

ABOUT OUR ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS

ALUMNI PRIORITIES

- Family (significant others, parents, children, relatives, extended family, etc.)
- Job or profession (and related peers)
- Local Community Activities
- Health and Wellness
- Personal Leisure

FRATERNITY/SORORITY ALUMNI INTERESTS

- A desire to continue relationships developed in school
- An interest in the status of the chapter
- An interest in alma mater (the campus)
- A desire to see, visit, and volunteer with fraternity/sorority friends
- A willingness to actively serve the fraternity/sorority
- Developing/enhancing transferable skills (communication, advising, consulting, etc.)

FRATERNITY/SORORITY ALUMNI DETRACTORS

- Generation gaps/ alienation with image of today's youth
- Time commitment
- Fear of changing fraternity movement/issues (legal concerns, risk management, etc.)
- Lack of advisor role modeling during undergraduate years
- Fear of commitment and responsibility
- Lack of Inter/National Fraternity identity (prevents alumni to support beyond their own chapter)
- No practical understanding or experience with University and Inter/National Organization collaboration
- An "us versus them" mentality

ACTIVITY/EVENT ENHANCERS

- Adequate notice of events
- Starting on Time
- Appreciation of time and contributions
- Improving the image of the fraternity/sorority and institution
- Being asked to volunteer in specific ways
- Staying in touch with old chapter friends

- Making new fraternity/sorority friends
- Enthusiasm and follow-through of other involved alumni
- Personal and professional networking opportunities

Adapted from National Interfraternity Conference Web Page

<http://www.nicindy.org/aifcs.html>

RECRUITING ALUMNI

- Work with College/University Alumni Office to assist in recruiting alumni
- Collaborate with Fraternity/Sorority Headquarters and Institution Alumni Offices to verify alumni addresses
- Market available University/Fraternity/Sorority resources to assist in the volunteer role
- Develop **SPECIFIC** job descriptions for each volunteer position
- Recruit volunteers through specific short-term projects which can lead to greater roles/commitments
- Make sure alumni are useful and not wasting their time
- Make meetings productive and short--have only one or two alumni board meetings
- Educate/train undergraduates on how to work with alumni, what to expect from them, and what alumni may be sacrificing by giving their time
- Recruit faculty (work with Provost/Vice President of Student Affairs)
- Recruit Parents, area community leaders/business people, etc.
- Eliminate some of the logistical challenges of volunteering time
- Offer Babysitting/Day-care for alumni when they come to meetings/events
- Identify ways for spouses/significant others to get involved as well
- Provide Parking Permits for alumni for meetings/events

ALUMNI ADVISOR SERVICES

- Provide educational opportunities, programs, and resources, etc.
- Offer advisor notebooks, resource directories, welcome packets, newsletters, etc.
- Offer services to assist volunteers with chapter management and operations
- Develop a written, consistent crisis management and response plan
- Utilize internet technology (list serve, advisor groups, web page development)
- Serve as a clearing house for useful information/resources

RECOGNIZING/REWARDING ALUMNI

- Work with alumni office to give a gift to all alumni volunteers at the end of the year (coffee mugs, key chains, etc.)
- Work with alumni office to give away athletic event tickets
- Recognize volunteers in college/university alumni magazine
- Nominate alumni volunteers for college/university alumni volunteer awards
- Give certificates recognizing years of service (3 years, 5 years, 10 years, etc.)
- Take volunteers to dinner once a term
- Take advisors and new chapter presidents to lunch/dinner after elections
- Annual thank you notes from college/university president, vice president for student affairs

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