

Rush Survey Summary Fall 2006

Responses

Male	126
Female	95
Total	221

Class Breakdown

Freshman	135
Sophomore	32
Junior	20
Senior	32

Participated in Rush? 158 Yes, 64 No (29% not participate)

Of the 158 Rush participants,

- ? 42 did not receive a bid (27%!).
- ? 82 got 1, 23 got 2, 8 got 3 or more. (113 total)
- ? 61% of those participating were very satisfied, 33% were somewhat satisfied
- ? 72 of the 113 bidders signed and pledged this semester. (30% did not accept – Why???? (Question 15 will answer that perhaps –but answers are mixed with non-bidder, and non-rushing people)

I am guessing more dorms responded and more sororities responded; Perhaps some pockets of chapters responded. But there is no way to know for sure.

Things for next year's survey:

- ? Bullet questions/answers to better gear some responses
- ? Better demographics parsing
- ? Remove ability of varying numbers of respondents for each questions (range 158-222)
- ? Break down so know better why if got a bid, why didn't join and if intend to sign in the spring.
- ? Administer to all freshman and sophomores via email – not by RA and Chapter President email solicitation – hard to get a true broad brush is going to pockets only.
- ? Include a better letter stating purpose of the survey and method of administering and anonymity

5. Why did not participate in Rush?

- ? Alcohol: perceived to be too overly associated with alcohol and partying, fear would be pressured to drink,
- ? Grades: fear not enough time, too busy already, want to get acclimated to school
- ? Interest: no interest, had rushed the year before decided not to again
- ? Perception: Buying friends, group think, peer pressure, privacy

? Sports: time commitment would be too much or the coach discourages

6. What could RPI Greek Community or RPI do to get one to consider rushing?

? Alcohol:

? Interest: Nothing could do, just not interested

? Mentioned many times: more sororities

? Other: more events on campus (hard to go even with rides),

? Perceptions: reduce the hard sell after one visit, reduce hard sell after bid given, show more of other side of groups (academics, philanthropy, community service, living in house, innocent fun (less alcohol)).

10. What like about Greek Community and associated activities

? Community:

o Greater sense of community

o Supportive of its members academically, socially, personally, networking

o Get to meet new people and get to know them better

o Liked the dry events because could talk and be real with potential members

o Liked seeing the organization and independence of the groups

? Activities

o Free food, Fun events, variety of activities, ability to do things the school does not offer normally (popular comment)

o Meeting new people: Friendly and open, feeling welcome (popular comment)

o Ability for different chapters to work together (Meet the Greeks, weekend, other events)

? Timing: some liked early to avoid heavy class work and meeting people; others wished more time for acclimation (but only like 1-2 weeks not longer); working dry rush better allows social outlet for freshman in first few weeks (*interesting viewpoint to take advantage of-jkw?*).

11. What dislike about Greek Community and rush activities?

Misleads about aspect drinking plays in the greeks (*not sure if means being dry or if sneak serving them – either way I suppose could be taken as bad –jkw*)

? Dorm Storming:

o Too bothersome and persistent

o Distracting to work

o Disrespectful of times

? Length seemed quick and not much time to decide

? Ideas:

o Need core unified effort to let all know of all activities, felt missed some

o Need to coordinate events so not as many overlapping events

o If rides going to be offered, advertise them more, and better info on how to get to them

o Too many calendars

o Fitting events around sports practices so can attend some things

- ? Perceptions:
 - o Animosity between chapters, not enough unity, cut throat
 - o Pressure to go Greek, cliquish
 - o Not talking to or getting to know rushees at events
 - o Not getting to know what the real aspects of chapter life are
- ? School/IFC/Panehl
 - o Hiding fact that are Greek during SO and FYE, too much emphasis on FYE, de-emphasis of Greek life
 - o Sorority rush too structured and non-engaging
 - o Fraternity rush much less structured and vague on process

14. What is the single most important reason why joined?

- ? Friendships made
- ? Feeling of fitting in and comfortable, supportive environment
- ? Bonds of Brotherhood/Sisterhood, sense of family
- ? Sense of community and connections
- ? Uniqueness of the group, indefinable quality/feeling
- ? Academics
- ? Life-long relations – alumni bonds
- ? Opportunity to get involved on campus and community, be a part of something great
- ? Some felt pressured to join

15. What is the single most important reason why did not join?

- ? Alcohol – only 6 responses said this, but goes to reinforce negative perceptions
- ? Grades (6 respondents)
- ? No Interest in Greek life
- ? Lifestyle (social, living in house together, managing house, independence),
- ? Fear of Time commitment – ***most responses were this (so must show sports, clubs, academics, etc can work with pledging and living in).***
- ? Perceptions: stereotypes of greeks, exclusivity, cliques, think can't be in clubs or have other friends outside the chapter. (so need to show people involved in other things)
- ? Timing: want to wait a semester or year. (so need to re-engage them)

16. What improvements can RPI Greek community and RPI do to improve rush?

- ? Alcohol: enforce rules equally, (one said encourage drinking so know people better)
- ? Rid Dorm Storming and the high pressure constant barrage. (many respondents on this)
- ? Length of Rush (answers both ways shorten, lengthen)
- ? Less strict rules on sororities
- ? School/IFC
 - o Show what Greeks do during SO (video?)
 - o Better support from the administration

- Explain rush process to freshmen better before rush starts (both F and S)
- Work together better in positive ways.
- ? Great Single Ideas
 - Calendar of all rush events rather than many – try to spread out to reduce overlap (one idea would be to regain the board on the first floor that IFC/Panhel had in the Union for posting news and composites and to improve the Union/IFC/Panhel/OFSA website integration and information)
 - Online rush calendars
 - Recruit in BARH and Quad – they are forgotten
 - Fraternity rush need more structure
 - Sororities need more exposure and visibility

17. What can the Greek Community do to improve its image?

- ? Alcohol: demonstrate and be known that there is more than partying, keep dry rush, stop promoting underage drinking, stop getting in trouble, individual brothers need to get their behavior reflects on entire system
- ? Lifestyle: self govern in chapter houses better (maintenance, behavior, responsibility to others). Show positives like community service, campus participation,
- ? Other: IFC to be stronger to self control and self promote, don't let 1-2 bad chapters bring down all. Many thought the image is fine and needs little improvement., don't put each other down during rush (*be strong enough to let person make own mind-jkw*)
- ? Perceptions: Be more visible on campus, where letters, hold events on campus, break stereotypes, greater involvement with other campus organizations,
- ? School: give more freedom, improve upon negative attitude towards Greeks, IFC/Panhel/RPI work together, have NRB event that shows the history of Greeks and involvement on campus –rather than having to luck out by going to some event.

18. Any other comments.

- ? Strong words both ways – against and for – Greeks on campus
- ? Fairness and consistency in judicial process is needed (alludes to Delts, TKE, and Phi Sigma Kappa)
- ? Treat sororities different than fraternities in rush policies since they have such different rules.

The distribution email notice:

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-GREEKPRESIDENTS-L@lists.rpi.edu

[mailto:owner-GREEKPRESIDENTS-L@lists.rpi.edu] On Behalf Of Alex Salinsky

Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2006 10:33 AM

To: greekpresidents-l@lists.rpi.edu

Subject: Greek Recruitment Survey

Hello friends,

Here in the Dean of Students Office, we're trying to get a more specific idea of how incoming students feel about Greek Life. It would help us out a lot if you could pass this quick and easy survey on to your members (with an emphasis on new recruits):
<http://survey.cct.rpi.edu:8080/opinio/s?s=854>.

Thank you!

Alex Salinsky

Student Assistant

Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs