

FRATERNITY & SORORITY AFFAIRS: NEW DIRECTIONS – NEW OPPORTUNITIES

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Submitted for Approval to
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Discussion Group Participants

Alcohol Committee:

Sadra Azizi	Active, $\Lambda X A$; Senator, Student Senate
Brandon Bradley	Active, ΘX
Josh Coyne	President, IFC, & Member, $\Delta T \Delta$
Art Depoian	Advisor, ACACIA
Anne Dodson	Advisor, $\Pi B \Phi$; AIGC Board
Katie Dumas	Active, $\Pi B \Phi$
Nicky Hajal	Active, $\Phi K \Theta$
Rick Hartt	Director, RU, RAA Representative
Charlotte Kaplan	President, Panhel & Member, $\Pi B \Phi$
Terri Kersch	Health Educator, RPI Health Center
Roger Mike	Advisor, $\Delta \Phi$; AIGC Board
Ryan Railton	Active, $\Phi K \Theta$
Franklin Regan	Active, $\Phi K \Theta$
Mark Smith	Dean of Students
John Thomas	Advisor, $\Sigma A E$; AIGC Board
John Whalen	Active, $\Pi K A$
Jessica Wickiewicz	Assistant Dean of Students, OFSA
Jerry Witter	Advisor, $\Sigma A E$; AIGC Board
Brian Zaik	Senator, Student Senate

Rush/Recruitment Committee:

Dan Booth	Active, $\Pi K A$
Rich Boroway	Advisor, ΘX
Josh Coyne	President, IFC, & Member, $\Delta T \Delta$
Stu Gittleman	Executive Director, $\Delta \Phi$ National
Roger Grice	Advisor, $\Lambda X A$; AIGC Board
Jim Hanley	Active, $X \Phi$
Charlotte Kaplan	President, Panhel & Member, $\Pi B \Phi$
Shannon Kelly	Advisor, $\Pi B \Phi$; AIGC Board
Danielle LeBeau	Member, $A \Gamma \Delta$
Ray Lutzky	RAA and AIGC Boards, $\Lambda X A$
Arlen Plotkin	Active, $\Lambda X A$
Jessica Wickiewicz	Assistant Dean of Students, OFSA
Jerry Witter	Advisor, $\Sigma A E$; AIGC Board

House Director Committee:

Joe Cambareri	Active, $\Lambda X A$
Art Depoian	Advisor, ACACIA
Roger Grice	Advisor, $\Lambda X A$; AIGC Board
Margaret Harvey	Advisor, $\Pi B \Phi$
Joseph Horton	Active, ΨY
Brad Jonas	Alumnus, $A \Sigma \Phi$
Cassidy Joy	Active, $A \Sigma \Phi$
Greg Mann	Advisor, $\Phi K \Theta$
Peter Michaels	Active, $A \Sigma \Phi$
Roger Mike	Advisor, $\Delta \Phi$, AIGC Board
Nick Nuzzolilo	Alumnus, $\Lambda X A$
Jessica Wickiewicz	Assistant Dean of Students, OFSA
Frank Zadroga	Advisor, ZBT

New Directions – New Opportunities

In April 2006, the Dean of Students Office presented to the campus community its concern about the downward direction Greek life was heading and to impose new initiatives as a means to counter this apparent negative direction. We stated with no uncertainty three very distinct directions we believed necessary to re-center Greek life at Rensselaer. These were (1) significantly reduce Chapter reliance on alcohol as its social base and eliminate access to and misuse of alcohol by students and guests under the age of 21; (2) defer the rush period to allow new and continuing students the opportunity to adjust and adapt to a new semester without the significant and time consuming effort to formally recruit new members at the beginning of the semester, and (3) mandate a House Director for every chapter to serve as a source of counsel for and facilitator of chapter management and operations. As an outcome of the presentation, Dr. Eddie Ade Knowles, Vice President for Student Life, delayed the implementation of the new directions to gather thoughtful and constructive ideas from constituents about the future of Greek life at Rensselaer.

Since that time, the new directions have undergone a critical review and lengthy comment period by Fraternity and Sorority life constituencies: individual chapters, IFC, Panhellenic Council, AIGC, RAA, Inter/National leadership, and representatives from DOSO and the Health Center.

□ **Linking Greek Life to the Undergraduate Plan**

The overarching vision for Greek life is to continue and enhance its role as a critical and necessary element to the undergraduate experience. A testament to this role is that members of fraternities and sororities are retained and graduate at higher rates than do non-Greeks and also exceed the all-campus rate. Retention, graduation and academic performance are key metrics for the Institute. Greek life plays a significant role as a major influence on retention and graduation rates for the Institute. Factors that contribute to this effort include leadership, philanthropy, community service, independent living and strong connections to and identity with alumni/ae. These efforts enhance and strengthen the undergraduate experience for all students.

- Residential Living-Learning Community

As independent living units, Greek chapters have the capability to become residential learning communities.

- Sigma Phi Epsilon (15th Street) has embraced their national's effort to facilitate and support creating residential learning units as a major component of fraternity life. Sigma Phi Epsilon has begun the process to identify a faculty member to serve as its resident scholar. They have also begun renovation of a section of their house to serve as a residential learning unit.
- Delta Phi will assist the Vice Provost for Entrepreneurship in various areas and emerge as a living-learning community.

