September 13, 2017

Expansion Council Memo 2017 – 2018

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. Currently, the Expansion Council is in the process of conducting interviews. As such, we will not be accepting any additional applications for the 2017-2018 academic year.

The Expansion Council is excited about the opportunity for the Greek-letter community to grow. We look forward to announcing our decision from this recent application period in the near future. Additionally, the Expansion Council will review expansion for the 2018-2019 academic year during late Winter 2018 to Spring 2018.

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: http://soar.ucsc.edu/v2/images/stories/icons/2017/GLO/expansionpolicy2017.pdf

Sincerely,
Expansion Council