

## INTRODUCTION

### **Context**

#### National Trends

Fraternities and sororities are often seen as both detrimental and beneficial to college campuses. Some acknowledge the benefits of Greek organizations for both the individuals who participate in them and for the institution. A fraternity or sorority can provide a caring and supportive subcommunity where students develop interpersonal and leadership skills (Astin 1993), make friends, learn how an organization works, develop a common cause, participate in community service, and have fun (Kuh & Lyons, 1990). Kimbrough (1995) found that Black fraternities and sororities provided a significant source of leadership development opportunities for Black students on predominantly white campuses. In addition, membership in fraternities and sororities has been found to create a connection to the college or university, to increase retention rates, and to increase alumni giving to the institution.

At the same time, fraternities and sororities are under fire for behavior that is seen as antithetical to both the goals of higher education and to the ideals upon which the national organizations were founded. Many question the compatibility of Greek organizations with the academy's educational purposes, values, and attitudes (Kuh & Lyons, 1990; Melaney, 1990; Neuberger & Hanson, 1997). In particular, Greek organizations are questioned for organizational practices that promote status distinction, reinforce conformity and social apathy, and denigrate individual worth and dignity. Incidents of alcohol abuse, hazing, sexual assault, and poor academic performance are often the focus of media attention. Furthermore, in his study of college students, Astin (1993) found that involvement in a fraternity or sorority was negatively associated with GPA, altruism, and social activism while being positively associated with alcohol consumption, hedonism, and materialism.

Over the years, colleges and universities have tackled the issues with Greek life on their campuses in a variety of ways. Some schools, like Bowdoin, Colby, and Franklin and Marshall Colleges, have withdrawn recognition from their Greek organizations. Others have created initiatives to reform and to improve their Greek systems, such as University of Maryland, Lafayette College, Miami University of Ohio, and Emory University (Neuberger & Hanson, 1997; Reisberg, 2000c).

In addition to institutional issues and actions, evidence suggests that student interest in Greek organizations may also be in decline. In 1990, 400,000 undergraduates were members of fraternities. Since then, by some estimates, membership has dropped as much as 30 percent, and some chapters have shut down because they have not had the numbers to financially support themselves. The average chapter size of the National Interfraternity Conference (NIC) groups is believed to have fallen from 54 men in 1990 to 38 in 1998 – only slightly higher than the low of 34 set during the Vietnam War era. While women's groups have experienced some decline, data suggest that they are healthy. The average chapter size of the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) groups has risen from 46 in 1980 to 54 in 2000 (Reisberg, 2000b).

With many traditional fraternities and sororities attracting mostly white students, other organizations attract students of color. In addition to the eight National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) organizations, which are the historically Black/African American fraternities and sororities, other organizations (Latino, Asian American, and multicultural groups) have also emerged as alternatives to the traditional Greek system. Minority students who participate in such organization say they are looking to bond with others who share similar cultural interests. They are interested in the social organization but may be turned off by the homogeneity of mainstream fraternities or sororities or may be offended by racist undertones within these organizations (Reisberg, 2000a).

### Ohio State's Greek Community

Like other institutions, The Ohio State University (OSU) has faced similar issues within its Greek system. In recent years, a number of fraternities have lost their charters and their University recognition as a result of hazing incidents and other violations of Interfraternity Council and University regulations. In addition, a couple sororities have been placed on probation by their national organizations and the University because of alcohol infractions and hazing violations. Tragically, in the spring of 2000, a fraternity member died as a result of a combination of alcohol and drug use.

Choosing to initiate reform within the Greek community, Ohio State and the Office of Student Affairs created the Greek Life Task Force (GLTF) and charged the group with formulating recommendations to change the culture of the Greek community. Endorsing the continued existence of a strong Greek community at OSU, this task force worked for two years assessing the current status of the system, establishing goals and standards of excellence for the Greek community, revising the final report to reflect feedback from members of the Greek community, and creating a comprehensive plan to revitalize the Greek community. In October of 2000, the Greek Life Task Force Report (GLTFR) was approved. Implementation of this plan began in March of 2001 and is scheduled to continue over a three-year period.

The standards established in the GLTFR include increasing academic standards, creating intentional recruitment plans, increasing the role of advisors, establishing financial responsibility, developing involvement in community service, educating members on risk management issues, and promoting diversity education among members. The plan outlines responsibilities for both the individual chapters and for the University. In addition, the GLTF recommendations include further examination of Greek facilities, particularly with regard to issues of deferred maintenance, of the quality of life in existing houses, and of groups who currently do not have housing. Furthermore, the recommendations call for an intentional effort to assess and to evaluate the initiatives established in the GLTFR.

### **Purpose of the Report**

The 2001 Greek Life Survey, the primary focus of this report, was conducted in order to assess students' perceptions of the Greek community prior to the implementation of the recommendations in the GLTFR. Topics in the survey included overall impressions of OSU and the Greek community, campus involvement, community service and philanthropic involvement, recruitment and new member education, academics, diversity, fiscal issues, risk management, alcohol and partying, and University support of the Greek community. Two

surveys were conducted: one of Greek members and the other of non-Greek students. The two surveys were parallel in structure and whenever possible asked the same questions of Greek and non-Greek students.

As the first component of a longitudinal design, the findings from this survey provide the baseline data to assess the effectiveness of the GLTFR. The survey will be repeated in three years after the implementation of the GLTF recommendations is complete.

In addition, when available and appropriate other data sources have been used to augment the information collected in the survey. (See below.)

### **Other Data Sources**

In addition to the Greek Life survey, a number of other data sources provide information on the status of the Greek community at OSU such as the CIRP survey of incoming students and the Core Alcohol and Drug Survey. These pre-existing sources take advantage of data that were collected by other means and did not specifically targeted Greek students at Ohio State. Other institutional measures are used to assess and to evaluate the GLTFR more fully including overall grade point averages, membership numbers, graduation rates and time to degree.

#### CIRP Findings

Annually, Ohio State collects data from their incoming students regarding their general attitudes, beliefs, and goals through the use of the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP). In this survey, incoming students were asked to provide their best guess regarding whether or not they will join a social fraternity or sorority while in college. These data provide the ability to track student changes over time.

- In 1990, only 13.4% of incoming students reported that there was “no chance” that they would join a fraternity or sorority. Gradually over an 11-year period, this percentage increased. In 2000, 23.9% reported that there was “no chance” that they would join a fraternity or sorority.
- Similarly, in 1990, 21.2% of incoming students reported that there was a “very good chance” that they would join a Greek organization; in 2000, only 10.2% responded this way.

Thus, the data suggest that there has been a gradual decline of incoming students’ interest in Greek life over the last 11 years.

#### Core Alcohol and Drug Survey

The Core Alcohol and Drug Survey examines alcohol usage patterns among college students and is conducted at Ohio State every two years from a sample of the undergraduate student body. Conducted in Spring Quarter of 2000, the survey provides the ability to explore differences in alcohol use based on students’ involvement on campus such as their involvement in the Greek community.

When examining the prevalence or frequency of alcohol use in the 30 days prior to completing the Core Survey, we found the following differences between Greek and non-Greek respondents:

- Almost a quarter (24.5%) of non-Greeks reported that they did not use alcohol in the last 30 days compared to only 11.3% of Greek members.
- Greeks reported only a slightly higher rate of frequent alcohol use (10 or more days) at 20.8% compared to 18.0% of non-Greeks.

However, the differences between Greek and non-Greek students increased when examining the quantity of alcohol consumed. These questions asked students about the average number of drinks they consumed in a week and the number of times in the past two weeks when they had five or more drinks in one sitting (binge drinking or high risk drinking).

- Almost 20% (19.5%) of Greeks reported averaging zero drinks a week compared to 31.1% of non-Greeks.
- Members of social fraternities and sororities reported averaging 8.88 drinks a week compared to 5.87 for non-members.
- Greeks were more likely to report high risk drinking with 57.1% reporting that they binge drank compared to 42.8% of non-Greeks.
- Lastly, Greeks were more likely to binge frequently (three or more times in the two week period) than non-Greeks, with 30.4% of Greeks reporting frequent bingeing compared to 21.4% of non-Greeks.

### GPA and Membership Numbers

Presented in Tables A1, A2, and A3 are the data regarding the Greek grade point averages compared to the respective University populations and the Greek membership numbers and average chapter size during the 2000-2001 school year.

- While the all-Greek and all-IFC grade point averages were lower than the all-undergraduate and the all-men averages, respectively, the PHA women did better academically than female undergraduates at OSU, which is not surprising since historically these groups have higher GPA requirements. In addition, in the 1997-1998 school year, PHA groups moved their membership recruitment period from autumn to winter quarter.
- Furthermore, as of Spring 2001, there were 29 chapters with grade point averages less than the all-undergraduate average and 4 chapters with averages less than a 2.25. (Data not shown.)
- In Autumn 2000 (prior to membership intake or membership recruitment), there were 2,009 members of Greek organizations.
- All four types of organizations had chapters with relatively few members.

**Table A1: 2000-2001 Cumulative Grade Point Averages**

	Autumn 2000	Winter 2001	Spring 2001
All-Greek	2.829	2.878	2.933
All-Undergraduate	2.840	2.894	2.930
All-IFC	2.723	2.774	2.812
All-Men	2.756	2.820	2.847
All-PHA	2.955	2.981	3.046
All-Women	2.926	2.969	3.015
All-PHC	2.412	2.509	2.526

**Table A2: 2000-2001 Greek membership numbers**

	Autumn 2000	Winter 2001	Spring 2001
PHA	960 17 chapters	1029 17 chapters	1193 17 chapters
PHC	40 9 chapters	34 6 chapters	75 7 chapters
IFC	973 26 chapters	978 26 chapters	926 25 chapters
Unaffiliated	36 3 chapters	21 3 chapters	40 3 chapters
Greek Totals	2009	2062	2234

**Table A3: 2000-2001 Average chapter size and range**

Quarter	Average Chapter Size			Range		
	AU00	WI01	SP01	AU00	WI01	SP01
PHA	56	61	70	24-78	20-100	27-100
PHC	7	6	11	1-13	3-12	3-24
IFC	37	38	37	7-93	8-80	11-73
Unaffiliated	18	11	13	8-28	8-13	7-25

Graduation Rates and Time to Degree

In Tables B1 to B3, institutional data were used to examine graduation rates and time to degree for Greek students at OSU. The graduation data were based on students who were new first quarter freshmen (NFQF) in 1994, 1995, or 1996.

- Overall, Greek students graduated at a higher rate than did the general student population.\* For example, the 5-year graduation rate among Autumn 1995 NFQF was 49.3% compared to 75.3% for Greeks in the same student cohort. However, these data may reflect other characteristics of students who join Greek organizations that have been shown to increase graduation rates (i.e. that they are full-time students, traditional age, lived on campus) and may not reflect the attrition that tends to occur during the first year, prior to when the majority of students join fraternities and sororities.
- When examining graduation rates for IFC, PHA, and PHC members, we find that PHA members were more likely to graduate.
- Members of PHC groups graduated at similar rates as IFC members.
- Also, the data suggest that PHC members graduated at higher rates than other African American OSU students. (Data not shown)
- When examining the time to degree, on average Greek students graduated at least on pace with other students at the University, if not sooner.\*

*\*Because other variables were not controlled for, we cannot attribute the shorter time to degree or the higher graduation rates to students' involvement in the Greek community.*

**Table B1: Graduation Rates: University and Greek**

Percent	4 year		5 year		6 year	
	Univ.	Greek	Univ.	Greek	Univ.	Greek
AU1994 NFQF	19.3	3.4	47.9	56.4	55.1	77.1
AU1995 NFQF	23.4	29.1	49.3	75.3	56.0	83.2
AU1996 NFQF	25.3	32.3	52.4	79.2	NA	NA

Greek: AU1994 NFQF n=236  
 AU1995 NFQF n=495  
 AU1996 NFQF n=571

Univ: AU1994 NFQF n=5920  
 AU1995 NFQF n=5788  
 AU1996 NFQF n=6027

**Table B2: 5-Year Graduation Rates: IFC, PHA, and PHC members**

Percent	All Greek	IFC	PHA	PHC
AU1994 NFQF	56.4 (n=236)	51.1 (n=137)	76.7 (n=60)	54.2 (n=24)
AU1995 NFQF	75.3 (n=495)	69.8 (n=242)	84.3 (n=216)	56.7 (n=30)
AU1996 NFQF	79.2 (n=571)	73.8 (n=290)	86.4 (n=250)	76.0 (n=25)

**Table B3: Time to Degree: University and Greek**

2000-2001 graduates NFQF - AU1994 & later	University (N=3708)		Greek (N=578)	
	Average	SD	Average	SD
Quarters elapsed	17.53	3.06	17.17	2.46
Years elapsed	4.38	0.77	4.29	0.62

## Study Methodology

The Greek Life Survey was sponsored by the Office of Student Affairs Assessment and the Student Activities & Campus Programs Office\* at The Ohio State University. The questions were developed by consulting Greek surveys from other universities and organizations, current Greek life literature, the GLTFR, and the GLTF assessment implementation committee. The expertise and services of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences' Center for Survey Research were used in refining and piloting the surveys and for data collection. This report is based on Student Affairs Assessment's analysis of the data.