- Endowed Scholarship Opportunity
 - Delta Tau Delta Fraternity has embarked on creating an endowed scholarship to support students and considering an opportunity to create a residential learning community in engineering and/or physical sciences.
 - Theta Chi Fraternity has established an endowed scholarship program to assist members of their chapter.
 - Lambda Chi Alpha has maintained an endowed scholarship program for more than 10 years, awarded for academic aptitude and involvement.

- Internationalizing the Student Experience

Opportunities abound within Greek life to embrace the international experience as a means to expand service beyond the confines of the United States; to link together their alumni base with undergraduates having an interest to engage in an international experience. These efforts are intended to expand the traditional view of Greek life to be better connected to the overall undergraduate experience and cater to the diversity of students enrolling at Rensselaer.

□ **Alcohol Policy – Consistent with Institute Policy**

Greek life at Rensselaer has **begun** a cultural shift that, over time and with a continual focus on policy and guideline assessment and improvement, will transform Greek life into a model of excellence. The first area of concern, alcohol misuse and abuse, has generated a realistic and safer environment for members and their guests. Aligning the expectation of responsible conduct by Greek organizations and its members with Institute policies has generated a more committed, educated and stronger alliance between DOSO and Greek life. Furthermore, it has begun the process to sustain a lower reliance on alcohol for Greek life as its social base. Chapters, AIGC, IFC and Panhel have endorsed the concept of eliminating access to alcohol of underage students, limit consumption of those 21 and over at their social events and registration of social events with the Dean of Students Office.

Appendix A, page 8, contains the full Institute Policy on Alcohol and Other Drugs, 1999 Revision, with the recommended changes to the policy effective upon approval by the Institute Alcohol Review Committee. Key highlights include:

- Ban on distilled spirits
- Alcohol cannot be purchased or brought to an event in any quantity exceeding the one drink per person 21 or over per hour
- Events restricted to a designated number of invited guests not to exceed the legal limit of persons allowed in a facility or common area
- Open social events are prohibited
- Any event at which alcohol is present must be BYO and BYO restricted to only those 21 or over

- Any event at which 6 or more members are present and alcohol is being served, must be registered and approved by the Assistant Dean of Students, Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs
- Non-compliance will result in a minimum two-semester suspension, ban on alcohol, and mandatory live-in advisor

□ Recruitment (RUSH) – New Member Education Process

We recommend that the recruitment process be revised to focus at the beginning of the semester on the Greek community, then transition into the formal rush period. It is envisioned that the first two weeks of the semester would showcase Greek life as a community, then enter into the formal Rush period as a showcase of individual chapters. The goal is to complete rush and new member education requirements in twelve weeks instead of the traditional fourteen or more weeks. A revised Rush and new member education process afford Greeks and non-Greeks an opportunity to adjust to an RPI education while forming new friendships, adapting to a new social environment, and selecting better informed and prepared students.

Recruitment efforts will focus on retention, academic success, service, and community. Lessons learned over the past year include an acknowledgement to use the **Five-Star Standards Accreditation (Appendix C)** as a public ranking of chapter performance, to promote Greek life and individual chapter identities, to use chapters' memberships by hosting study groups during the recruitment process coupled with training by ALAC for GAPS programming, to ban all social events hosted by individual chapters during the recruitment period, and develop more service- and community - building activities that connect with First Year Experience and Residence hall initiatives. On-going assessment and revision of the recruitment process will be conducted in partnership with DOSO, AIGC, RAA, IFC and Panhel as a means to incrementally implement a year-long recruitment process. This approach affords students the opportunity to engage in Greek life beyond the traditional period. We envision this process to occur over the next five years to develop a recruitment culture consistent with Rensselaer's educational mission and the nature of its students.

Key highlights include

- Maintain Fall semester formal rush period by adopting Panhel/IFC general Greek recruitment (~ 2 weeks) then transition to house specific recruitment period (~ 2 weeks), completing the Rush-New Member Education process within twelve weeks
- Emphasize benefit of Greek life as retention and graduation strategy and immersion into the undergraduate experience; include academic performance and success as a foundation for Greek membership
- Rush events are campus-wide to encourage upperclassmen to consider going Greek
- Create strategies to formulate rush as a year-long process, not limited to a specified period
- Rush events showcase what Greek life is – sister/brotherhood, leadership, independent living, scholarship, philanthropy and community service; maximize the importance of

affinity group membership and its long-term benefits (e.g., social networking, connection to alumni, and lifelong friendship)

- Develop strategies, in collaboration with the Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council, Alumni Inter-Greek Council, Inter/National governing bodies, and DOSO, to monitor, track and assess Rush/Recruitment activities to assure compliance with the mission for a Rensselaer undergraduate education, address changing demographics of entering students to facilitate Greek life adaptability, and integrate Greek life involvement and presence throughout campus activities and in organizations.

□ **House Director**

We recommend that a mandatory house director be withdrawn from the table for consideration. It is clear from the research and interaction with chapters that there is no reasonable method to assure system wide compliance without significant financial investment by chapters. Based on our research, to make this concept feasible a private apartment needs to be constructed in each chapter to house the house director and a stipend. On average, start up costs to construct appropriate living space is estimated to be \$40,000 plus an annual stipend ranging between \$20,000 – 25,000. For smaller chapters, it is not affordable. For larger houses, it would result in a decrease in number of residents and cause significant financial hardship. Furthermore, there is not a sufficient pool of potential house directors who are qualified for and interested in living in a fraternity house. Chapters have experienced significant difficulty identifying a live-in advisor when such is part of a judicial sanction. It would be virtually impossible to do if a mandatory house director was imposed by the Institute.

Therefore, it is recommended that the chapter advisor role and alumni governing body be strengthened to facilitate more direct intervention and management of chapter operations. There is a growing trend that this indeed is occurring given the review and change in advisors since January this year, increased participation in AIGC, and excellent participation of alumni, actives, IFC and Panhel leadership, and advisors during the new directions review process. The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, DOSO, will monitor advisor participation, contact and involvement over the next semester to assure this trend becomes part of the Greek life culture.

However, there are conditions in which a House Director will be mandatory. These include (a) a judicial sanction, (b) decision by a chapter itself, or (c) chapter efforts fail to engage an alumnus or campus person to fill the role as chapter advisor. Regardless of cost to the chapter, it is our belief that if a chapter knowingly chooses not to comply with Institute policies, then it is then the responsibility of the chapter to determine how best to address and comply with the live-in advisor requirement. Having a strong chapter advisor and governing board will pay significantly higher dividends than a mandatory house director. Furthermore, failure of the chapter advisor to attend the mandatory annual Chapter Advisor Meeting will be construed as actives' failure to engage a person to fill the role of chapter advisor.

□ **Unplanned Outcomes**

Given the nature, scrutiny, and broad participation in these discussions, participants successfully crafted an **Institute Good Samaritan Policy (Appendix B)**, a **Fraternity and Sorority Social Management Manual**, and a process for **Reinstatement to Full Recognition by a Fraternity or Sorority**. In addition, a consensus was reached among the participants that consequence for non-compliance remains the same (two-semester suspension) with the added stipulation that there be a permanent ban on alcohol and a permanent live-in advisor. Those who knowingly violate this policy accept full responsibility to cover the high expenses for a live-in advisor. Each case will be adjudicated on its own merit, the loss of recognition, ban on alcohol, and live-in advisor has significant impact on the continuation and long-term health of the chapter.

□ **Summary**

The alcohol policy will be aligned with the Institute policy. The recruitment process will better align with the Student life and Undergraduate plans. The house director shall not be included as a mandatory requirement for Institute recognition except when issued as the result of judicial action. Furthermore, several chapters, most notably Sigma Phi Epsilon and Delta Phi, have embraced the idea of forming a residential learning community as part of its future planning. We envision this to continue as chapters begin to review their standing and seek appropriate membership.

Finally, additional features have emerged through the discussion and collaboration process. These include an Institute *Good Samaritan Policy*, 5-Star chapter evaluation, Fraternity & Sorority Social Management Manual, and Process for Reinstatement to Full Recognition by a Fraternity or Sorority. The process complements Rensselaer's educational mission, acknowledges the importance of Greek life to the undergraduate experience, acknowledges the high retention and graduation rates realized by Greek participation, and creates the means to shift the culture of Greek life to a more meaningful partnership with Institute goals and performance plan. These are provided in more detail in Appendices B – E, page 14.

Appendix A

ALCOHOL and OTHER DRUG POLICY

(Revised 07/2007)

General Statement

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute honors its role as an educational institution by establishing policies and guidelines that regulate the consumption of alcohol on campus and by developing pro-active alcohol and other drug awareness, educational and behavior change programs.

Rensselaer is committed to educational goals in this area. The Institute's aim is to develop an alcohol and other drug policy that is clear and consistent; to inform and educate individuals with regard to the policy and the risk factors associated with alcohol use or abuse; to create an environment that promotes low risk use, safety and individual accountability; and to maintain a healthy campus community where problems associated with alcohol and other drugs are minimal.

The overall philosophy of the Institute is that each individual member of the campus community is responsible for his/her own actions. When making decisions to consume beverage alcohol or to provide beverage alcohol to others, individuals must be mindful of the inherent consequences and risks involved. In addition, individuals are responsible for understanding and complying with applicable laws. The Institute will not be responsible for enforcing State and local laws, nor will it shield individuals from the legal consequences of their actions should they choose to violate these laws.

Rensselaer's policies and regulations are designed to encourage consistent and reasonable standards in our academic community. It is expected that all members will contribute to maintaining a positive and healthy environment by adhering to this policy.

I. THE LAW: New York State Statutes Regarding Alcohol Liability

- A. Penal law (260.20) - Unlawful dealing with a person to give, sell or cause to be given or sold alcohol to person under age 21 except if you are a parent or guardian or pursuant to educational curriculum.
- B. Alcohol Beverage Control Law (65, 65a, 65b, 65c, 65d) - Unlawful to: sell, give, deliver, cause, or permit a person under 21 to procure alcohol. No liability for refusal to sell or give unless discriminatory, misrepresent age of person under 21 to induce sale of alcohol; offer false I.D. by person under 21 to purchase alcohol; possess with intent to consume by person under 21. Exceptions are alcohol given pursuant to educational curriculum or by person's parent or guardian. Posting of signs is required by licensed seller.
- C. General Obligations Law - A 3rd party injured by an impaired or intoxicated person under age 21 has a right of action against any person who knowingly cause such impairment by unlawfully furnishing or assisting in procuring alcohol for the person under 21 years old. The Dramshop Act - if a person causes or contributes to procuring alcohol for any intoxicated person, an injured third party has a cause of action against the person who provided the alcohol.

