



1156 High Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### Expansion Council Memo 2021 - 2022

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 for UCSC students through the development and enhancement of student learning. These experiences include leadership development, organizational management, interpersonal and group dynamics, social development, philanthropic spirit, career development, and academic achievement.

After careful assessment and discussions on the state of Greek Life at UCSC as well as how COVID-19 has impacted the operations of Greek Life nationally, UC-wide and at UCSC, expansion will be closed for the 2021 – 2022 academic year.

It is our goal that the Greek Life at UCSC is healthy, safe and thriving. 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. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been working with student leaders in Greek Life on efforts to maintain a safe Greek Life environment, chapter membership size as well as strengthening the unity of our community.

As the campus prepares to resume its operations in-person, the COVID-19 pandemic and the rise of variants have continued to create challenges in the operations of our Greek-letter organizations. As we navigate the uncertainty of the 2021 - 2022 academic year and the next phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, we want to be cautious in our approach and prioritize the individual health and safety of all members of the UCSC community. We will continue working with student leaders in Greek Life on efforts to stabilize our operations as Greek-letter organizations and as a community. In doing this, we want to ensure that when expansion opens in the future, that future interest organizations are given the best opportunities and conditions to succeed in the expansion process.

The Expansion Council will review expansion for the subsequent academic year during late Winter 2022 to early Spring 2022. Recognition guidelines have been developed at UCSC for Greek-letter organizations due to their complex and unique nature. Please review our Expansion Policy at [sومeca.ucsc.edu](https://sومeca.ucsc.edu). If you have any questions, please email Expansion Council at [expansioncouncil@ucsc.edu](mailto:expansioncouncil@ucsc.edu).

Sincerely,

SOMeCA