Residence Life, Sigma Phi Epsilon
 - c. 2016 - Multiple honorary initiates, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia
 - d. 2017 - Aaron Hollis, Residence Life, Phi Delta Theta, Mark LaBarbara, Athletics, Pi Kappa Alpha
 - e. 2018 - Mark Robison, Library, Sigma Phi Epsilon
 - f. 2019 - Richard Severe, English Department, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia
 - g. 2020 - President Mark Heckler, honorary initiate of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia
 - h. 2021 - Nancy Janke, Admissions, Gamma Phi Beta
 - i. 2022 - Steven Janowiak, Student Life, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Ryan Cole, Student Life, Phi Delta Theta