- D. Vehicle & Traffic Laws - Operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs (Article 31 Section 1192 - 1196) - No person shall operate a motor vehicle while their ability to operate such motor vehicle is impaired by the consumption of alcohol.

Driving while intoxicated (DWI):

Definition: Operating a motor vehicle while having a .08 of one per centum or more by weight of alcohol in the blood as shown by chemical analysis of a person's blood, breath, urine or saliva.

Sanctions: Driving while intoxicated or while ability impaired by drugs are misdemeanor offenses and are punishable by a 6-months revocation of one's driver's license, a fine of not less than \$350.00 nor more than \$500.00, or by imprisonment in a penitentiary or county jail for not more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Subsequent convictions for DWI may constitute a Class E Felony and shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$500.00 nor more than \$5,000.00 or by a period of imprisonment as provided in the penal law, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Driving while ability impaired (DWAI):

Definition: Operating a motor vehicle while having .05 of one per centum or more by weight of alcohol in the blood as shown by the chemical analysis procedures described above.

Sanctions: Driving while ability impaired shall be a traffic infraction punishable by a 90-day suspension of driver's license, a fine of not less than \$250.00 nor more than \$350.00 or by imprisonment in a penitentiary or county jail for not more than 15 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment. A subsequent conviction within five years of a past infraction shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$350.00 nor more than \$500.00 or by imprisonment of not more than 30 days in a penitentiary or county jail or by both fine and imprisonment. Two or more subsequent convictions shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$500.00 nor more than \$1500.00, or by imprisonment of not more than 90 days in a penitentiary or county jail or by both fine and imprisonment.

(Note: Chemical test refusal will result in a 6-month revocation of driver's license and \$100.00 fine. Also, minors who refuse a chemical test will lose their license for 1 year or until they reach 21 years of age, whichever is the greater penalty.)

Zero Tolerance Law:

Effective November 1, 1996, this law states that it is illegal for someone under 21 to operate a motor vehicle with a BAC of .02 or higher. For a first offense a person will lose their license for six months and a second offense will lose their license until they become 21 or for a year, whichever is longer.

- E. Troy Code Sect. 4-1 states that possession of open containers of alcohol in public places or vehicles is illegal. A permit for certain places where beverage alcohol is sold is required.
- F. Troy Code of Ordinances Chapter 19 Article V Party Permit in general, states that whenever any residential dwellings used for a second event or party open to the general public or any segment thereof where: 1. an admission fee is charged or 2. alcohol, food, or beverages are sold or 3. a beer or liquor license is required by NY State, such shall require a party permit to be applied for by the owner of the property conducting the party.

II. Institute Regulations on Alcohol

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of alcohol is prohibited on Institute property or as part of any activity sanctioned or sponsored by the Institute. The administration at Rensselaer will not authorize events where drinking under the legal age, as determined by the State of New York will be knowingly permitted. Individuals and organizations who sponsor approved events involving beverage alcohol shall assume full responsibility and liability for the event and for the behavior of event participants and attendees.

In our continuing commitment to uphold the law and Institute policy, any Rensselaer recognized student organization found to have served alcohol to an underage individual at any university sanctioned or sponsored activity (on or off campus) will, at minimum, be subject to a two-semester suspension. In addition, all organization alcohol privileges

are subject to revocation while a group is under investigation and for the duration of the disciplinary process.

- A. Consumption of beverage alcohol on campus is permitted only by persons age 21 or older:
 - In the privacy of their rooms in residential facilities
 - At campus events where an alcohol permit has been obtained
 - In areas licensed for beer and wine service
- B. Possession or consumption of alcohol on campus by any person who is a student under age 21 is in violation of the New York State law and the Grounds for Disciplinary Action (GDA) and a violation of Human Resources & Institute Diversity (HR&ID) regulations if the person is an employee.
- C. Any person under age 21 who misrepresents her/his age in order to obtain alcohol has violated the GDA if that person is a student. If that person is an employee, policies of HR&ID have been violated.
- D. Any person who supplies or makes alcohol available to someone under age 21 has violated NYS statutes. If that person is a student, he/she has violated the GDA, or if that person is an employee, he/she has violated HR&ID policies.
- E. In accordance with State Law, no money may be charged for any event at which beverage alcohol is present unless a license or permit is obtained from New York State Liquor Authority.
- F. An alcohol permit must be obtained from the Alcohol Review Committee (c/o the Student Health Center) for any event occurring on Institute grounds at which alcohol is served or present. Exceptions are:
 - Licensed designated area of Rensselaer Union
 - Buildings leased or rented to faculty, staff or private non-student groups

An event is defined as any gathering for a specific purpose where there are more than **6** people present and alcohol is present.
- G. Campus events that are open to all students or where 20% or more of the attendees will be under age 21 may not be granted an alcohol permit.
- H. The consumption of alcohol or possession of an open container of alcohol is prohibited in all public or common areas on campus, including but not limited to corridors, stairwells, athletic facilities, elevators, lounges, classrooms, labs or outside campus areas (i.e. Quad) unless an alcohol permit has been obtained for a designated area. At no time may alcohol be consumed in potentially hazardous environments.
- I. Events shall not include any activity which encourages abusive use of alcohol.
- J. The serving or availability of alcohol at events being held in or about a predominantly ~~fresh~~ freshmen residential facility is prohibited.
- K. The presence, possession, or use of large quantities of alcohol on campus including but not limited to kegs, beer balls, or any other bulk containers of alcohol, is prohibited on Institute grounds with the exception of areas holding NYS license for beer and wine service.
- L. Beverages containing grain alcohol are prohibited.
- M. Alcohol will not be permitted at Rensselaer athletic events.