### The Greek Community Survey

The survey of the OSU Greek community was based on telephone interviews conducted from April 2 to April 19, 2001, with 617 randomly sampled students who were active or new members of OSU fraternities or sororities during Spring Quarter 2001. Students were randomly selected for participation in this survey from a database of the members of Greek fraternities or sororities, which was provided by the Student Activities & Campus Programs Office. Local and home telephone numbers were taken from a database of all undergraduate students provided by the Office of the Registrar. Initial attempts to contact respondents were made to local telephone numbers. Respondents were called at their permanent/home phone number if necessary and other phone numbers when that information was available. All interviewing was completed at the OSU Center for Survey Research facilities.

A total of 1,299 students were randomly selected to participate in the Greek community survey. In many cases, viable telephone numbers were called upwards of 10 times to try to reach a respondent at a convenient time. In 69 cases the student was ineligible to participate, and in another 68 cases interviewers could not contact the respondent because the telephone numbers provided were not valid, and new contact information was unavailable. The remaining 1,162 cases were *presumed* to be eligible cases with valid contact information. A total of 617 interviews were completed, for a response rate of 53% using the most conservative definition suggested by the American Association for Public Opinion Research. The cooperation rate for those cases in which interviewers spoke with the eligible respondent was 78%, again using a conservative definition.

\*In AU2001, the Student Activities & Campus Programs Office was been re-named The Ohio Union & Student Activities.

Because of the complexity of the Greek community, four independent “samples” were drawn. First were samples of members of the Interfraternity Council (IFC) organizations and of the the Panhellenic Association (PHA) organizations. Second, attempts were made to reach all members of the Pan-Hellenic Council (PHC) organizations and of the Non-Affiliated organizations (NAC) (see definitions below).

Some sororities belonging to the Panhellenic Association (PHA) had advised their members not to participate in this survey. This advice came from the national organizations, which monitor the surveying of their membership. When sorority members declined to participate, interviewers noted that these were ‘chapter refusals’ when respondents offered that information. There were 68 known chapter refusals, about 41% of all refusals. In addition, the refusal rate was much higher for PHA respondents than for respondents belonging to other councils even accounting for known chapter refusals. For example, the refusal rate for respondents from the Interfraternity Council was 4.1% while the PHA refusal rate was 9.9% not including the chapter refusals. The PHA refusal rate was 20.4% including the chapter refusals. (See Appendix A for further details.)

In theory, in 19 cases of 20, the results for this unweighted sample of undergraduate Greek students will differ due to sampling error by no more than 3.3 percentage points in either direction from what would have been obtained by interviewing all undergraduate Greek students enrolled at Ohio State during Spring Quarter 2001.

### The Non-Greek Student Survey

The survey of the non-Greek OSU undergraduate students was based on telephone interviews conducted from April 20 to April 30, 2001, with 402 randomly sampled students who were not active, new, or former members of OSU fraternities or sororities. Students were randomly selected for participation in this survey from a database provided by the Office of the Registrar. Initial attempts to contact respondents were made to local telephone numbers. Respondents were called at their permanent/home number if necessary and other phone numbers when information was available. All interviewing was completed at the OSU Center for Survey Research facilities.

A total of 697 students were randomly selected to participate in the non-Greek survey. In many cases, viable telephone numbers were called upwards of 10 times to try to reach a respondent at a convenient time. In 16 cases the student was ineligible to participate, and in another 23 cases interviewers could not contact the respondent because the telephone numbers provided were not valid, and new contact information was unavailable. The remaining 658 cases were *presumed* to be eligible cases with valid contact information. A total of 402 interviews were completed, for a response rate of 61% using the most conservative definition suggested by the American Association for Public Opinion Research. The cooperation rate for those cases in which interviewers spoke with the eligible respondent was 90%, again using a conservative definition.

In theory, in 19 cases of 20, the results for this unweighted sample of undergraduate non-Greek students will differ due to sampling error by no more than 4.9 percentage points in either direction from what would have been obtained by interviewing all undergraduate non-Greek students enrolled at Ohio State during Spring Quarter 2001.

## Limitations

As noted in the methodology, we experienced a higher refusal rate from students in PHA chapters. The primary reason for the refusal originated from their national organizations instructing them not to participate in the survey. Certain chapters were more likely to refuse participation than others; however, not all women in those chapters refused to participate. Nonetheless, this situation may have resulted in a higher sampling error than normally expected. Every effort was made to monitor this situation and to solicit the support of the PHA women on campus.

Another limitation of the study was in the representation of students belonging to PHC organizations and non-affiliated chapters. While the attempt was made to contact all of these students, there was still a low number of respondents from these organizations. As such, in providing the findings, the PHC fraternities and sororities have been grouped together (giving a total of 29 respondents), and the NAC findings do not lend themselves to separate analysis with only 14 respondents. Although the PHC findings are presented, the low number of respondents and combining the men and women of PHC organizations remain limitations of this study.

In addition, all surveys are subject to other potential sources of imprecision and bias, which may be associated with the question wording and/or ordering, the response rate, and the quality of the interviewers and which could lead to somewhat different results from the present findings.

## Definition of Terms

- **Interfraternity Council (IFC)** – The IFC is the local governing body of the organizations that are members of the National Interfraternity Conference (NIC). The NIC is a conference body composed of sixty-two men's social fraternities, 24 of which had chapters at Ohio State at the time of the survey. Delegates from each of the twenty-four chapters comprised OSU's IFC (plus a representative from Evans Scholars).
- **Panhellenic Association (PHA)** – The PHA is the local governing body of the sororities that are members of the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC). The NPC is a conference body composed of twenty-six member women's social sororities, 16 of which had chapters at Ohio State. Delegates from each of the sixteen chapters comprised OSU's PHA (plus a representative from Phi Sigma Rho).
- **Pan-Hellenic Council (PHC)** – The PHC is the local governing body of the fraternities and sororities that are members of the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC). The NPHC is a conference body composed of nine historically African-American Greek-letter organizations, seven of which had chapters at Ohio State at the time of the survey. Delegates from each of the chapters comprised OSU's PHC.
- **Non-affiliated chapters (NAC)** – At the time of the survey, there were three chapters that were not members of the other councils: Alpha Psi Lambda, Pi Delta Psi, and Omega Tau Zeta. These organizations have an ethnic/multicultural focus.
- **Non-Greeks** – Non-Greeks are students who have not affiliated with any of the Greek organizations on campus.

## FINDINGS

The findings from the survey are organized in the following sections: demographics and profiles, overall impressions, campus involvement and employment, community service and philanthropic involvement, membership recruitment, membership education, academics, diversity, fiscal issues, risk management, alcohol and partying, and University support of the Greek community. In the first part of the Findings, data are provided from the overall Greek sample, with comparisons to the non-Greek students when applicable. In the second part, comparisons are provided between IFC, PHA, and PHC members.

### Greek and Non-Greek Students

#### **Demographics and Profiles**

In this section, the demographics of the samples are provided along with profiles of the Greek and non-Greek populations. Most of the data were taken from the OSU student database. For the Greek data, the OSU student database was cross-referenced with the Greek database from the Student Activities & Campus Programs Office. In some cases, the OSU database did not include students who were listed on the Greek database. Hence, some data are missing; most likely, some of these students had left the university.

According to the Greek database, there were 2,081 Greek students at the time of the survey; we were able to extract demographics on 1,897 of them through the OSU database. The non-Greek, undergraduate population was 29,078. These data are presented to provide a profile of Greek students at OSU and to speak to the representativeness of the samples.

In addition to the Greek and non-Greek students, a third group of students was also identified – students who had been members of Greek organizations but who were no longer active members. Although they were not surveyed, we were able to provide a limited demographic profile of these students.

The samples consisted of 617 Greek members and 402 non-Greek members. In Tables 1.0 to 1.4, comparisons are made between the population parameters and sample statistics for the Greeks and non-Greeks.

**Table 1.0: Sex: Greeks and Non-Greeks**

Sex	Greek Population N =1897	Greek Sample n = 617	Non-Greek Population N = 29,078	Non-Greek Sample n = 402
Female	53.7	43.3	48.6	49.8
Male	46.3	56.7	51.4	50.2

**Table 1.1: Age Comparisons: Greeks and Non-Greeks**

Age	Greek Population N =1897	Greek Sample n = 617	Non-Greek Population N = 29,078	Non-Greek Sample n = 402
Mean	20.9	20.7	22.0	21.8
Median	20.8	20.7	21.1	20.8

**Table 1.2: Race and Ethnicity: Greeks and Non-Greeks**

Race/Ethnicity	Greek Population N =1897	Greek Sample n = 617	Non-Greek Population N = 29,078	Non-Greek Sample n = 402
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.2
Asian/ Pacific Islander	2.5	2.0	6.5	7.2
Black/African American	2.4	2.5	8.2	5.0
Hispanic/ Latino(a)	2.2	2.9	2.0	2.7
White/ Caucasian	91.8	91.2	78.7	81.6
Unknown/missing	0.7	0.8	4.2	3.2

**Table 1.3: GPA Comparison: Greeks and Non-Greeks**

Cumulative GPA	Greek Population N =1897	Greek Sample n = 617	Non-Greek Population N = 29,078	Non-Greek Sample n = 402
Mean	2.87	2.86	2.86	2.87
Median	2.89	2.86	2.90	2.91

**Table 1.4: Class Rank: Greeks and Non-Greeks**

Rank	Greek Population N =1897	Greek Sample n = 617	Non-Greek Population N = 29,078	Non-Greek Sample n = 402
First Year	14.9	19.5	21.0	23.3
Sophomore	28.6	29.8	23.1	26.6
Junior	28.5	25.3	22.6	23.3
Senior	28.0	25.4	30.5	26.9
Other	0.0	0.0	2.8	0.0

**Table 1.5: Residence of the Greek and Non-Greek Samples (Population data not available.)**

Current Residence	Greek Sample n= 617	Non-Greek Sample n = 402
Off-campus house/ apartment	34.2	54.7
With parents / relatives	1.5	6.0
In a campus residence hall	21.9	32.8
In your own home	1.0	6.0
In a fraternity / sorority house	40.7	0.0
Other	0.8	0.5

In addition to the demographics provided above, among the Greek respondents:

- 96.1% were active members of their organization and 3.9% were pledging or in the process of becoming active members.
- 55.3% were members of IFC organizations; 35.2% were members of PHA organizations; 4.7% were PHC members; 2.3% were members of the NAC, and 2.6% didn't know which governing council their organization was a member.
- 19.1% accepted invitations to join their respective organization in 2001; 33.5% in 2000; 20.4% in 1999; 19.0% in 1998; 6.6% in 1997; and 1.4% in 1996 or earlier.
- 34.4% accepted invitations to join in fall/autumn quarter; 49.6% in winter; and 16.0% in spring.
- 70.0% accepted invitations to join during their first/freshman year of college; 23.8% during their sophomore year; 5.3% during their junior year; and 0.5% during their senior year.

Of the 664 inactive Greeks in the Greek life database, 226 were located in the student database. It can be assumed that many of 438 who were not in the student database had left the University prior to the study. Of the 226 found in the student database, 53.1% were Rank 4 (or senior status), 24.3% Rank 3, 16.4% Rank 2, and 6.2% Rank 1. Also, 51.8% had been members of an IFC chapter, 33.2% of a PHA chapter, 8.8% of a non-affiliated chapter, and 6.2% of a PHC chapter.

**Overall Impressions**

Overall Impressions of OSU

Both Greek students and non-Greek students were asked four questions about their general impressions of Ohio State. They were asked about their overall satisfaction with their college experience, how well OSU was doing meeting their expectations, how connected they felt to the OSU community, and how important it was to them to feel a sense of community.

Overall, evidence suggests that being involved in a Greek organization promotes satisfaction and connectedness with the University.

- Greek students reported being significantly more satisfied with their experience at OSU than did non-Greek students. Almost 68% (67.9%) of Greeks reported being “very satisfied” compared to 45.5% of non-Greeks. (See Table 2.0)
- Over 53% (53.3%) of Greek students compared to only 39.0% of non-Greeks responded that OSU had exceeded their expectations. (See Table 2.1)
- Furthermore, Greek students were much more likely to report being connected to the OSU community than were non-Greek students. Ninety-one percent (91.0%) of Greeks reported being either “very” or “somewhat connected” compared to 67.9% of non-Greeks. (See Table 2.2)
- At the same time, it was significantly more important for Greek students to feel a sense of community on campus than it was for non-Greek students. (See Table 2.3)

**Table 2.0: Overall, how satisfied are you with your experience at Ohio State?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=402)
Very satisfied (1)	67.9	45.5
Somewhat satisfied (2)	29.2	45.8
Somewhat unsatisfied (3)	2.6	7.5
Very unsatisfied (4)	0.3	1.2
Average Scores	*1.35	1.64

**Table 2.1: How well has OSU met your expectations so far?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=402)
Much better than you expected (1)	15.6	6.2
Better than you expected (2)	37.7	32.8
About what you expected (3)	40.6	53.2
Worse than you expected (4)	5.4	7.2
Much worse than you expected (5)	0.8	0.5
Average Scores	*2.38	2.63

\* Statistically significant at the 99% confidence level.

