Alumni Development Opportunities for Greek Life Funds

Identification of MIT and Cornell Options for Alumni Giving

AIGC Committee meeting with RAA Board members
Date: February 1, 2008
RAA Committee Agenda
Alumni Endowment Fund(s) for Greek Life

- A Win-Win Idea for RPI and Alumni giving rate and support for student life
  - Who can we work with to develop this idea?
- Cohort School Models include:
  - MIT Independent Living Residential Development (ILRD) fund, other easy online funding streams
    - Used to sponsor renovation loans, educational grants, sponsor training and resources
  - Cornell Greek Life Funds and Private Chapter House Donation Streams
    - Several endowed funds for OFSA programming found from website
    - Some also used by chapters to support their housing and their programming for Chapters of Excellence. (For example, SAE alone brings in $80,000 each year for this stuff. Campus owns the house now, but they’d like it back one day)
- Alumni donations to RPI have been used in the past for OFSA
  - Need to get a summary of donations and number of alumni and the programs supported
    - The list can help build awareness of this and grow this option
  - Can allow us to “Walk the Walk” to back the talk of support and to enhance the “Living and Learning” themes of the undergraduate plan
  - Don’t neglect Greek Housing since it is an important aspect of the student housing option and many facilities may need work within 20 years
Gift designation
Student life and learning

- DAPER - Athletics, Phys Ed, Rec
- FSILG - Frat, Sor, Ind Lvg Group
- Fund for Graduate Community
- MISTI - MIT Int'l Sci & Tech Init
- UROP - Undergrad Rsch Opps Prgrm

If you cannot find the designation you are looking for, you can:

Type a description of the designation and our staff will ensure your gift is credited to the correct fund:

[Add to my gift list]

Try searching again:

Browse from a list of designation categories.
Gift designation

Student life and learning - FSILG - Frat, Sor, Ind Lvg Group

FSILG Education and Development Endowment Fund (3651175)
Gifts to establish an endowed fund to support workshops, training, consultants, conferences, retreats, and other Leadership and Chapter Development and Management Training programs for Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups (FSILGs) and their respective student government organizations.

FSILG Education and Development Expendable Fund (3899900)
Gifts to support workshops, training, consultants, conferences, retreats, and other Leadership and Chapter Development and Management Training programs for Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups (FSILGs) and their respective student government organizations.

FSILG Student Leadership Development (2720153)

Independent Residence Development Fund (IRDF) (3036100)
Endowment fund for general purposes; the principal may be invested in loans to independent residence groups.
FSILGs

MIT’s fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups (FSILGs) are living-and-learning laboratories where students develop a variety of life skills and personal attributes that are valuable both before and after commencement. At their best, FSILG living situations offer students leadership opportunities, provide academic and social support, reduce stress, and enhance school spirit.

Many alumni speak of their FSILG experiences as a kind of “training camp for life.” Others make the analogy between life in an FSILG and a business start-up, pointing to the bonding that occurs in small groups whose members strive to do their utmost—as a team—to achieve a common goal. And still others say, simply, that the social and organizational skills learned in the FSILG experience prepared them for later life in a way that nothing else could have.

MIT is committed to strengthening and renewing the FSILG system. One way we are doing this is through the Independent Residence Development Fund. The IRDF, established in 1963, has for about 40 years made long-term loans at favorable rates to independent living groups for the acquisition, improvement, and maintenance of their residences.
MIT FSILGs

- Fraternity, Sorority, and Independent Living Groups
  - http://web.mit.edu/slp/fsilgs

- Independent Residence Development Fund
  - http://web.mit.edu/irdf/

- MIT Association of Independent Living Groups
  - http://www.mitailg.com/
  - Includes course for credit in business, house management, IA, alumni affairs during IAP
  - Includes other training material and sessions sponsored with alumni development office
Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups (FSILGs) Workshops

- **General Session for FSILG Volunteers** - At this session, FSILG volunteers heared about how one student revitalized his chapter. Then John Piotti '84, a professional advisor to non-profit corporations, provided insights on how to build effective volunteer boards – like our FSILG House Corporations and Advisory Boards.

- **Events Your FSILG Alumni & Undergraduates Will Love** - Alumni relations are anchored in enjoyable, well publicized events. Alumni discussed events that worked well for their chapters and what communications they used. There is a good deal of event planning assistance directly available from MIT and the MIT Alumni Association, which has compiled the information into the "FSILG Toolkit" on the web.

- **Best of the best in FSILG House Corporations** - The House Corporation is the long term steward of a chapter’s assets. Not only should this group discharge the basic responsibilities of a landlord, but also may take on the strategic planning role for the chapter. For example, Phi Beta Epsilon has drafted a visionary plan called “Vision 2020: Renewing the Brotherhood in the 21st Century”. Other chapters have also developed strategic plans. The workshop discussed best practices and analyzed various approaches taken by chapters.

- **Building Effective FSILG Advisory Boards** - Many FSILG chapters are establishing Alumni Advisory Boards (in addition to the Alumni House Corporations) that are responsible for mentoring the officers in the Chapter. The sororities, in particular, have developed effective models. Come learn about how to establish one, sample advisory roles and responsibilities, and best practices for working with undergraduates. This seminar had information for both new and existing alumni advisors.