- N. Displays of any alcohol related items or materials; including but not limited to alcoholic beverage containers (empty or full), banners or signs; visible to the public, are not allowed in any residential facility.
- O. Off campus events: It is expected that all Rensselaer faculty, staff and students will comply with all governmental laws related to alcohol. Any Rensselaer group that plans an off campus event involving alcohol must adhere to the Rensselaer Alcohol and Other Drug Policy.
- P. Human Resources' policies for exempt and nonexempt staff are addressed in Section VI (Employee conduct) of the Human Resources Policy Manual (Revised 3/85). Under "Offenses Meriting Disciplinary Action", Number 2 states that "Possessing liquor, narcotics, weapons, or explosives on the campus without prior approval of an authorized representative of the Institute" is a first degree offense. The recommended disciplinary action for a first-degree offense may be discharge.

III. Procedures and Guidelines for On-Campus Events at Which Beverage Alcohol is Served

- A. Rensselaer requires that all groups obtain prior approval to serve beverage alcohol anywhere on campus except when the activity is in an area covered by a food service license and is part of normal or daily operations. Approval of alcohol permits is NOT automatic. Approval may be based on:
 1. The nature of both the event and the facility
 2. The capacity of the facility
 3. Demonstration by the sponsoring organization of its ability to comply with State and Institute regulations
 4. Nearby scheduled activities
 5. The number of underage (21) participants; if the percentage of underage attendees is 20% or higher, the function may not be approved.
 6. Where and how alcohol will be available
 7. The past history of event or sponsor
 8. Additional information may be request by the ARC
- B. An alcohol permit is required from ARC for any event where alcohol is served or available as stipulated in Section II F of this Alcohol Policy.
- C. Normally alcohol may be served at approved events:
 - On Monday through Thursday from 4 p.m. until midnight (11:00 p.m. in the Residence Halls)
 - On Friday from 4 p.m. until 2 a.m. Saturday (midnight in the Residence Halls)
 - On Saturday from 12 noon until 2 a.m. Sunday (midnight in the Residence Halls)
 - On Sunday from 12 noon until 12 midnight (11:00 p.m. in the Residence Halls)

EXCEPTIONS APPROVED ONLY BY ARC. The scope of the events at which alcohol will be available will be limited on Sunday through Thursday evenings. Events must be limited to FOUR (4) hours or less in duration.
- D. The maximum amount of alcohol allowed at an event is calculated as follows: One serving per person over 21 per hour, not to exceed four hours.
- E. Applications for an alcohol permit must be completed and submitted to the ARC c/o Student Health Center at least FIVE (5) days in advance of the function. If you are using Sodexo the request must be turned in TWENTY-FIVE (25) days in advance of the function. APPLICANTS NOT ADHERING TO THESE GUIDELINES MAY NOT BE APPROVED.
- F. Events where alcohol will be sold or admission is charged will require a New York State permit. Therefore applications must be submitted to the ARC TWENTY-FIVE (25) days in advance of the event.

- G. The individual requesting or signing the application for an alcohol permit must be age 21 or older. In the Residence Halls, the person requesting the permit must be the room/apartment occupant.
- H. Permits must be picked up before and displayed during the event.
- I. Advertising of the event must not imply that the event is for the purpose of consuming alcohol and may not be displayed before the permit is obtained. No specific mention of alcohol is allowed in the advertising. The words "beverages" and "refreshments" are acceptable.
- J. At any event where alcohol is available, a non-alcoholic beverage (other than water) will be equally and continuously accessible and available.
- K. Alcohol may not be served at any event unless food is also served. The food should include items high in protein and carbohydrates.
- L. The sponsor or host is responsible for implementing reasonable measures to ensure that alcohol is not served or made available to persons under age 21 or who are intoxicated. Sponsors are encouraged to use only servers trained via a certified server intervention training program (e.g. TIPS, The Training for Intervention Procedures by Servers of Alcohol). Contact the ARC for training information.
- M. The server(s) of alcohol will be sober and not consume alcoholic beverages during the event.
- N. Guests will not be allowed to bring additional alcohol to an event. The only alcohol permitted for consumption is that specified on the ARC permit.
- O. "BYO" events must be stated as such on the request for an alcohol permit. If approved, it is the responsibility of the sponsoring individual or group to comply with quantity guidelines set forth by Rensselaer's alcohol policy and to allow only those who are 21 or older to bring the alcohol.
- P. Positive proof of age is required at any event at which alcohol is served and or consumed. No licensee, or agent, or employee of such licensee shall accept as written evidence of age by any such person for the purchase of any alcoholic beverage, any documentation other than: (i) a valid driver's license or non-driver identification card issued by the commissioner of motor vehicle, the federal government, any United States territory, commonwealth or possession, the District of Columbia, a state government within the United States or a provincial government of the dominion of Canada, or (ii) a valid passport issued by the United States government or any other country, or (iii) an identification card issued by the armed forces of the United States.
- Q. The serving or availability of alcohol must be limited to a single designated area. Consumption of alcohol is only permitted in the approved area designated for the event.

