



## **Expansion Policy For Greek-Letter Organizations At the University of California, Santa Cruz**

*In response to a rapidly growing interest in Greek-letter organizations at UC Santa Cruz, the Office of Records for Greek-Letter Organizations, Student Organization and Advising Resources (SOAR) invited all Greek-letter organization student leaders to participate in establishing a Council that is responsible for assessing the capacity of Greek-Letter life on campus, as well as instituting a process of University recognition for interested groups.*

Expansion will be coordinated by the Expansion Council, which consists of seven (7) members: Inter-Greek Council President, PanHellenic Council President, Three (3) active student members of the Greek-Letter Community, SOAR advisor, and the Associate Director of SOMeCA. A majority vote is required in order to approve expansion for any organization, with a minimum quorum of 5 total votes required.

UC Santa Cruz operates with an assumption of non-expansion unless a need has been determined to change this assumption. Enrolled student organizations must contact the *Student Organization Advising & Resources (SOAR)* Office to determine the institutions current status regarding when expansion will be allowed before initiating any expansion efforts.

When it is determined that A) a new organization is needed to strengthen the Greek-Letter Organization community within the Councils and B) that sufficient resources exist to expand, the procedures outlined below will follow. The purpose of these procedures is to ensure expansion of the Greek-Letter Organizations follows a carefully developed plan that aligns with the goal of expanding. All actions in the area of colonization/expansion must be approved and sanctioned by this committee.

### **Expansion Procedure**

The Expansion Council determines the need for the growth or “expansion” of Greek-Letter organizations at UC Santa Cruz, and the process by which new organizations will be selected. The Expansion Council will review the following information to make the decision on whether or not expansion is both desirable and feasible:

- a. The number of chapters on campus
- b. The number of active and new members in each chapter
- c. The average size of chapter memberships as well as the median number of members in all chapters
- d. Chapters currently experiencing membership problems and an assessment of projected measures to assist them
- e. The University’s current enrollment information and projection of enrollment trends
- f. Number of organizations currently expressing interest in chartering
- g. Date and outcome of previous expansion efforts

h. Support for recently chartered or reactivated chapters

If expansion has been determined to be open, the following steps are required to ensure the organization is in compliance with the Expansion Council and University Recognition procedures:

Step One: Students interested in starting a Greek-Letter chapter at UC Santa Cruz may pick up an *Interest Greek-Letter Organization Application* Packet from the Student Organization Advising & Resources (SOAR) Office.

Step Two: Students will review the *Interested Greek-Letter Application* and determine if they would like to proceed in the process. If yes, the interest students will submit 7 copies of all paperwork and supplemental materials to SOAR by the established deadline. Interested students may request a meeting to discuss the expansion process with the Associate Director of SOMeCA.

All application packets must include:

- Interested Greek-Letter Application
- Supplemental Material Required in Application, including:
  - History & Alumni Information
  - Inter/national Headquarter Values & Principles
  - Chapter Development
  - Membership Development
  - Information on Inter/national Strength
  - Additional Information
- Interested Greek-Letter Organization Roster
  - Minimum of 15 interested student members. If the interested organization cannot provide the minimum, please provide reasoning.

Step Three: The Associate Director of SOMeCA, will provide the information to the Expansion Council members for consideration in their expansion.

*Please Note: Despite a desire to create a new Greek-Letter Organization at UC Santa Cruz, expansion of the Greek-Letter community is not guaranteed.*

Step Four: The Expansion Council will review expansion applications and extend invitations for interviews including interested student members, inter/national headquarters, alumni, etc. All timeframes will be provided in the cover page of the *Interested Greek-Letter Application* and posted on the SOAR website, [soar.ucsc.edu](http://soar.ucsc.edu).

Step Five: The Expansion Council will make recommendations on who should expand to UC Santa Cruz. Once all recommendations are reviewed with SOAR, the appropriate governing council, the Expansion Council, will take a final vote for final approval.

Step Six: Invitation(s) to colonize/charter at UC Santa Cruz will be extended by the Expansion Council.

## **Unauthorized Expansion/Intake/New Member Activity**

UC Santa Cruz defines this as, but not limited to: campus crashing; ghost lines; recruiting or soliciting membership; pledging, educating and/or initiating UC Santa Cruz students without having approved organization recognition by Expansion Council and SOAR.

## **Chartering Procedure**

1. Should an organization be selected for expansion, there will be a one-year probationary period in order to fully establish a chapter at UC Santa Cruz.
  - a. Expansion Council and SOAR will discuss expectations concerning recruitment and membership intake activities, prior to chartering, with representatives of the interest organization.
    - i. The interest organization may not recruit new members (not included in roster) during their first academic quarter.
  - b. At least one representative must participate and attend all governing councils meetings as “Probationary Members” and are encouraged to participate in all Greek Community activities.
  - c. The interest organization will be allowed to participate in all governing council voting, but their members are not allowed to hold executive board positions in the governing council until their charter has been secured.
  - d. The interest organization must participate and attend all SOAR Greek Life Leadership meetings and trainings.
  - e. The interest organization must meet with their assigned SOAR advisor at least three times per quarter and at least once per quarter with all governing councils.
2. During the colonization period, the colony will develop programming in the following areas, with records of these provided as requested by Expansion Council and SOAR.
  - a. Recruitment/Membership intake
  - b. Officer Training and Transition
  - c. Financial Responsibilities
  - d. Social Programming (to include substance abuse and risk management education)
  - e. New Member Education and Hazing
3. The interest organization will register as a Path 1 organization through SOAR, and will be subject to all rules, requirements, and benefits associated with that Path:
  - a. Path 1 organizations have the following benefits:
    - Unlimited small-scale events & meetings
    - Drop-in peer advising Monday-Friday, 1pm-4pm.
    - SOAR organization & event sponsorship.
    - Access to university facilities.
  - b. Path 1 organizations have the following requirements:
    - Registration Form signed by all Authorized Representatives
    - All Authorized Representatives must view the Online Orientation and pass the Quiz with a score 100 percent
    - Submit Constitution and By-laws to SOAR.
    - Honor SOAR & University deadlines.
    - Complete event proposal forms for all events & meetings.
4. The organization must be on track to obtain minimally a Path 2 status by the fourth quarter

5. Fulfill all other Greek Letter organization requirements outlined by the University and/or your respective Governing Council.

Any organization that does not uphold these requirements is subject to sanctions from their governing council, the Expansion Council, and the University, including suspension and/or termination of your organization.

### **Chapter Recognition**

1. Membership in one of the Governing Councils (Inter-Greek Council or PanHellenic Council) is required of any Greek-Letter Organization to be considered part of the Greek-letter Community at the UC Santa Cruz.
2. A final vote will be taken by the Expansion Council at the end of the academic year to fully recognize a chapter at UC Santa Cruz. Please note that a vote could lead to a chapter having an extended probationary period or dismissal of the chapter.

Feel free to contact the Expansion Council with any questions via email at [expansioncouncil@ucsc.edu](mailto:expansioncouncil@ucsc.edu)