**Table 2.2: Overall, how connected do you feel to the OSU community?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=402)
Very connected (1)	42.1	18.5
Somewhat connected (2)	48.9	49.4
Only a little connected (3)	7.3	25.8
Not connected at all (4)	1.6	6.3
Average Scores	*1.68	2.20

\* Statistically significant at the 99% confidence level.

**Table 2.3: How important is it to you to feel a sense of community?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=402)
Very important (1)	55.9	27.1
Somewhat important (2)	37.8	52.5
Somewhat unimportant (3)	4.4	16.9
Not at all important (4)	1.9	3.5
Average Scores	*1.52	1.97

\* Statistically significant at the 99% confidence level.

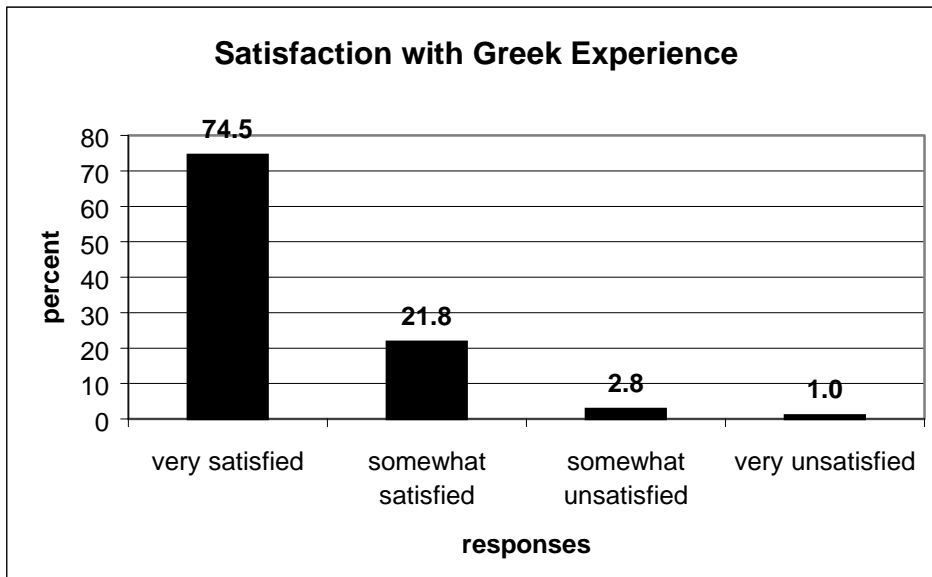
Overall Impressions of Greek Life

In addition to the general questions about OSU, Greek students were asked about their overall impressions of being Greek and their involvement in their chapter.

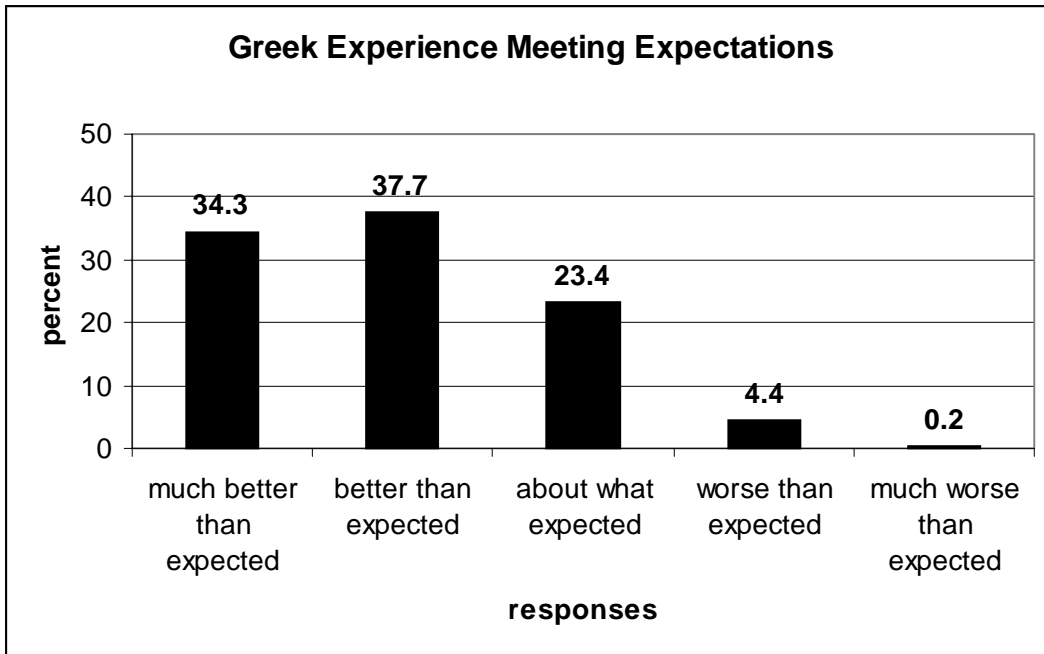
The majority of Greek members had found their Greek experience to be satisfying and to be better than they expected.

- Over 96% (96.3%) of Greeks reported being satisfied with their Greek experience. (See Chart 1.0)
- Seventy-two percent (72.0%) responded that their Greek experience had exceeded their expectations, and another 23.3%, that it had been about what they expected. (See Chart 1.1)

**Chart 1.0: Overall, how satisfied are you with your experience as a member of a Greek organization?**



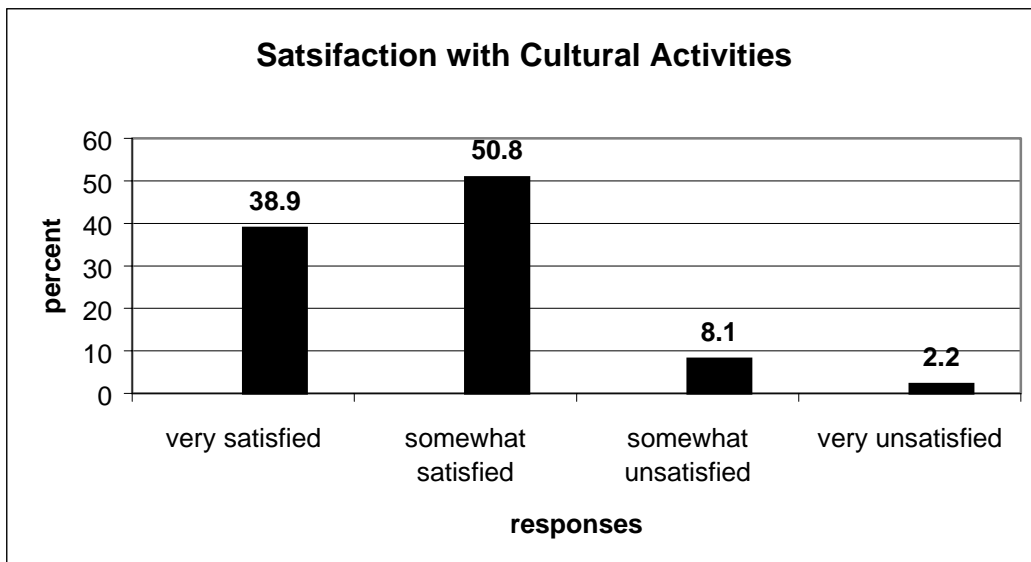
**Chart 1.1: How well has your Greek experience met your expectations so far?**



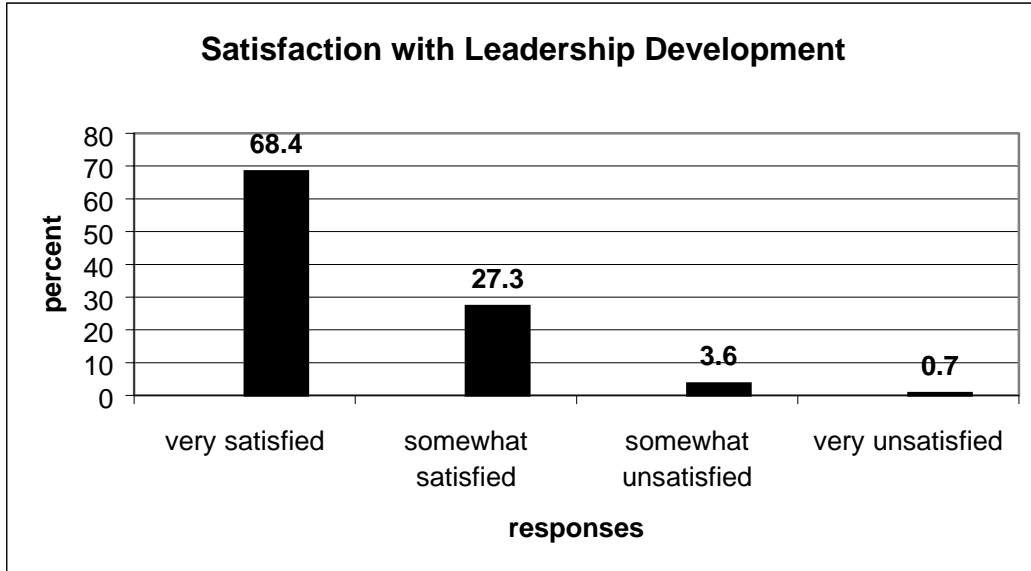
Related to students’ general satisfaction with their Greek experience is their level of satisfaction with the cultural activities and leadership development offered through their chapters.

- Almost 51% (50.8%) of Greek students responded that they were “somewhat satisfied” with the cultural activities offered through their chapter. However, 10.3% were either “somewhat” or “very unsatisfied.” (See Chart 1.2)
- Over 95% (95.7%) of Greek students were satisfied with the leadership development activities offered through their chapter. (See Chart 1.3)

**Chart 1.2: How satisfied are you with the cultural activities offered through your chapter?**



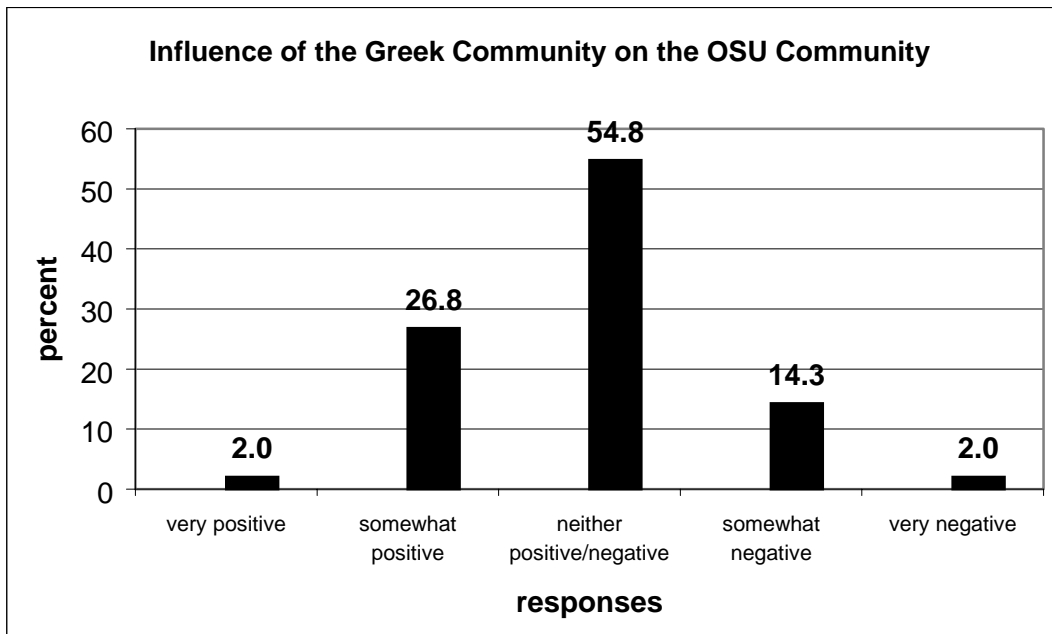
**Chart 1.3: How satisfied are you with the leadership development activities offered through your chapter?**



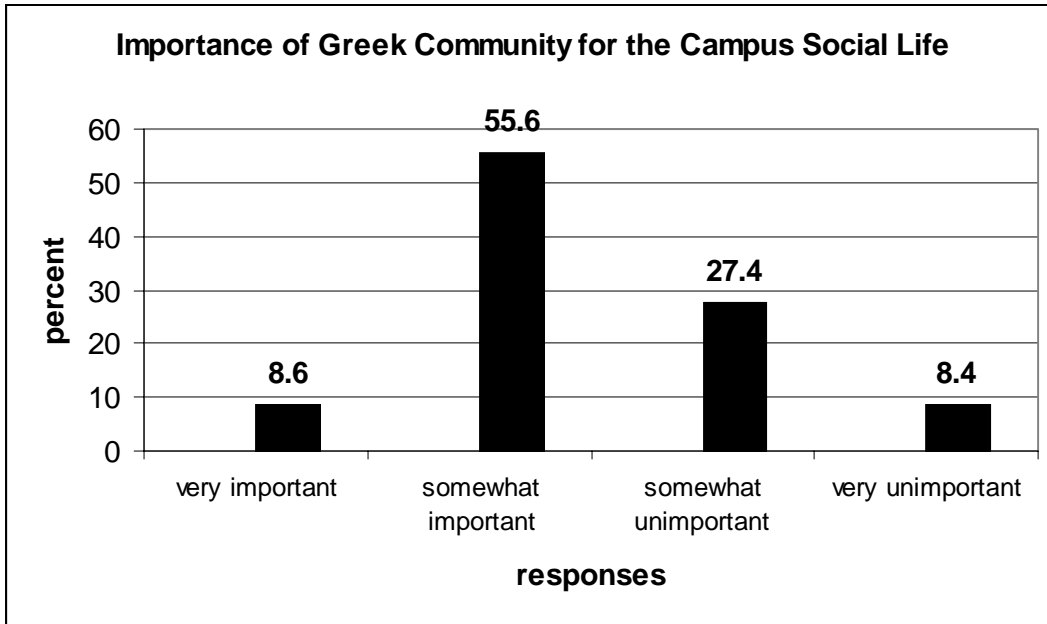
Regarding non-Greek students’ overall impressions of the Greek community, two questions were asked: “How would you describe the influence the Greek community as a whole has on the OSU community?” and “How important do you think the Greek community is for the social life of campus?”