IV. Specific Area Policies for Alcohol

A. Residence Halls

1. Only those individuals of legal drinking age (21) may possess alcohol in the privacy of their rooms. If more than six (6) people are present, an alcohol permit must be obtained from the ARC.
2. Kegs, beer balls or bulk containers of any sort (both empty and full) are not allowed in residence facilities.
3. Displays of any alcohol related items or materials visible to the public, including but not limited to alcohol beverage containers (empty or full), banners or signs, are not allowed in any residence facility.

4. The consumption of alcohol or possession of an open container of alcohol is prohibited in all public or common areas in the residence halls including but not limited to, stairwells, hallways, lounges, etc.
5. Due to the nature of finals week and our belief that the hall environment should be conducive to study during that period, no alcohol permits will be granted in the Residence Halls or the surrounding areas during finals week (including reading days).

B. Residence Halls - Group Living

Groups living in the Residence Halls can obtain alcohol permits for parties (more than 6 people) if the group meets the following conditions:

1. The group is self insured with the appropriate level of liability insurance. The insurance coverage must be approved by Rensselaer's Office of Risk Management.
2. The group must be recognized by Rensselaer.
3. The group must have a written Group Residence Agreement with Rensselaer.
4. The group has agreed to be bound by any alcohol and party policies that have been developed by a governing master organization such as the IFC or Panhellenic Council (or other similar organization) and have been approved by Rensselaer.

C. Rensselaer Union

1. The serving of beer and wine to persons 21 or older will be restricted to designated areas of the Rensselaer Union.
2. The purchase of beer or wine in the designated area shall be limited to a single serving container per person with legal ID.
3. Any registered event/activity/function held in the Rensselaer Union where alcohol will be available must be approved by the ARC and be accompanied by an alcohol permit.
4. Management of the Rensselaer Union and the Executive Board will review policies and guidelines and recommend appropriate changes to the President or his/her designee in consultation with the ARC.

D. Sage Faculty/Staff Dining Hall

1. Special events where alcohol will be served will comply with Section III of the Institute Alcohol and Other Drug Policy.
2. Management of Faculty/Staff Dining Hall will review policies and guidelines and recommend appropriate changes to the Director of Business and Auxiliary Services. Changes to the policies may be implemented upon consultation with the President or his/her designee and the ARC.

E. Fraternities and Sororities hosting a social event at which alcohol is served at a location not designated as an Institute owned or leased property.

Fraternity and sorority sponsored events are also defined as any event at which 6 or more students of the same organization are present and an event in which alcohol is served.

1. Fraternities and Sororities are subject to the following policies and guidelines established by the Institute and/or consistent with Interfraternity Council or Panhellenic Council or national body or NIC policies and regulations, whichever is most restrictive;
 - i. No distilled spirits are allowed
 - ii. Non-alcoholic beverages must be made available by the host organization
 - iii. Alcoholic beverages may **not** be purchased or brought into the event in any quantity exceeding the *one drink per person 21 or over per hour*

- iv. All events are restricted to a designated number of invited guests and not to exceed the legal limit of persons allowed in a facility or its common area, whichever is most restrictive
 - v. Open social events are prohibited (An open social event is defined as any event for which no invitation is given and/or general advertising is used)
 - vi. Any event at which alcohol is present,
 - a. must be BYO **and**
 - b. BYO is restricted to only those 21 or over
 - vii. Any event at which 6 or more members of one organization are present and alcohol is being served must be a registered and approved event by the Assistant Dean of Students, Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs. Event registration must meet the following criteria:
 - a. Hosting organization name
 - b. Date, time and location of event including the length of the event
 - c. Process used to notify neighbors
 - d. Designated contact person, cell phone number
 - e. Membership list
 - f. Invitation list
 - g. Confirmed attendance list differentiating 21 and over and under 21 attendees
 - h. Hand stamp or wrist band for attendees 21 or over
 - i. Personal identification required to verify date of birth
 - j. Written procedure used to distribute alcoholic beverages to those who BYO and 21 or over
2. On campus events at which alcohol will be served are regulated by Institute policy, Section III.

Appendix B

Good Samaritan Policy

(Applicable ONLY to Alcohol and Drug related incidents)

Student health and safety are primary concerns of the Rensselaer community. It is imperative that someone call for medical assistance when an individual experiences alcohol intoxication, drug overdose, or serious injury after consuming alcohol or other drugs. In general, people may be reluctant to seek emergency or medical attention for fear of judicial consequences for themselves, the person in need of assistance, and/or the organization hosting the event where the situation occurs.

Since these situations are potentially life threatening, Rensselaer seeks to reduce barriers to seeking assistance. Therefore, the Good Samaritan Policy has been developed.

