There is a longstanding positive relationship between Rensselaer and its Greek organizations as formalized in both the Greek Life Commons Agreement and the Statement of Relationship between Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and social fraternities and sororities at Rensselaer. This relationship includes standards of performance and levels of expectations for both organizations. Every current Greek organization has signed the Greek Life Commons Agreement and agreed to abide by its tenets. The Greeks expect that Rensselaer will do the same.

Reports coming from committees studying the implementation of the Rensselaer Summer Arch Program have reported out in various forums that all rising juniors will be required to live in Rensselaer residence halls during the summer session after completion of their sophomore year. It is the unanimous position of the Alumni Inter-Greek Council (representing all social fraternities and sororities at Rensselaer) that such a decision by Rensselaer is not consistent with the provisions of the current Greek Life Commons Agreement or the concept of a Greek Commons within Rensselaer’s concept of CLASS.¹

In addition, implementation of a requirement for summer arch students to live in Rensselaer residence halls during the summer after completion of their sophomore academic year is detrimental to the leadership development potential of students who are members of the Greek Life Commons as well as being financially detrimental to the viability of Greek houses and organizations, especially as it pertains to health, safety and property upkeep.

Throughout the life of the Greek Life Commons Agreement and the Relationship Statement, the Greek organizations have worked cooperatively with Rensselaer to ensure compliance and enforcement of policies and regulations related to positive risk management practices; federal, state and city laws; Rensselaer policies; health and safety of students in the Greek Life Commons; and positive community/neighborhood relations by maintaining community expectations of behavior and cleanliness. Greeks pledge to continue to abide by these policies and regulations as well as actively participate in mandatory summer arch programming.

It is our belief and expectation that Rensselaer, like the Greeks, will abide by the tenets of our longstanding Greek Life Commons Agreement and the Relationship Statement by continuing to give Greeks the option of living in their Greek houses, in particular during the academic summer of the arch program.

Regards,
Roger A. Grice ‘87
AIGC President

¹ From the existing Greek Life Commons Agreement – “The Greek Life Commons Agreement is designed to extend to Greek Life the opportunity to be part of the innovative CLASS Initiative at Rensselaer. There is the opportunity for one of the Commons or Clusters to be comprised of those students who live within the Greek system at Rensselaer. As part of CLASS, in order to ensure that sophomores are actively engaged in the Sophomore Year Experience, sophomore students must reside in Rensselaer Residence halls unless they are permitted to live in the houses of fraternities and sororities that are recognized as members of the Greek Life Commons. Fraternities and sororities that sign this Agreement become recognized members of the Greek Life Commons.”