- The majority of non-Greek students (54.8%) viewed the influence of the Greek community on the OSU community as “neither positive nor negative.” However, more students viewed it as positive (28.8%) than negative (16.3%). (See Chart 1.4)
- In addition, the majority of non-Greek students (55.6%) felt that the Greek community was “somewhat important” for the social life on campus. (See Chart 1.5)

**Chart 1.4: How would you describe the influence the Greek community as a whole has on the OSU community? (Non-Greek respondents)**



**Chart 1.5: How important do you think the Greek community is for the social life of campus? (Non-Greek respondents)**



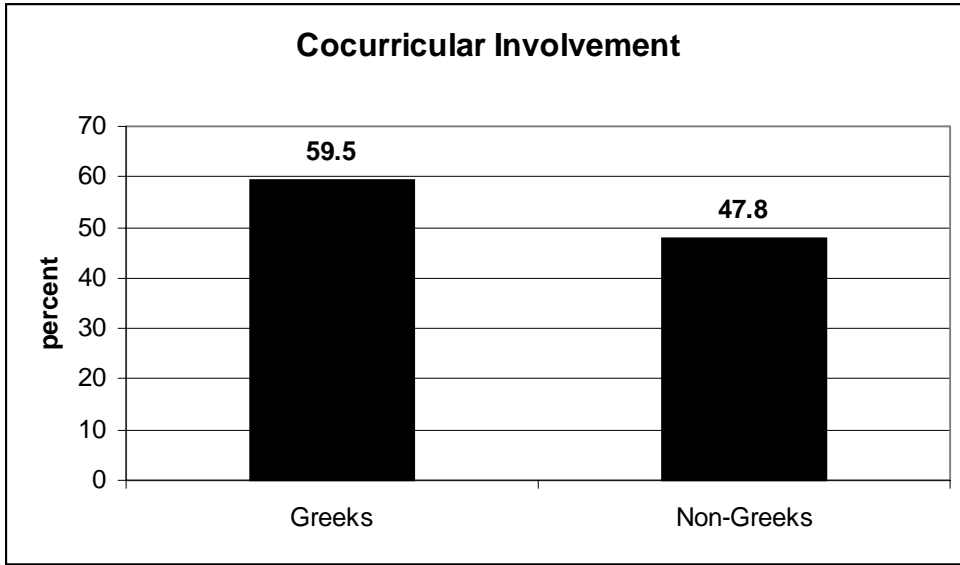
**Campus Involvement and Employment**

Both Greek and non-Greek students were asked about their involvement on campus and whether or not they were employed. In addition, non-Greek students were asked about their attendance/participation in Greek-sponsored events and activities.

The percentages of students who indicated that they were involved in activities or organizations on campus are presented in Chart 2.0. For Greek students, this percentage represents involvement in addition to their Greek membership.

- Almost 60% (59.5%) of Greek students reporting being involved in activities and organizations on campus other than their Greek participation. Almost 48% (47.8%) of non-Greek students reported being involved on campus.

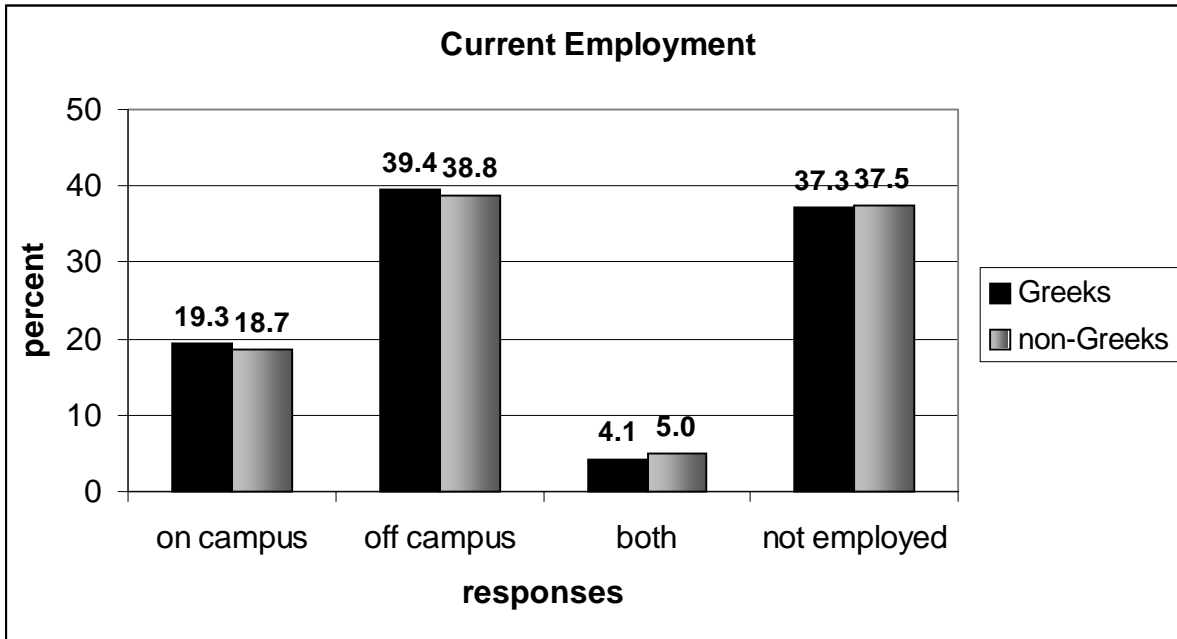
**Chart 2.0: Percentage of Students who Reported Being Involved on Campus (in addition to Greek students' involvement in their chapter)**



Students were also asked about their current employment status. (See Chart 2.1)

- In general, Greek and non-Greek students were equally likely to work, whether on or off campus.
- However, of those students who were employed, non-Greek students, who averaged 20.8 hours a week, worked significantly more hours than Greek students, who averaged 16.6 hours a week. (Data not shown)

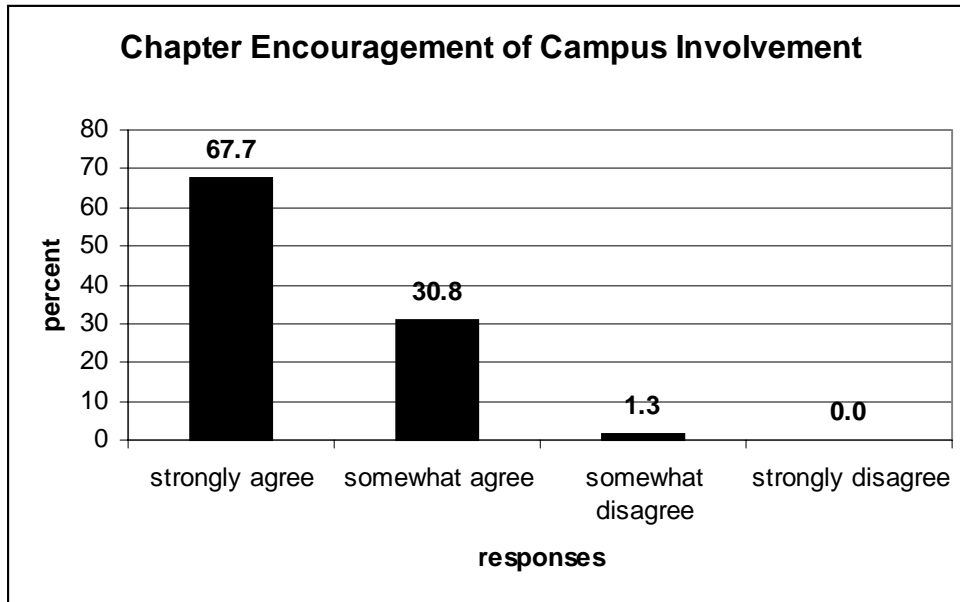
**Chart 2.1: Current Employment (Greeks and Non-Greeks)**



Related to involvement in other campus organizations and activities, Greek students were asked whether or not they thought their chapter encouraged campus involvement. (See Chart 2.2)

- Almost all Greek students (98.5%) agreed that their chapter encouraged campus involvement.
- With 59.5% of Greek students reporting cocurricular involvement beyond their chapter and with most students feeling supported by their chapter to be involved elsewhere on campus, it appears that Greek participation does not limit students from being involved in other ways on campus and may actually facilitate it.

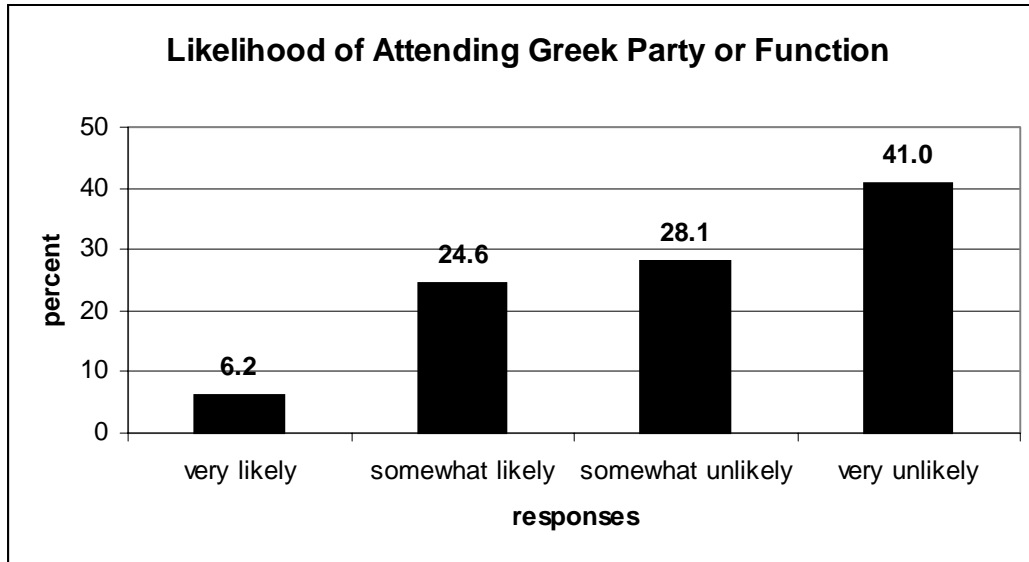
**Chart 2.2: My chapter encourages campus involvement in addition to involvement with the chapter.**



Non-Greek students were asked a series of questions regarding their participation in Greek events and parties and in fraternity or sorority membership recruitment/intake. Overall, their responses indicate that, for non-Greek students, Greek life at OSU has little influence on their college experience.

- When asked how many of their friends were members of social fraternities or sororities, 73.8% responded that only “a few of them” or “none of them” were members, and only 3.2% responded that either “most of them” or “nearly all of them” were Greek. The remaining 22.9% had some friends who were Greek members. (Data not shown)
- When asked how frequently they attended events at fraternities or sororities at OSU, 47.5% replied “never” and 21.2% replied “once a year” or less frequently. Almost 21% (20.6%) replied that they attended events once or twice a quarter, and another 8.7% said once or twice a month. Only 1.5% said they attended events on a regular basis. (Data not shown)
- Almost 70% (69.1%) of non-Greek students said that they were unlikely to attend a Greek party or function. (See Chart 2.3)
- Only 11.2% of non-Greek students had participated in new member recruitment, rush, or membership intake for any fraternity or sorority, and 8.7% indicated that they were considering joining a fraternity or sorority in the future. (Data not shown)

**Chart 2.3: How likely are you to attend a party or other function sponsored by a sorority or fraternity? (Non-Greeks)**



**Community Service and Philanthropic Involvement**

Another area supported by the ideals of the Greek community is community service and philanthropic involvement. Community service includes activities that require hands-on experiences such as tutoring and cleaning up a neighborhood area. Philanthropic events are those activities geared toward raising money for a charitable organization or cause. Both Greek and non-Greek students were asked about their personal involvement in community service activities and their perceptions of Greek organizations’ service to the community.

Directly related to these questions is the requirement in the GLTFR for chapters to sponsor at least one community service event per year that involves 75% of their membership and for Greek members to take part in at least one hour of hands-on community service each year in a project of their own choosing that is not sponsored by their chapter.

