

MEETING WITH GREEK ALUMNI

March 8
7:00-9:00 PM

Speakers Included:

- Mark Rosenberg (President)
- Larry Lunsford (Vice President, Student Affairs)
- Anthony DeSantis (Assistant Vice President, Student Affairs)
- Kristen Kawczynski (Director, Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution)

Additional FIU Personnel in attendance:

- Carlo Castillo (General Counsel)
- Liz Marston (Deputy General Counsel)
- Pablo Ortiz (Vice President, Regional Academic Locations & Institutional Development)
- Breny DaParre Garcia (Associate Vice President, Institutional Relations)
- Jose Toscano (Director, Campus Life)
- Chris Medrano (Associate Director, Campus Life)
- Vlad Charles (Assistant Director, Campus Life)
- Ayinde Cunningham (Graduate Assistant, Campus Life)

Three questions were posed to the group -

- How can alumni re-commit themselves to FIU values in order to strengthen the Greek community?
- What changes - policy or structural - would you like the university to implement that would help strengthen the Greek community and help us reach a culture shift?
- What additional resources and/or support services would you like the Greek community (collegians, advisors, or alumni) to receive?

The alumni present were broken into small groups. Their recommendations/feedback were as follows -

- Table 1 (IFC & NPHC alumni)
 - Alumni can help make the connections between shared values of organizations and FIU.
 - Collegians need to understand that they cannot act like alumni, but alumni need to also lead the way (e.g., tailgating).
 - Offer professional development opportunities for members and between organizations.
 - Engage parents (through chapters and FSL).
 - Continue to bring student leaders to the table; they need to be listened to as administration makes decisions.

- Table 2 (PC alumnae)
 - Ensure chapters all have alumni advisory boards.
 - Provide better / continuous information about campus resources (i.e., students learn about them at orientation but rarely ever again during their tenure - at least not in a holistic fashion).
- Table 3 (PC & MGC alumni)
 - Connect chapters with non-FIU alumni in the area; outside perspectives can be of value.
 - Look at ways to keep recent alumni engaged yet far enough removed that they are not overbearing on the chapter.
 - Bring back Greek Week (through a collaboration with FSL and Alumni Relations).
 - Recommend that each chapter have an alumni chair and/or FSL to improve alumni database so that information can be shared more consistently.
- Table 4 (IFC alumni)
 - Prioritize what the administration wants Greeks (collegians, alumni, and advisors) engaged in/with and share those expectations in advance (e.g., Homecoming Week, football games, town halls, etc.).
 - Suggest chapters to host quarterly events with their alumni.
 - Use chapter alumni boards to work with undergraduates to self-police and avoid major conduct issues.
 - Create a Greek Alumni / Community Leadership Board that is empowered to take action and offer feedback.
 - Alumni need to help educate their members on the importance of unity (e.g., tattling culture).
 - Bring back Greek Week.
 - Host a Greek Alumni Retreat where undergraduates can be mentored and offered new networks.
 - Provide more Greek-oriented emails (i.e., improve/create Greek alumni database that is shared with FSL and Alumni Relations).