- **Managing Risk in Today’s FSILGs** - As our student population and the larger society change, so do the policies that protect the health and safety of our members. Danny Trujillo, Associate Dean of Community Development & Substance Abuse Programs, led this discussion on today’s landscape, student challenges, and the many resources available. Student leaders also discussed IFC and Panhellenic initiatives with respect to risk management. With alumni and student help, Danny and others have developed a formal training and support program for FSILG Alumni Risk Management Advisors.

- **Securing the Financial Future of your FSILG** - Want to keep your chapter financially healthy? This session highlighted best practices from experienced House Treasurers, new maintenance options being researched by the FSILG Cooperative Inc, new applications of the IRDF programs, and ways to develop a simple capital planning program. Some of MIT’s efforts to aid in fundraising were also highlighted, including the FSILG Fundraising Guide and how SmarTrans can help in your capital and annual fundraising efforts.
Cornell

http://www.dos.cornell.edu/fsa/fop/ofa.php

- **Gifts** - Fraternities and sororities owned by Cornell are able to raise funds via alumni donations to the university. The Cornell's educational mission affords it charitable status by the IRS, so alumni support is income tax deductible to the donor as long as it is used for a purpose that benefits the university.

- The Division of Alumni Affairs and Development solicits, processes, and deposits donations into a chapter's Gift Account. This fund then supplements Facility Reserve funds with the capital upkeep of the building. The practical result of the "university benefit" criteria means gifts may only be spent on property or equipment owned by Cornell, so they cannot supplement utility expenses or any other operating costs that benefit that chapter. The financial consultant monitors these criteria, and disburses the funds in coordination with the chapter's alumni leadership. Balances earn interest.
Opportunities to Give

The generosity of students, alumni, parents, and friends is essential to the development of quality programming and community-wide leadership activities for our fraternity and sorority system. Donations made to a fund listed below are tax-deductible and receive Cornell University matching and class gift recognition credits.

- **Associate Dean’s Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Fund** (fund number 539610)
  This fund supports the overall Greek System and the Interfraternity, Panhellenic, and Multicultural Greek Letter Councils.

- **Jared F. ’81 and Yeunghee Kim Watt Fund for Greek Excellence** (fund number 0001380)
  An endowed fund to support the professional and leadership opportunities for fraternity and sorority members, promote faculty involvement with Greek organizations through intellectual and cultural activities, develop collaborative and multicultural programs within the Greek community, foster a greater awareness and respect for diversity, and to co-sponsor student-initiated programs to encourage civic responsibility both on and off campus.

- **Multicultural Greek Letter Council Gift Fund** (fund number 533521)
  Established in 2001 to allow alumni to provide financial programming assistance to the Multicultural Greek Letter Council.

- **Robert W. Selander ’72 Emerging Leaders Fund** (fund number 0000479)
  This program endowment fund was established in December 2003 through a gift from Robert W. Selander ’72 (Sigma Chi) to support leadership development initiatives. This program includes an annual Emerging Leaders Retreat.

- **Robert 6. Engel Memorial Endowment** (fund number 008318)
  This fund supports Greek Life programming and student leadership training.

- **Creating Chapters of Excellence Program** (fund number 578529)
  Established in 2003 as a pilot program, currently with fifteen chapters participating, to enhance mentoring opportunities and programming activities for the Greek community. The program is expanding to include the entire Greek community and serves as “The Greek version” of the Campus Residential Initiative.

- **Order of Omega Gift Fund** (fund number 0001404)
  Order of Omega is Cornell’s only Greek Honor Society and seeks to honor Greek leaders while creating programs that promote the development of numbers from the entire Greek community.

- **Robert 6. Engel Associate Dean and Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs** (fund number 655112)
  Engel “Associate Dean” endowment supports the staffing and programming of the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs.

Gifts can be mailed to:
Cornell University
Alumni Affairs and Development
PO Box 2600
Ithaca, NY 14851
Giving to Fraternities and Sororities

The generosity of students, alumni, parents, and friends is essential to the development of quality programming and community-wide leadership activities. Many of these initiatives are supported solely by the undergraduate members of the system. The Associate Dean’s Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Fund (fund number 538610) and the Robert G. Engel Memorial Endowment (fund number 908318) were established to help augment student resources. If you would like to contribute to one of these funds, please send donations to Marie Neumer, Assistant Director, External Relations, Student & Academic Services, Cornell University, 533 Willard Straight Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853.

If you are interested in supporting a particular program, please indicate this information with your correspondence.

Creating Chapters of Excellence
Nine chapters are participating in a two-year pilot program to enhance mentoring opportunities and programmatic activities in the Greek community. As part of this pilot, a Chapter Services Director has been hired and cultural, educational, and intellectual programming has been initiated in these chapters. Upon successful implementation of the pilot, the program is expected to expand to include the entire Greek community. Gifts in support of this initiative can be directed to Fund Number 479829. $250,000.