When examining students’ level of service independent of their involvement in chapter activities, there were differences between Greek and non-Greek students. (Data not shown)

- Over 66% (66.3%) of Greek students responded that they had participated in community service activities that were not required by their chapter, whereas 32.6% of non-Greek students indicated that they had participated in community service.
- However, on average among students who volunteered, non-Greeks spent 8.16 hours per month volunteering compared to 7.68 hours for Greek students (for non-required activities). This represents a significant difference. At the same time, a majority of Greek students were also involved in philanthropic and community service activities that were required by their chapter.

Turning to Greek students’ involvement in service activities required by their chapter and the level of chapter involvement, the data showed the following:

- Almost 66% (65.6%) of Greek students indicated that they had personally participated in philanthropic events that were required by their chapter during the 2000-01 academic year. (Data not shown)
- Almost 63% (62.6%) indicated that they participated in chapter-required community service activities during the year. (Data not shown)
- Most Greek students (78.7%) felt that their chapter’s level of involvement in philanthropic activities was “just right,” and 19.7% felt it was “not enough.” (See Table 3.0)
- At the same time, 29.3% of Greek students felt that their chapter’s level of involvement in community service was “not enough,” and 69.1% said it was “just right.” (See Table 3.0)

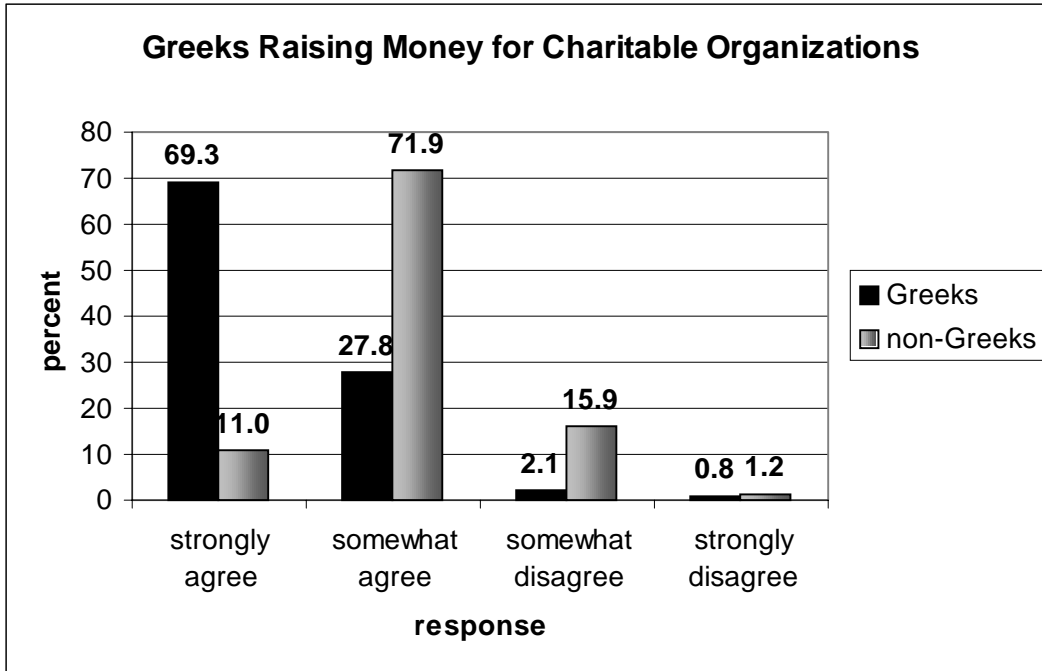
**Table 3.0: Greek students’ perceptions of the level of chapter service involvement**

Response by %	Would you say that your chapter’s level of involvement in philanthropic activities is...	Would you say that your chapter’s level of involvement in community service is...
Too much	1.6	1.6
Just right	78.7	69.1
Not enough	19.7	29.3

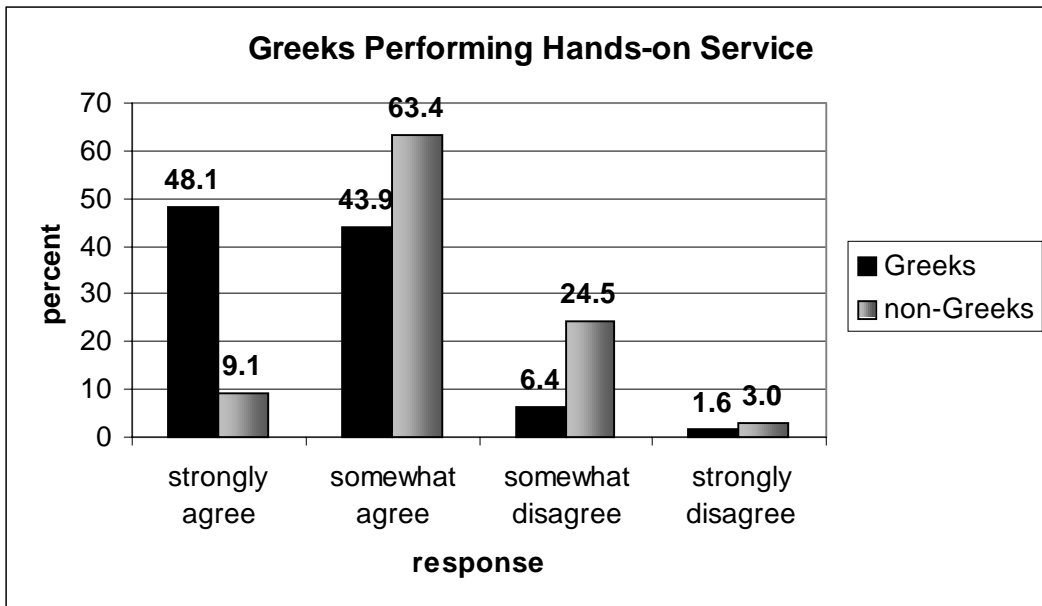
Lastly, both Greek and non-Greek students were asked about their perceptions of the Greek community related to its philanthropic contributions and community service participation. (See Charts 3.0 & 3.1)

- Greek students were significantly more likely to agree that Greek organizations raise money for non-profit organizations than were non-Greeks. Almost 70% (69.3%) of Greek students “strongly agreed” compared to 11.0% of non-Greeks. However, 71.9% of non-Greek students “somewhat agreed” with the statement.
- Furthermore, Greek students were significantly more likely to agree that Greek organizations performed important community service than non-Greeks, with 92.0% of Greek students responding that they “strongly agreed” or “somewhat agreed” compared to 72.5% of non-Greeks.

**Chart 3.0: Greek organizations at OSU perform community service by raising money for non-profit or community service organizations. (Greeks and Non-Greeks)**



**Chart 3.1: Greek organizations at OSU perform important community service through hands-on involvement in the community. (Greeks and Non-Greeks)**



## Membership Recruitment

Vital to any organization is the recruitment of new members especially with declining numbers in the OSU Greek community. Through this survey, we sought to understand why students joined fraternities and sororities and how they learned about Greek life. In addition, for students who are not members of Greek organizations, we wanted to understand why they chose not to join a fraternity or sorority, if they went through recruitment or membership intake, and/or if they were considering joining a fraternity or sorority.

In the GLTFR, chapters are required to create a yearly recruitment plan, and the Student Activities & Campus Programs Office is to assist in the publicity and marketing of the opportunities in Greek life to OSU students. The data below can assist in these processes.

Greek students were asked why they joined a fraternity or sorority at OSU. These responses were open-ended, allowing students to provide reasons in their own words. (See Table 4.0 for summary of responses.)

- The most common responses (30.5%) for why students joined a Greek organization were related to making friends or meeting people. Typical responses included the following:
  - It made it easier to meet new people.
  - To make new friends.
  - I didn't know anyone here.
  - A good way to meet others with common interests.
  - To get a close knit group of friends.
  - I wanted to get a broader group of friends.
- Closely related to meeting people were students' responses that focused on making a large campus feel smaller or creating a sense of community for themselves at OSU (14.4%). These comments included:
  - Belonging to a group makes college seem smaller.
  - A smaller community in a big community.
  - I wanted to make OSU feel smaller.
  - I felt that at a school this size I needed a more intimate community.
  - To feel more connected because OSU is so big.
- Meeting people and making the campus feel smaller were particularly true for students from small towns/high schools, students who had transferred, and students from out of state. (Date not shown)
- Another frequent response (16.2%) was that joining a fraternity or sorority was a good way to get involved at OSU.
- In addition, 16.2% of Greek students spoke to specifics about the chapter they chose to join. These comments focused on liking the people in the chapter, identifying with the ideals espoused, and feeling like they fit in with that particular group. Specifically, students said the following:
  - Because of the principles for which it stands and the people share like views.
  - I met a group of men I enjoyed being with.
  - I felt like I belonged there.
  - I got along with the people.
  - I met the girls in the sorority while I was working on other activities. The sorority found me because originally I wasn't looking to join a sorority.
  - After going to a few events I felt like I fit in.

- The morals and values are strong and compatible with what I was looking for.
- The people who recruited me were extremely friendly and made me feel a part of the house before I joined.

**Table 4.0: Why students chose to join a fraternity or sorority (Greeks)**  
 (multiple responses provided; total exceeds 100%)

Responses	Percent
Making friends/meeting people	30.5
Getting involved/something to do	16.2
Liked people/the ideals/fit in	16.2
Making campus smaller/creating community	14.4
Brotherhood/sisterhood/sense of family	7.3
Leadership opportunities	7.3
Resume building/networking/career	6.2
Fun/social reasons	6.2
Friends joined or are members	4.2
Community service opportunities	4.1
Family influence	3.9
Scholarship/financial incentives*	2.9
Academic interests/benefits	2.8
Housing/living opportunities	1.9
Ethnic/cultural community	1.0
General/miscellaneous.**	14.6

\* These responses come from members of the Evans Scholars, which is a member of IFC at OSU.

\*\*Included comments such as “always wanted to do it,” “don’t know,” “great opportunity,” “right thing to do,” and others.

In addition to exploring the reasons why students joined a fraternity or sorority, it is important to understand how students learned about the Greek community in order to effectively recruit new members. (See Table 4.1) (This question was formatted as pre-coded response options.)

- Almost half (49.4%) of the Greek students reported having learned about fraternities and sororities from friends – roommates, classmates, friends from other organizations.
- Almost 28% (27.9%) reported they learned about Greek life from family members or Greek alumni.
  - My father was in a fraternity and encouraged it.
  - Older siblings talked about it.
  - I am a legacy.
- Formal recruitment efforts were also found to be common ways of learning about Greek life. Almost 17% (16.9%) reported that they found out about fraternities and sororities through the Involvement Fair/Welcome Week; 9.4%, through pamphlets and mailers; and 6.6%, through Orientation. Another 3.4% mentioned recruitment efforts such as members coming to the dorms and formal rush activities.

**Table 4.1: How did you find out about fraternities and sororities? (Greeks)**  
(multiple responses provided; total exceeds 100%)

Responses	Percent
Friends	49.4
Greek alumni/Family members who are Greek	27.9
Involvement Fair/Welcome Week	16.9
Current members	12.2
Pamphlets/mailers	9.4
Orientation	6.6
Web	6.3
Direct contact/formal rush	3.4
Scholarship program/high school*	2.3
Always knew about Greek life	1.5
Don't know	4.4
Miscellaneous	3.4

\* These responses come from members of the Evans Scholars, which is a member of IFC at OSU.

Non-Greek students were asked if they had participated in rush or membership intake for any fraternity or sorority and if they were considering joining or planning to join a chapter. (Data not shown)

- Only 11.0% indicated that they had participated in new member recruitment, rush, or membership intake.
- Furthermore, only 8.7% responded that they were considering joining or planning to join a fraternity or sorority, and 1.5% said they didn't know.

In addition, non-Greek students were asked about their reasons for choosing not to be a member of a fraternity or sorority. (See Table 4.2)

- The most common reason given by non-Greek students for deciding not to join a fraternity or sorority was that they were too busy with other activities (56.0%). These responses included not having enough time because of other cocurricular commitments such as involvement in intercollegiate athletics, the marching band, professional organizations, and volunteerism.
- Another frequent reason given was that students simply weren't interested (37.8%). Comments included:
  - It didn't appeal to me.
  - I never understood the point.
  - I don't like them.
  - I never got into it.
- Over 18% (18.2%) of non-Greek students cited financial reasons as why they chose not to be a member of a Greek organization.
- Over 9% (9.4%) mentioned issues with the elitist nature of the organizations including perceiving them to be exclusive and isolating.
- In addition, 5.0% of students talked about their lifestyle and/or being older which prohibited such involvement. Lifestyle issues included being married, being a parent, working full time, and commuting.
- Over 4% stated that they didn't join a fraternity or sorority because they thought it would interfere with their academics, they perceived membership to be like "buying friends," or they were opposed to the party atmosphere and the focus on alcohol.