The Good Samaritan Policy is part of Rensselaer's approach to reducing harmful consequences caused by the consumption of alcohol and other drugs. The Good Samaritan Policy is the Institute's commitment to increase the likelihood that community members will call for assistance when faced with an alcohol or drug-related emergency.

An **individual** who receives emergency assistance and/or medical treatment due to alcohol or drug consumption and completes an alcohol and other drugs assessment, education activities and/or treatment as assigned through the Rensselaer Student Health Center will not be subject to judicial action.

A **person who calls** for emergency assistance and/or medical treatment due to alcohol or drug consumption on behalf of another person will not be subject to judicial action, but may be required to attend an alcohol and other drugs education program if deemed necessary by the Rensselaer Student Health Center.

A **representative of an organization** hosting an event is expected to promptly call for emergency assistance and/or medical attention due to consumption of alcohol or other drugs. This act of responsibility will mitigate the judicial consequences against the organization resulting from violations of the Grounds for Disciplinary Action at the time of the incident. The organization's membership may be required to attend an alcohol and other drugs education program if deemed necessary by the Rensselaer Student Health Center. *However, failure to call for emergency assistance and/or medical treatment will be considered an "intolerable circumstance" affecting judicial sanctions against the organization if violations of Grounds for Disciplinary Action have occurred.*

Approved By: Dr. Eddie Ade Knowles, Ph.D., Vice President for Student Life

Dr. Eddie Ade Knowles
Signature

July 1, 2007
Effective Date

APPENDIX C

5 Star Standards Accreditation

The following pages outline the criteria for the Annual Awards of Excellence and the new Five - Star Standards Accreditation. Please address all areas in your application, excluding Chapter Advisor, Greek Man or Woman of the Year and the Jessie K. Fortier Memorial award which are all voluntary in submission. Your answers should be thorough, yet concise. Only include programs, projects, information, etc. which occurred between Spring 2007, Summer 2007 and the Fall 2007 semesters. Awards and final accreditation evaluation information will be presented at the Awards of Excellence Ceremony.

Please sign this cover page and include it with your completed application. If you have any questions, email greeklife@rpi.edu or call Tammy Keenan at x6267. Please put each section on a separate sheet of paper. If you can put it on a CD as well that would be very helpful.

Certification:

I certify that the information contained in this application is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that misrepresentations and or inaccuracies will subject my chapter to sanctions including, but not limited to, non-consideration of application/accreditation, revocation of awards, notification of International headquarters and Institute judicial proceeding.

Chapter Name

Chapter President

Date

Chapter Advisor

Date

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Greek Chapters of Excellence
Five - Star Standards

The following areas will receive evaluation each year, from this evaluation and information provided the Awards of Excellence and chapter standings will be determined:

1. Academics
2. Citizenship
3. Leadership and Campus Involvement
4. Inter/national Organization Relationships and Alumni/Advisor Participation
5. Community Service
6. Greek Relations
7. Risk Management
8. Housing
9. Membership Recruitment and Development
10. Administrative Responsibilities

Total Point Possible: 800 points

Scoring Criteria:

- 90% of points possible (720)= 5 Star status
- 77% of points possible (616)= 4 Star status
- 64% of points possible (512)= 3 Star status
- 51% of points possible (408)= 2 Star status
- 37% of points possible (296)= 1 Star status
- **Five-Star Chapters:** (Excellent) All chapters are expected to strive for this status. Honors will be awarded to the top sorority and fraternity in the category. Letters of recognition sent to national headquarters. Chapters will be recognized with Chapter of Excellence awards at the annual Awards of Excellence.
- **Four-Star Chapters:** (Strong) Letters of recognition sent to national headquarters. Chapters will be recognized with Greek Chapter of Excellence honorary mention awards at the Awards of Excellence.
- **Three-Star Chapters:** (Average) The chapter is maintaining status quo. No rewards or lack of benefits. Chapter President will meet with Greek Dean to evaluate status and set goals.
- **Two-Star Chapters:** (Poor) No social activity until the chapter reaches three star status. Letter of University Probation sent to national headquarters. Chapter President will meet with Greek Dean to evaluate status and set goals.
- **One-Star Chapter:** (Failing) No social activities or athletic activities until the chapter increases status. A letter of University Probation sent to national headquarters. Chapters may only stay at this status for one year before the University determines whether or not to remove recognition from the group. Chapter President will meet with Greek Dean to evaluate status and set goals.

Academic Achievement (65 pts)

The chapter grade point average for active members is at or above the respective male and female campus averages.

- The chapter is at or above the all male/female average (50pts.)
- The chapter has developed and implemented a chapter scholarship program that includes measurable goals, study hours, incentives and rewards (15pts.)
- Chapter has grade requirements for holding office
- Chapter has grade requirements for pledging/probationary membership
- Chapter has grade requirement for initiation
- Chapter has an incentive program to promote scholarship
- Please detail

Citizenship (80 pts.)

- The chapter is not sanctioned or has any grounds for disciplinary action by the Dean of Students Office, Greek Judicial Board or other applicable authorities; the chapter complies with University policies that govern its students and fraternities/sororities as outlined in the Rensselaer Handbook of Student Rights and Responsibilities and the Relationship Statement (60pts.)
- The chapter strictly enforces discipline as prescribed by the chapter's constitution or code of conduct or as mandated by the Inter/national headquarters (20pts.)
- What seminars, speakers, roundtable discussions, etc., has the chapter sponsored? (i.e. topics such as: sexual assault, substance abuse, AIDS awareness, cultural diversity, political discussions, etc.) Please detail.

Leadership and Campus Involvement (60 pts.)

- The chapter co-sponsored one event with a non-Greek student organization (20pts.)
- Over 50% of the chapter is involved in non-Greek school activities (15pts.)
- Chapter members participated in Greek leadership programs as expected (10pts.)
- Chapter members participated in national and regional programs (15pts.)
- Please list members and their involvement

Inter/national Organization Relationships and Alumni/Advisor Participation (115 pts.)

- The chapter has an active and effective chapter advisor who regularly maintains contact with the chapter (50pts.)
- The chapter has or makes efforts to acquire alumni/ae support (20pts.)
- The chapter sponsored at least one activity other than using Rensselaer's homecoming/reunion event that involved alumni/ae (15pts.)
- The chapter maintains a website that is linked in through OFSA, IFC/Panhel and Union activities websites (10pts.)
- The chapter utilizes Alumni Relations in assisting them to maintain a strong alumni database (10pts.)
- The chapters' representative for AIGC attends one AIGC meeting (5pts.)
- The chapter's representative for AIGC attends both AIGC meetings (extra 5pts.)
- Please detail and give lists

Community Service (70 pts.)

- Chapter participated in community service events offered throughout the year (25pts.)
- The chapter contributed to or significantly participated in one campus sponsored service project this year (25pts.)
- The chapter participated in the required Interfraternity or Panhellenic sponsored philanthropic events (20pts.)
- Please attach information detailing community service projects. Include type of project, individual/chapter hours devoted to project, and any other information you feel is important (i.e., thank you letter, press releases, etc.)

Greek Relations (85 pts.)

- The chapter is a member of and actively participates in IFC or Panhel Council, attending 90% of the meetings (25pts.)
- Please list the IFC/Panhel delegate(s) from your chapter over the past year
- Did the chapter participate in all IFC/Panhel sponsored events/workshops and seminars
- The chapter co-sponsored at least one event with another Greek organization (20pts.)
- The chapter hosted at least one event involving faculty, community members or University staff (25pts.)
- The chapter contributed to the Greek Gazette (10pts.)
- The chapter participated in intramurals (5pts.)
- Please detail and give lists

Risk Management (65 pts.)

- The chapter has a Risk Management Chairperson who actively participates in any training sessions offered by the Institute/DOSO (15pts.)
- The chapter has a copy of their current inter/national risk management policy on file (10pts.)
- The chapter educated its membership by providing formal risk management programs and training (TIPS, Fire drills) (20pts.)
- The chapter was evaluated for their annual Fire and Safety Health check and had less than 5 infractions (20pts.)

Housing (75 pts.)

- The chapter maintains its property in a neat, orderly, safe and healthy fashion including but not limited to the upkeep of the chapter house property, proper clean up after social events, and acceptable noise levels, snow and ice removal, fire alarm system is in working condition (50 pts.)
- The chapter had no neighbor complaints or infractions filed by the City of Troy (25 pts.)
- Did the chapter take a proactive (rather than reactive) position in ensuring good community relations
- What renovation/repair/additions has the chapter undertaken to improve the aesthetics and/or functionality of the chapter house? Please detail and include photographs.

Membership Recruitment and Development (75 pts.)

- New member attend the anti-hazing seminar and Your Guide to Greek Life (formerly Greek 101) (20pts.)
- The chapter has new members participating in meetings and functions (10pts.)
- The chapter adheres to a written new member education program that includes educational goals and a thorough calendar and a pledge period no longer than 12 weeks or shorter if their national organization requires it (20pts.)
- The chapter regularly sponsors educational programs that enrich the intellectual development and personal growth of all members (20pts.)
- The chapter received no infractions/violations during rush/recruitment period (5pts.)
- Did the chapter hold a rush clinic prior to rush period
- Did the chapter follow a dry rush
- Total chapter size _____.
- Total number initiated during past year _____.

Administrative Responsibility/Chapter Management (60 pts.)

- The chapter pays its bills and dues to IFC and Panhel on time (10pts.)
- The chapter updates its roster in the Office of Greek Life each time there is a change or status in the membership, house phone number, advisor status change, etc. (50pts.)
- Please list active house committees and number of members (% of total active) serving on each committee
- Please describe your committee selection process
- Did chapter leadership actively pursue involvement of each brother in house activities? Please detail.
- Has the chapter maintained a positive cash flow/position during the past year? Please detail.

Miscellaneous Points (50 pts. possible)

- The chapter has members serving on the IFC or Panhel Executive Board (2pts. per officer, maximum of 10pts.)
- The chapter will earn 1pt. for each member serving on the Greek Judicial Board, Order of Omega, or other major executive board (RHA, Student Government, student clubs), as a Resident Assistant or Orientation Leader (10pts. maximum)
- The chapter was visited by a consultant or other national officer this year (5pts.)
- The chapter co-sponsored additional events with non-Greek student organizations (2pts. each, maximum of 10pts.)
- The chapter co-sponsored additional events with another Greek organization (2pts. each, maximum of 10pts.)
- The chapter's alumni hold an executive position on AIGC or RAA (5pts.)