Revitalization of the Greek System
To proactively emphasize the values of the fraternity and sorority community, the undergraduate councils have initiated seminars to educate and disseminate information about hazing along with positive alternatives for new member education. These programs include the following: Interfraternity Council Pro-Brotherhood Summit; Multicultural Greek Letter Council Anti-hazing seminar; support for programmatic intervention for hazing chapters; and distribution of small “seed” grants to chapters interested in developing positive and innovative projects for members that foster team building. $20,000.

Sexual Health Awareness For Greeks (SHAG)
This student-led initiative is geared toward creating a safe and open environment for new fraternity and sorority members to discuss sexual health. Funds are used to purchase a selection of products to promote safe sex: $5,000.

Fraternity and Sorority Awards
http://www.greeks.cornell.edu/alumni.php

Manuals and Policy Information

Undergraduate Leadership
- Leader's Handbook 2006
- House Manager's Guide 2006
- Treasurer's Guide 2006
- Faculty Fellow

Judicial Administration
- Judicial Policy Process 2006
- Judicial Administrator

Publications
- Strategic Plan
- Facility Operating Manual
- Residential Initiative
- Pro-Brotherhood Report
- Emerging Leader's Retreat
  - Summary Oct 2005 (Part 1, PDF format)
  - Summary Oct 2005 (Part 2, PDF format)

Newsletters
- Annual Report 2006

Scholarships and Awards
- 2006 Dyson Fraternity and Sorority Scholarship Program Facts (PDF format)
- 2006 Dyson Fraternity & Sorority Scholarship Nomination and Awarding Process (PDF format)
- 2006 Dyson Fraternity & Sorority Scholarship Self-Nomination Form (PDF format)

Fund Raising/Capital Campaigns
- University Approval for Capital Campaigns
- Gift Recognition Policy

How to Give
- Support Fraternity and Sorority Life at Cornell
- Giving to Cornell
- On-line gift form
Protocol for Greek Chapters Seeking University Approval for Capital Campaigns

Privately owned Greek chapters planning to embark on a capital campaign may seek university approval for their project. Such approval will provide the chapter with the opportunity to provide campaign donors with university gift recognition: Reunion Campaign and Giving Society credit (not tax deductibility).

Chapters seeking university recognition for their campaigns provide in writing the following information to the Vice President of Student and Academic Services and the Director of Development:

- A professionally completed feasibility study that contains a gift table with documentation showing highly likely giving ability among lead donors, a timeline for the campaign, and the volunteer leadership structure for the campaign.
- An assessment of the current state of the chapter, outcome of its annual assessment through the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, and identification of goals related to those outlined in a strategic plan (specifically to include plans for in-advisor), that will be met through capital improvements.
- A written description of the scope of the capital project, including a description of how the project addresses the findings from the Einhorn Yafee & Prescott (EYP) assessment of the facility; a construction timeline; and information regarding any special accommodation issues that the live-in members might face must be included in the documentation.

Upon approval, a letter of understanding from the university will be provided to the campaign chair and house corporation president (with a copy of the "Gift Recognition Policy for University Approved Fraternity & Sorority Capital Campaigns"). Staff to be notified of approved campaigns include: Vice President of Alumni Affairs and Development, Vice President of Student and Academic Services, Director of Development, Dean of Students; Associate Dean of Students for Fraternity and Sorority Affairs; Director of Information Services; Director and Assistant Director of External Relations; SAS; Principal, Major, Special and Leadership Gifts Directors; Regional Director; and Cornell Fund Director. This will be coordinated by SAS External Relations office.

Success of this initiative is dependent upon:
Gift Recognition Policy

University Approved Fraternity and Sorority Capital Campaigns
(private chapters)

The following is an outline of the Cornell University gift recognition policy for gifts from alumni to private fraternities and sororities involved in capital campaigns. These recommendations are subject to the review and approval of the Executive Staff and University Counsel:

- Gift recognition on payments will only be given during a university-approved, active campaign for capital improvements.
- An active capital campaign is defined as an effort on behalf of a fraternity or sorority that has received university clearance by having the appropriate alumni structure, feasibility study, undergraduate support, and a management plan in place, and approval from the Vice President of Student and Academic Services and the Director of Cornell Development.
- Chapter leadership will share their list of prospective givers with development contact, so that solicitation efforts can be coordinated with other university fundraising efforts — not for clearance and approval.
- Gift recognition credit on payments will be given for university purposes only — reunion campaign credit and giving society membership — NOT tax deductibility.
- A chapter must provide the Director of Information Services with giving information (electronic format preferred). In a timely fashion to ensure appropriate university gift recognition credit. For recognition purposes, gift reports will be expected: October 1, February 15, March 1, and June 30. Giving information should include copies of donor remittance letters, envelopes, and donor checks or other validating documentation.
- The university reserves the right to limit the number of houses undertaking approved capital campaigns at any given time.
- The university will make clear to all chapters that this program will be offered as a two-year trial. The University will convene the appropriate university staff in two years to review the process and make recommendations for its continuation, modification or discontinuation.