**Table 4.2: Reasons students gave for not joining an OSU fraternity or sorority (Non-Greeks)**  
(multiple responses provided; total exceeds 100%)

Responses	Percent
Too busy with other activities	56.0
Not interested	37.8
Expensive/not enough money	18.2
Perceived as elitist/exclusive organizations	9.4
Too old/lifestyle conflict	5.0
Interfere with academics	4.7
Perception that it was buying friends	4.2
Party atmosphere/focus on alcohol	4.2
Friends aren't members	3.0
Reputation	3.0
Friends discouraged joining	2.7
Tried it – wasn't a good fit	2.7
Other responses*	0.4

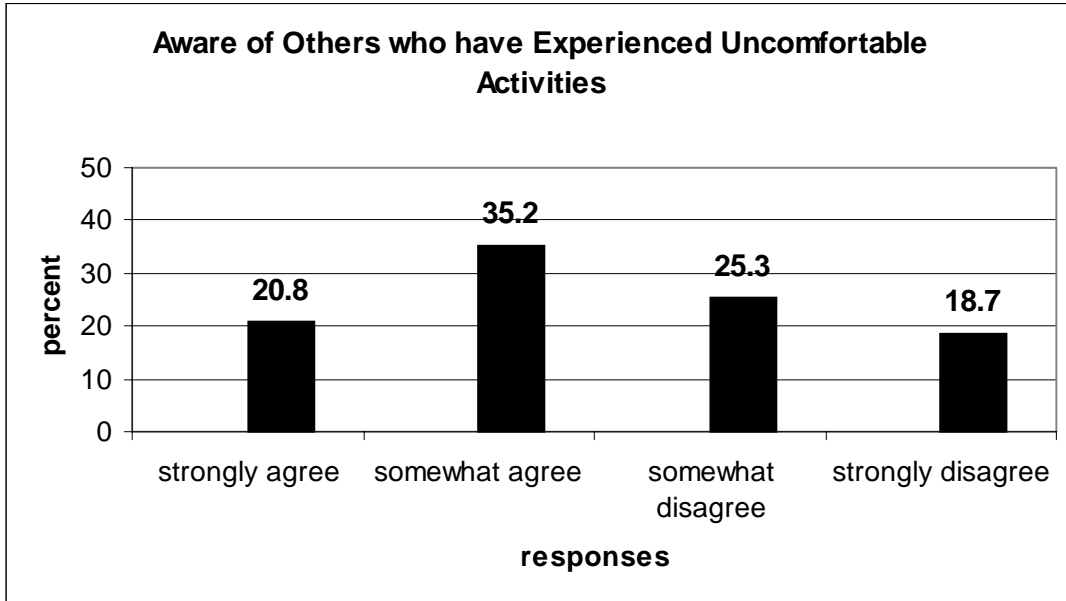
\* Including parents/relative discouraging them from joining, that Greek life promoted racist/sexist attitudes, and didn't want to be part of or subject themselves to hazing

## Membership Education

The membership education period (including “pledging” and the intake process) has been under great scrutiny especially because of hazing practices. In this section issues such as hazing or uncomfortable/embarrassing activities associated with the new member process, the effect of the new member process on their academic progress, and the effectiveness of the process are examined. (See Tables 5.0 & 5.1; Chart 5.0)

- When asked if they experienced any activities during the new member process that made them uncomfortable, 5.2% of Greek students responded that they had. (Data not shown.) Students who had responded positively to this question were asked to provide additional comments about their experiences. The following comments were made:
  - Humiliation. (2)
  - Not hazing, felt pulled away from my studies.
  - They were doing verbal hazing, but no physical hazing.
  - Intimidation is the best way to describe it. By using authority and trying to run it like a drill sergeant. Nothing physical but mental.
  - Being yelled at.
  - Screaming and humiliation intensively practiced.
  - HAZING.
  - I didn't agree with everything we did, but nothing huge.
  - Fearing of the unknown; not knowing what was going to happen next.
  - People being mean.
  - During pledging, girls would make me drink more but I couldn't say no because I was a pledge.
- However, when asked about being aware of others who had participated in activities that would be embarrassing to the University or to the national organization, over half (56.0%) of the Greek students either “strongly agreed” or “somewhat agreed.” (See Chart 5.0)

**Chart 5.0: I am aware of others in the Greek community who participated in events or activities during the new member process that would be embarrassing to the University or to the national organization if they became public. (Greeks)**



Non-Greeks were asked about their perceptions of hazing among the Greek community. (See Table 5.0)

- Over 74% (74.4%) agreed that Greek students participate in activities during the new member or pledging period that are embarrassing and degrading.
- Furthermore, 61.6% agreed that hazing is a problem in the Greek community at OSU.

**Table 5.0: Non-Greek responses to questions related to hazing**

Response by % (n=402)	Greek students participate in events or activities during the new member or pledging period that are embarrassing and degrading.	Hazing is a problem in the Greek community at OSU.
Strongly agree (1)	21.6	18.3
Somewhat agree (2)	52.8	43.3
Somewhat disagree (3)	20.5	31.0
Strongly disagree (4)	5.1	7.4
Average Scores	2.09	2.28

In addition to questions about hazing or embarrassing activities, Greek students were also asked whether or not the new member process made it difficult for them to keep up academically and whether or not it provided them with the knowledge they needed about Greek life at OSU. (See Table 5.1)

- Most students (82.7%) disagreed that they had trouble keeping up academically during pledging, and 57.0% “strongly disagreed.”
- Moreover, 92.0% of Greek students agreed that the membership education they received provided the necessary knowledge about Greek life at OSU.

**Table 5.1: Greek responses to questions about the membership education process**

Response by % (n=617)	During the new member process, I found it difficult to keep up academically.	The membership education I received during the new member process provided me with the knowledge I needed about Greek life at OSU.
Strongly agree (1)	3.6	57.9
Somewhat agree (2)	13.7	34.1
Somewhat disagree (3)	25.7	5.9
Strongly disagree (4)	57.0	2.1
Average Scores	3.36	1.52

**Academics**

Another area of concern within the Greek community is the level of support of and emphasis on the academic pursuits of its membership. Minimum GPAs are required by both the University and by the national organizations for membership. Furthermore, in the standards established in the GLTFR, chapters are required to meet or to exceed the all-undergraduate average, to achieve a minimum 2.25, or to improve their quarterly average until they are able to reach the standards set.

In addition to grade point averages (see page 5), other areas related to academics are important in understanding the status of the Greek community at Ohio State. These include the amount of time spent on academic activities, the Greek members’ satisfaction with their chapter’s academic support, the emphasis their chapter places on academic and intellectual development, and how Greek students perceive the effect of membership on their grades.

Overall, Greek and non-Greek students reported spending about the same amount of time on academic activities outside of class. While the non-Greek student average was slightly higher than the Greek average, this difference was not significant. (See Table 6.0)

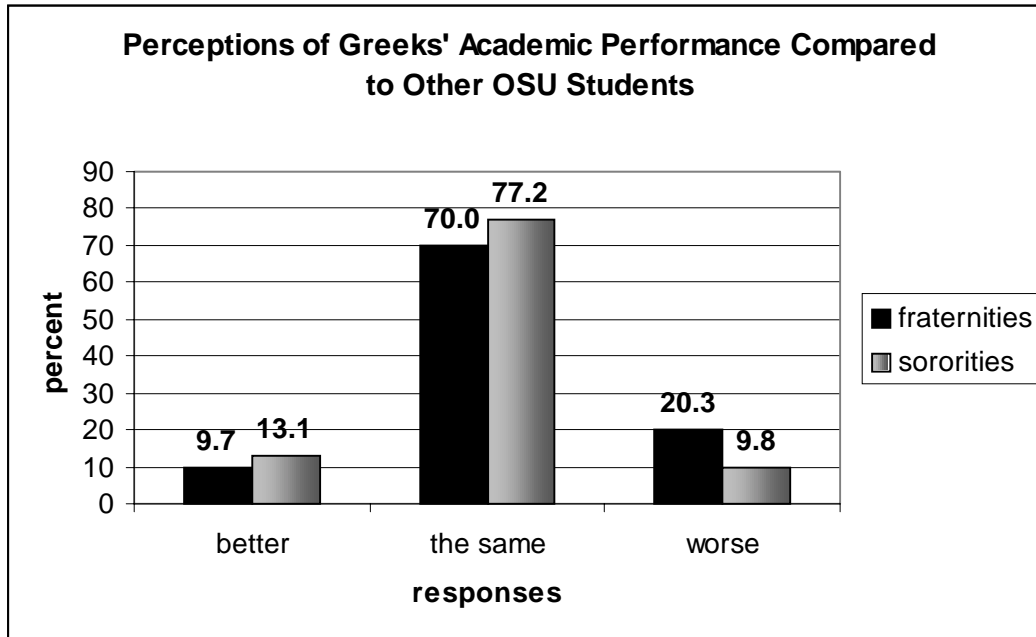
**Table 6.0: On average, how many hours do you spend out of class per week on academic activities? (Greeks and Non-Greeks)**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=397)
0-5 hours	12.0	13.9
6-10 hours	32.7	32.4
11-15 hours	25.9	19.2
16-20 hours	15.1	18.1
21-30 hours	10.9	12.6
31 or more hours	3.4	3.8
Average	14.28	14.61

Non-Greek students were also asked about their perceptions regarding both fraternity and sorority members’ academic performance in comparison to other OSU students. (See Chart 6.0)

- The majority of students (at least 70%) felt that fraternity and sorority members performed about “the same” as other male students and female students, respectively, at OSU.
- However, they did perceive fraternity men (20.3%) to be more likely to do worse academically than their peers when compared to their perceptions of sorority women (9.8%).

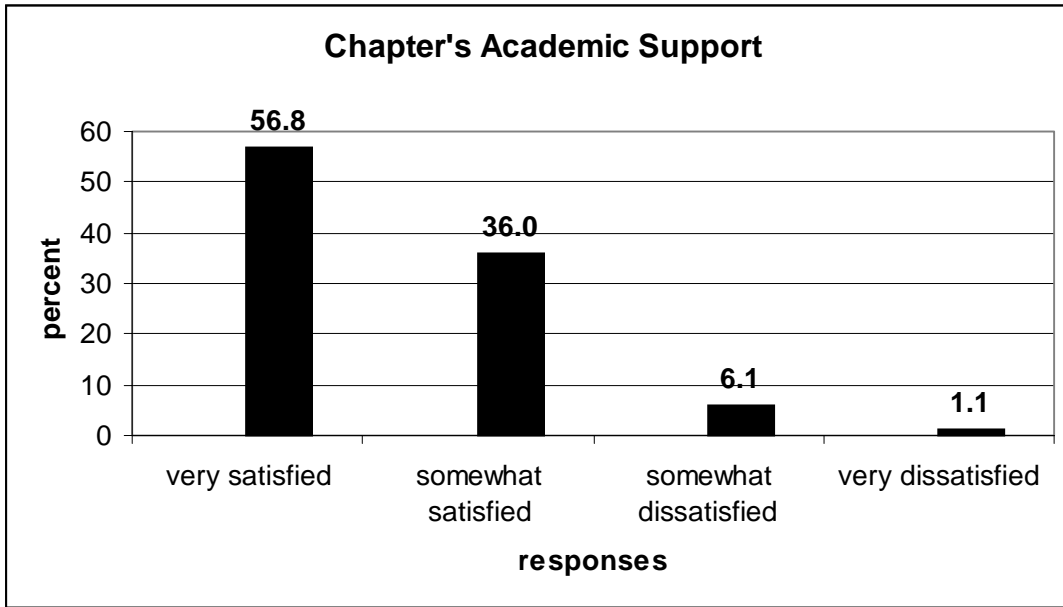
**Chart 6.0: Would you say the academic performance of fraternity/sorority members is better than, the same as, or worse than other male/female undergraduate students at OSU? (Non-Greeks)**



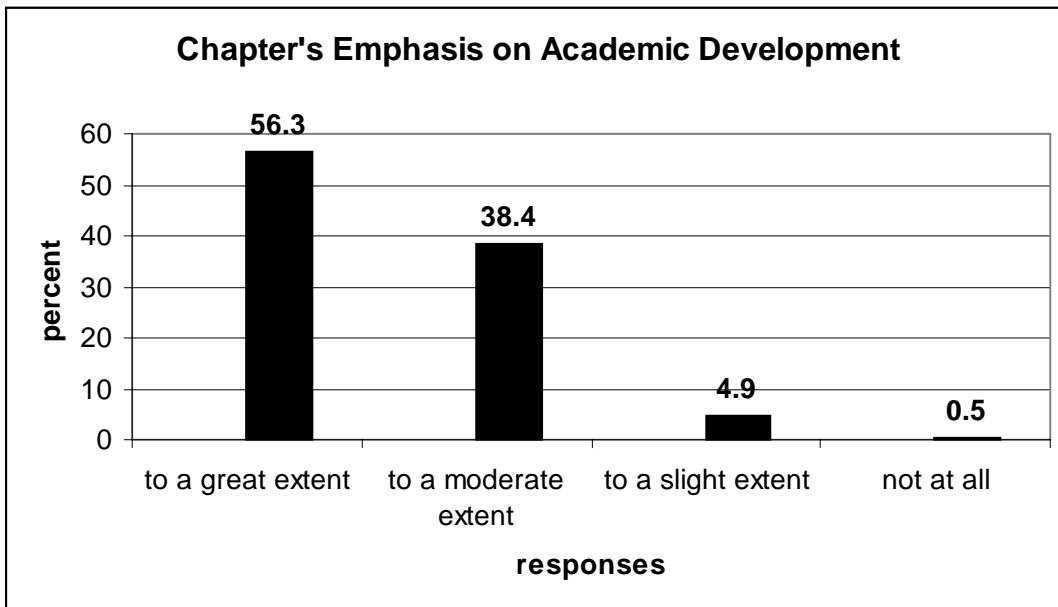
In Charts 6.1 to 6.3, data are presented showing that Greek students have found support for their academic pursuits through their chapter and that generally they did not feel that their Greek involvement was harmful to their grades.

