

# UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

1156 High Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020

## Expansion Council Memo 2020 - 2021

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.

After careful assessment and discussions on the state of Greek Life at UCSC as well as how COVID-19 and the shelter-in-place order has impacted the operations of Greek Life nationally, UC-wide and at UCSC, the Expansion Council has voted that expansion will be closed for the 2020 – 2021 academic year.

It is the goal of the Expansion Council to expand Greek Life at UCSC to one that 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. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, we had 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.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, it created new challenges in the operations of our Greek-letter organizations. With the uncertainty on how the 2020 - 2021 academic year will be, we want to 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 2021 to early Spring 2021. We thank you in advance for helping us encourage our UCSC students to respect the decisions of University Greek-Letter Organization leadership.

Recognition guidelines have been developed at UCSC for Greek-letter organizations due to their complex and unique nature. Please review our Expansion Policy at [soar.ucsc.edu](https://soar.ucsc.edu).

If you have any questions, please email Expansion Council at [expansioncouncil@ucsc.edu](mailto:expansioncouncil@ucsc.edu).

Sincerely,

Expansion Council