Student Life Task Force Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 4, 2016
Moscow PST 2:00 – 5:00 pm / Boise MST 3:00 – 6:00 pm
UI Commons – Horizon Room / Boise Water Center #210

**Moscow Attendance:** Jean Kim (Vice Provost Student Affairs), Dan Alsaker (Greek Alum), Dee Dee Kanikkeberg (Dir Housing/Res Life), Blaine Eckles (DOS), Kent Nelson (General Counsel), Erin Agidius (Interim Dir HRAI) & Robin Shoemaker (staffing).

**Boise Attendance:** Marilyn Fordham (Greek Alumnae), Dick Reilly (Greek Alum), Frances Ellsworth (Greek Alumnae) and Sandy Fery (Greek Alumnae).

**Absent:** Dave Pfeiffer (Faculty Rep), Caleb Quates (student), Troy LaVigne (Delta Tau Delta), McKenzie McDonald (ASUI Senator), and Laird Stone (Greek Alum)

1) **Discussion of Focus Groups comments summarized in Document 1 (previously sent as an email attachment by Jean Kim on January 28):**
   - The following themes among Focus Groups were identified by the task force:
     - the importance of relationships overall and how living on campus provides the opportunity to build relationships;
     - the need/opportunity to have a choice of living option;
     - concern about food and housing expenses.

2) **Discussion on Focus Group comments in Document 2, summarized by question (previously sent as an email attachment by Jean Kim on January 28):**
   - Jean suggested the task force focus on summarized comments in response to Questions 2, 3, 5, 7, 8 and 9 and to begin thinking about potential recommendations.
   - Following are potential recommendations:
     - **Safety training.** Residence Hall advisors receive safety training, and this year the RA staff from Steel House participated in the RA training. Students in Greek living situations should have access to similar training. Jean suggested that we make a recommendation that at least two leaders from each Greek chapter house be identified to receive training similar to those we do for Residence Life staff.
     - **Live-In House Directors.** There was much discussion on this topic. The basic questions are, ‘would it be helpful for all fraternity houses to have live-in House Directors and ‘should there be a common set of job expectations for HD’s and what kind of training should we provide?’ Perceived challenges are the expense, the quality of the person hired for the job, gaining buy-in from alums and house boards, making sure the role of the individual is clearly defined, and the cost of needed facility renovations for appropriate living space. Kent Nelson stated that the UI is creating an equivalency that parents are expecting; there are RA’s and live-in professional staff in university housing, so they should be considered for Greek chapters, too. Blaine Eckles says one of the most common concerns he hears from parents are safety issues around living in fraternities. A live-in House Director could help alleviate these concerns. More
members agree to adult supervision than not. A discussion of this topic will continue at the March meeting.

- **Alcohol.** Should all living spaces be dry? Does it make sense to be consistent in all residential options? What are the issues and challenges if all fraternities go dry? Could this potentially be bad for enrollment? Would more upper classmen move off campus? Where do we want to deal with alcohol issues . . . on or off-campus? Blaine offered that we are an alcohol-cultured campus. Our focus should be about student success and a good experience for first year students. What is the best residential experience for the student?
  - Dee Dee is going to conduct a survey of University Housing students who are over 21 on whether or not going dry would keep these students from returning to on-campus housing.
  - Jean will ask Sharon Fritz of the Campus Community Coalition to attend the next SLTF meeting to share the Moscow community's perspective on this possibility.

- **Upgrading recruitment practice.** National organizations are in favor of recruitment in the fall after classes begin. Blaine believes we need to upgrade how we do recruitment at UI but is not sure exactly what those changes might be and will think about this more and share at the March meeting.

- **Unifying the First year experience.** We need to make recommendations on how we can reduce the divide between residence hall students and Greek students through a variety of activities and programs, including non-alcohol social activities especially on weekends.

- **Financial.** We need to make all living option costs transparent to the students. What can we do to let students know about Greek Life and recruitment? Dick suggested developing a living options campaign. Blaine has asked each Greek chapter to create a 5-minute video of their chapter house that we can put online. It will be reviewed and edited by our institutional experts before going live. As an institution, we need to look at how we can provide meal plans for Greek students on weekends, and we need to review the contract for moving between University Housing and a Greek chapter.

3) **Updates on Data collection in process:**
   a) **Survey of National and International S & F organizations.** Blaine reported that it has been a struggle getting them to respond. We need a couple of people to analyze the data, and Marilyn and Dick offered to help. We will get a first look at the analysis of this data at the March 3 meeting.
   b) **Student Conduct & behavioral complaints broken down by residency.** Numbers were provided by Erin Agidius on sexual assault and Blaine on other student conduct cases, e.g., on alcohol, drugs, and academic dishonesty reports. Residence hall staff are required to report violations, while Greek chapters are not, which could partially explain the difference in numbers.

*Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm*
*Scribed by Robin Shoemaker*