I am pleased to report that a revised Institute Housing Grant Policy has been approved for the Classes of 2011, 2012 and 2013, effective February 17, 2010 (See Attached Announcement). This policy addresses the issues related to financial aid, students living in a Rensselaer Residence Commons, students living in Greek houses, and students not living in Rensselaer Residence Commons or Greek Commons. Specifically, it states:

Students Living in Greek Houses

Any continuing student (those in the classes of 2011, 2012 and 2013) holding a housing grant, who has been accepted as a member of a fraternity or sorority that has signed the Greek Life Commons Agreement, will be permitted to live in the house and continue to receive a housing grant while enrolled as an undergraduate, for a maximum of five years. However, in no case will the maximum payment exceed the value of the pre-existing housing grant, and in no case will the amount of payment from the housing grant exceed the baseline cost of living in the sorority or fraternity. The baseline cost of living will be reviewed and validated annually by the Bursar; and as a service to the house, billing will continue to be done through the Bursar's Office.

As agreed at the February 9, 2010 meeting with IFC and Panhel Executive Board members, the deadline for signing the Greek Life Commons Agreement has been extended to one week following this notice, that being the Close of Business, February 24, 2010. If a chapter has already submitted a signed Greek Life Commons Agreement, it need not do so again.

In summary, if your house has signed the Greek Life Commons Agreement, members who reside at the house and have housing grants will be able to continue to apply the grant to cover the cost of room and board. In addition, your chapter must participate in the Bursar Billing process.

Please contact me if you have questions or need clarification.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we begin a new and robust chapter in the Rensselaer undergraduate experience.

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