- Almost 57% (56.8%) of Greek students were “very satisfied” with the academic support their chapter offers. Another 36.0% were “somewhat satisfied.”
- The majority of Greek students (56.3%) also reported that their chapter emphasized academic and intellectual development “to a great extent,” and 38.4% said, “to a moderate extent.”
- Almost half of the Greek respondents (47.1%) replied that their Greek experience was “neither helpful nor harmful” to their grades. Moreover, 49.6% felt that their Greek membership was either “very helpful” or “somewhat helpful” to their grades.

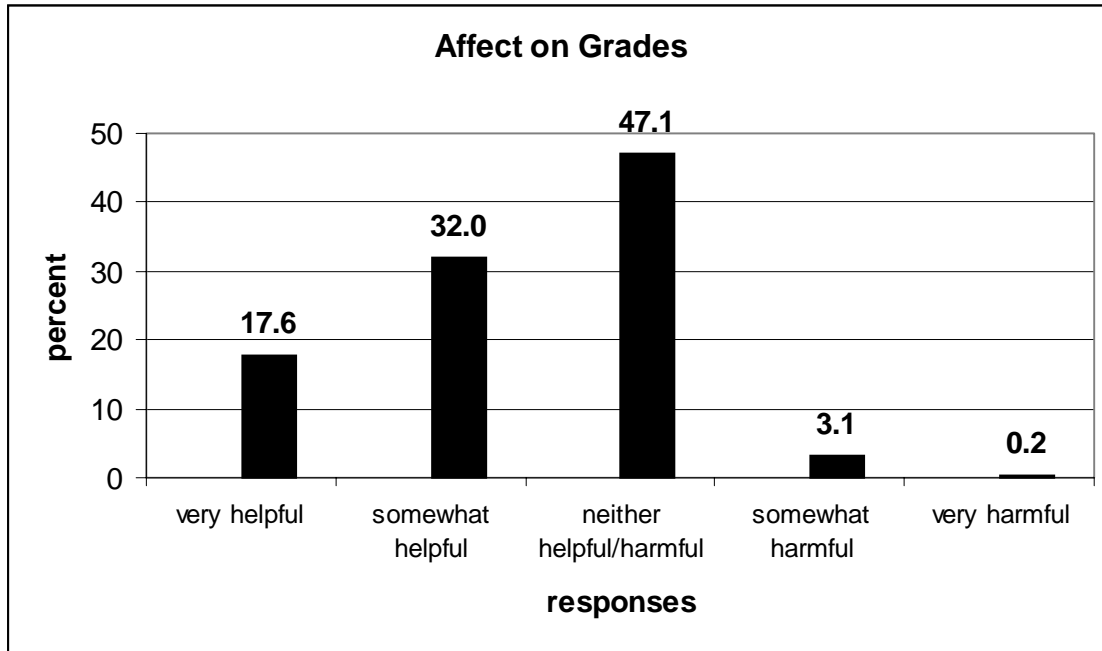
**Chart 6.1: How satisfied are you with the academic support your chapter offers?**



**Chart 6.2: What extent do you feel your chapter emphasizes academic and intellectual development?**



**Chart 6.3: In general, how has your Greek experience affected your grades?**



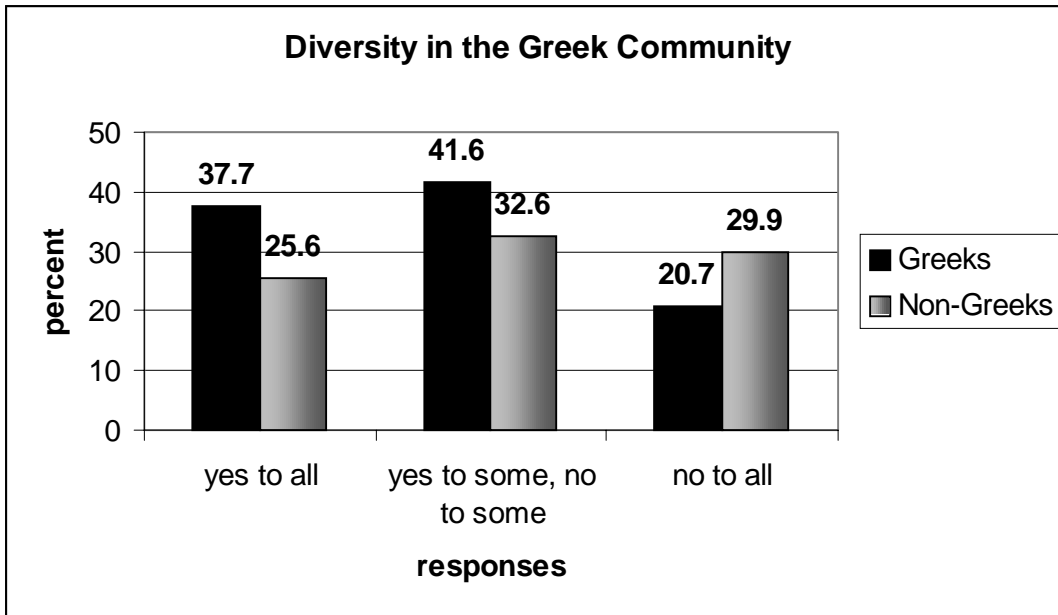
**Diversity**

Another area of standards included in the GLTFR focuses on diversity. Specifically, chapters are required to educate their members on issues related to diverse populations and to participate in at least one diversity-oriented program or event (with 75% of its membership participating). In addition, criticisms of the Greek community include its exclusiveness. Hence, Greek and non-Greek students were asked a series of questions about diversity within the Greek community and the perceived attitudes of Greek members toward others.

Greek students perceived their chapters to be more diverse when compared to perceptions of non-Greeks students. (See Chart 7.0)

- Almost 38% (37.7%) of Greek students thought that their chapter was diverse in terms of race, ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation. However, only 25.6% of non-Greek students perceived the Greek community to be inclusive in all of these ways.
- Furthermore, 20.7% of Greek students acknowledged that their chapter was not diverse by race/ethnicity, by religion, or by sexual orientation. Almost 30% (29.9%) of non-Greek students felt the Greek community was not diverse.

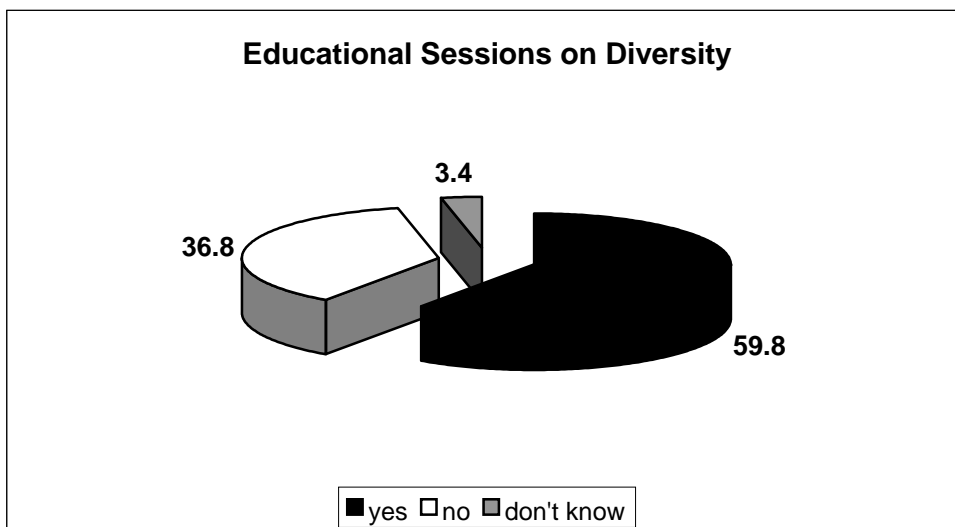
**Chart 7.0: Do you consider your chapter/ the Greek community to be diverse in terms of race, ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation? (Greeks)**



Greek students were asked about their chapter’s sponsorship of educational sessions on diversity or their encouragement of participation in other such campus events. (See Chart 7.1)

- Almost 60% (59.8%) of students responded that their chapter offered or encouraged attendance at programs on diversity.
- However, 36.8% responded that their chapter did not.

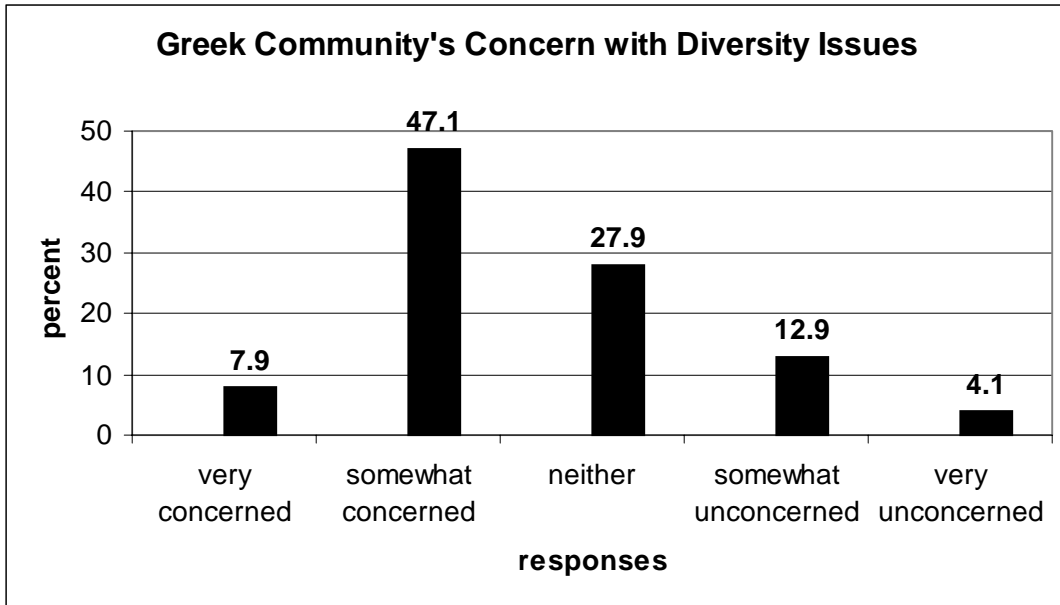
**Chart 7.1: Does your chapter currently offer educational sessions on diversity or encourage participation in campus events that emphasize diversity? (Greeks)**



The data regarding Greek students' perceptions of how concerned they thought the Greek community was with issues related to diversity are presented in Chart 7.2.

- Close to half of the students (47.1%) felt that the Greek community was “somewhat concerned” with diversity issues. Another 7.9% responded that they were “very concerned.”
- However, 44.9% of students responded that the Greek community was either neutral or unconcerned with issues related to diversity.

**Chart 7.2: Based on your experience, how concerned do you think the Greek community is with issues related to diversity? (Greeks)**



In addition, Greek organizations are often perceived to be racist, sexist, homophobic, and elitist. Both Greek and non-Greek students were asked how they perceived members of their chapter or of the Greek community (respectively) with regard to such attitudes. Overall, non-Greeks perceived the Greek community to be less accepting than did Greeks. (See Table 7.0)

- The majority of Greek students thought members of their chapters were “about as likely” to be interested in knowing people of different racial and ethnic backgrounds (59.1%) as other OSU students and were “less likely” to be prejudiced or racist (53.7%). However, non-Greek students were significantly more likely to view Greeks as being less interested in knowing people of different racial/ethnic backgrounds and as being more likely to be prejudiced or racist compared to the Greek students’ perceptions.
- The differences in perception were even greater when asking about Greek students’ acceptance of gays, lesbians, and bisexuals (GLB). Almost 54% (53.9%) of non-Greek students thought members of the Greek community were “less likely” to be accepting of GLB students compared to only 24.9% of Greek students.
- The perceptions of students not affiliated with the Greek community also supported the view that these organizations tend to attract members who are from wealthy families; 72.0% of non-Greeks responded that Greeks were “more likely” to be from wealthy families. Only 33.9% of Greek students responded this way.

