May 25, 2018

Expansion Council Memo 2018-2019

The University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC) hosts a community of Greek-letter organizations that represent various backgrounds, principles and values. Greek Life has the ability to provide significant positive undergraduate experiences and the development and enhancement of student learning through leadership development, organizational management, interpersonal and group dynamics, social development, philanthropic spirit, career development, and academic achievement.

As Greek Life continues to exist and expand throughout the nation, all UC campuses as well as several major Universities have a standard practice regarding expansion. All Greek Life expansion processes allow students and administrators to manage the growth of Greek-letter organizations to ensure a healthy, safe, and productive Greek Life community.

In Winter 2017, the Expansion Council voted to open expansion at UCSC for the 2017-2018 academic year. During Spring 2017, the Expansion Council received several applications from various interest organizations. After careful review of each application, the Expansion Council invited qualified interest organizations to the interview round. The Expansion Council has concluded the interviews with all qualified interest organizations. The Expansion Council is excited to announce that we have extended an offer for Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Co-ed Business Fraternity and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. to expand onto the UCSC campus.

As always, it is the goal of the Expansion Council to expand Greek Life at UCSC as rapidly as possible. The Expansion Council has carefully reviewed the resources and number of Greek-letter organizations currently at UCSC. To ensure the success of the chartering and colonization period for Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Co-ed Business Fraternity and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., the Expansion Council has determined that expansion will be closed for the 2018-2019 academic year. The Expansion Council will review expansion for the subsequent academic year during late Winter 2019 to early Spring 2019.

Starting a Greek-letter organization requires hard work and effort and may take several years to accomplish. It is our charge and responsibility to ensure that the resources are in place to support all Greek-letter organizations and councils in their required operations, such as managing risk and upholding federal laws including the Clery Act, VAWA, and Title IX. We want to ensure that the Greek-letter community is one that is healthy, safe, and thriving at UCSC.

We thank you in advance for helping us encourage our UCSC students to respect the decisions of University Greek-Letter Organization leadership. Additionally, non-recognized student organizations that continue to be active on campus are not in compliance with University policies and procedures and by doing so could harm their chances of becoming a recognized organization in the future.

If you have any questions, please email Expansion Council at expansioncouncil@ucsc.edu
Recognition guidelines have been developed at UCSC for Greek-letter organizations due to their complex and unique nature. Please view our Expansion Policy at:

Sincerely,
Expansion Council