**Table 7.0: Do you think members of your chapter/the Greek community are more likely, less likely, or about as likely as other OSU students... (Greeks and Non-Greeks)**

Percent of responses	To be interested in knowing people from difference racial and ethnic backgrounds		To be prejudiced or racist		To be accepting of gays, lesbians, and bisexuals		To be from wealthy families	
	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=402)	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=402)	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=402)	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=402)
More likely (1)	34.2	13.0	2.8	20.8	15.4	4.3	33.9	72.0
About as likely (2)	59.1	52.7	43.5	67.7	59.7	41.9	48.6	24.4
Less likely (3)	6.7	34.3	53.7	11.5	24.9	53.9	17.5	3.6
Average Scores	1.73	*2.21	2.51	**1.91	2.10	*2.50	1.84	*1.32

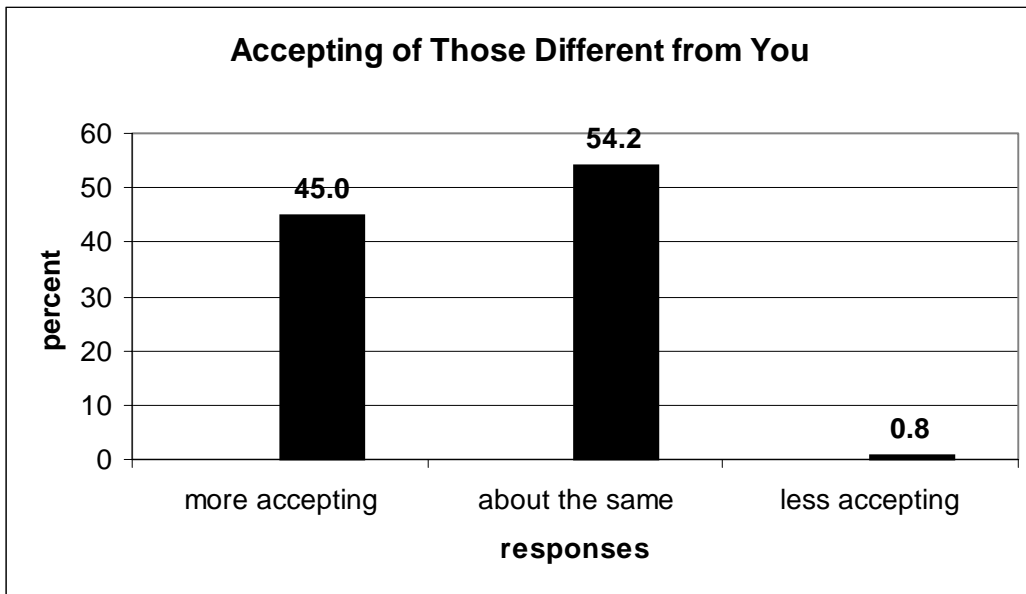
\* Significantly different at the 99% confidence level

\*\* Significantly different at the 95% confidence level

Greek students were also asked how they had changed with regard to accepting those who are different from them since they joined the Greek community. (See Chart 7.3)

- Forty-five percent (45.0%) reported being more accepting, and 54.2% reported being about the same.

**Chart 7.3: Since joining your chapter, have you become more accepting, less accepting, or about the same in accepting those who are different from you? (Greeks)**

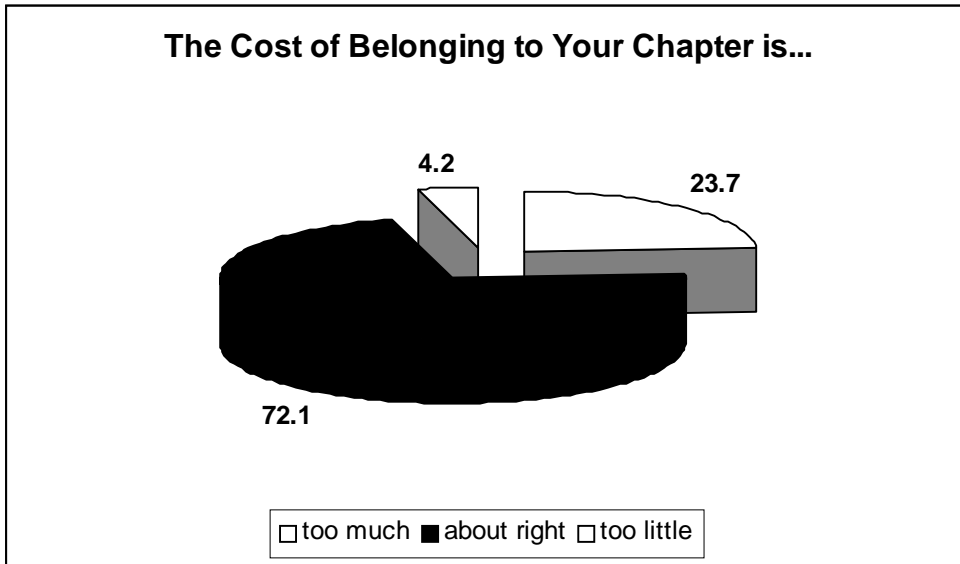


**Fiscal Issues**

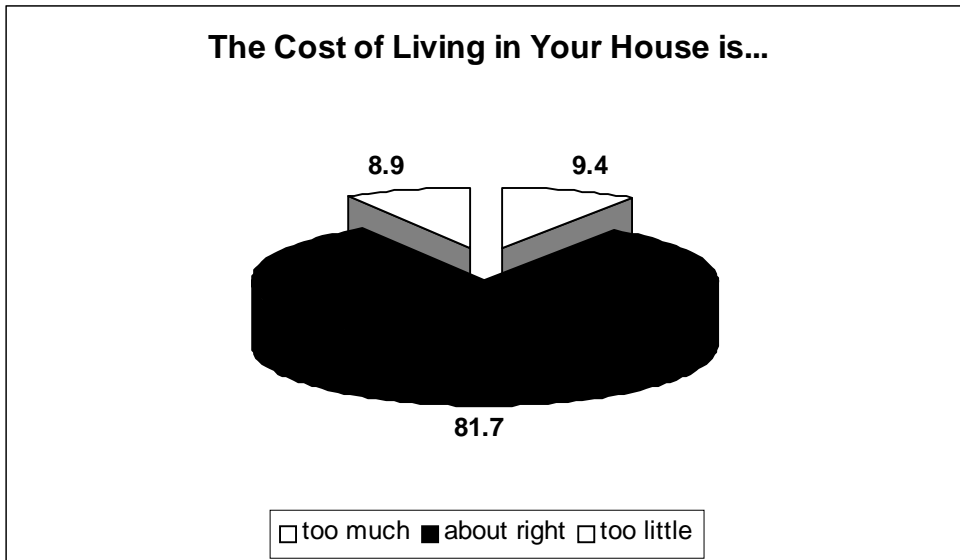
Fiscal issues include the cost of being a member of the Greek community and, for those chapters that have housing, the cost of living in the chapter house. Similarly, there are issues regarding whether or not the cost of joining becomes a barrier in the recruitment process, whether or not there is membership attrition because of difficulty paying dues, and whether or not chapters have difficulty getting members to pay their chapter bills.

Almost 24% (23.7%) of Greeks thought the cost of belonging to their chapter was “too much.” (See Chart 8.0) However, 81.7% reported that the cost of living in the house was “about right.” (See Chart 8.1)

**Chart 8.0: Would you say the cost of belonging to your chapter is...**



**Chart 8.1: Would you say the cost of living in your chapter house is...\***



\* PHC fraternities and sororities do not have houses.

Greek students were also asked about the impact of fraternity and sorority costs on membership recruitment and membership attrition along with the ability of the chapter to collect membership expenses from their members. (See Table 8.0)

- The majority (67.6%) of Greek students agreed that the cost of belonging to a fraternity or sorority is a barrier to attracting new members.
- The majority (61.8%) also agreed that they have had members who became inactive because they were unable to pay their dues.

- However, over half (53.5%) disagreed that their chapter has difficulty getting members to pay their chapter bills.

**Table 8.0: Greek students’ responses to other fiscal issues**

Response by % (n=617)	The cost of belonging to a fraternity or sorority is a barrier to attracting new members.	My chapter has members become inactive because they can’t pay their dues.	My chapter has difficulty getting members to pay their chapter bills.
Strongly agree (1)	17.6	24.5	14.4
Somewhat agree (2)	50.0	37.3	32.1
Somewhat disagree (3)	19.7	17.1	28.5
Strongly disagree (4)	12.7	21.1	25.0
Average Scores	2.27	2.35	2.64

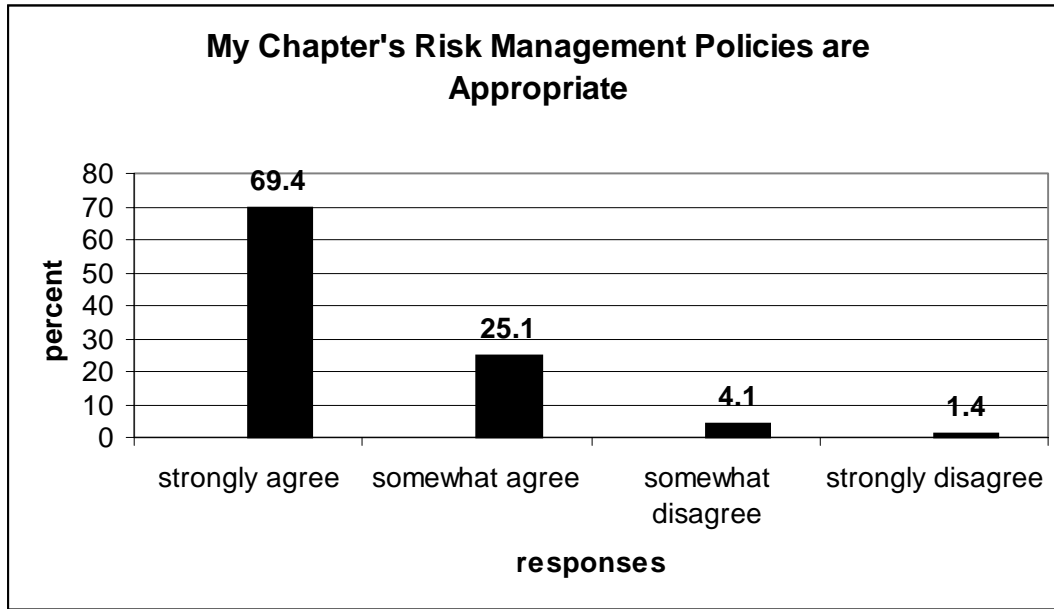
### Risk Management

In this section, data are presented regarding risk management issues for Greek organizations including the education of members about issues such as hazing policies, fire safety (housing issues), hosting responsible social functions, preventing sexual abuse, and reducing high risk drinking. As stated in the GLTFR, chapters are required to educate new members about hazing and other pertinent issues and to participate in and/or coordinate an educational session on risk management for a majority of their group. Furthermore, chapters are encouraged to examine the larger issue of risk management.

Greek students were asked about their general knowledge of risk management policies and about the appropriateness of these policies. (See Chart 9.0)

- Over 94% (94.2%) of students said they were knowledgeable about their council’s (IFC, PHA, or PHC) risk management policies. (Data not shown)
- Almost 96% (95.6%) responded that they were knowledgeable about their chapter’s risk management policies. (Data not shown)
- When asked if their chapter’s risk management policies were appropriate, only 5.5% disagreed. However, we do not know whether they thought they were too extensive/restrictive or too lenient.

**Chart 9.0: My chapter’s risk management policies are appropriate.**



More specifically, Greek students were asked whether or not they had learned anything about specific risk management issues through their chapter. (See Table 9.0)

- Almost all students (over 98%) reported that they had learned about hazing policies and hosting responsible social functions.
- Most students (91.2%) also reported having received some education on reducing high risk drinking.
- While still an overwhelming majority (88.3%), fewer students replied that they had learned anything about preventing sexual abuse through their chapter than they had the aforementioned risk management topics.
- Of those students who belonged to chapters with houses, 78.7% said they had learned about fire codes and other safety issues in the house. The 19.0% who said they haven’t learned about these topics may reflect students who do not live in the houses and may be less likely to be exposed to such training.

**Table 9.0: Greek students’ education on specific risk management topics: Have you learned anything about the following issues through your chapter...?**

Response by % (n=617)	Physical safety in the house, such as fire codes*	Hazing policies	Hosting responsible social functions	Understanding & preventing sexual abuse	Reducing high risk drinking
Yes	78.7	98.7	98.1	88.3	91.2
No	19.0	1.1	1.5	11.0	8.3
Don’t know/not applicable	1.8	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.5

\*Represents members of chapters with houses (IFC and PHA groups)

As presented in Table 9.1, most Greek students agreed (92.6%) that their chapter enforces the Council’s alcohol and drug policies. However, most (79.6%) also agreed that stricter policies regarding social events have limited chapter social functions.

**Table 9.1: Policies and guidelines regarding alcohol and social events. (Greeks)**

Response by % (n=617)	My chapter enforces the Council's alcohol & drug policies.	Stronger policies & guidelines regarding social events, such as Dry 2000, have limited the social interaction of chapters.
Strongly agree (1)	57.3	55.8
Somewhat agree (2)	35.3	23.8
Somewhat disagree (3)	6.6	13.7
Strongly disagree (4)	0.8	6.7
Average Scores	1.51	1.71

**Alcohol and Partying**

In addition to issues of risk management, both Greeks and non-Greeks were asked about perceptions of alcohol and drug use on campus and within the Greek community as well as their personal consumption of alcohol. (A number of these questions were taken from the Core Alcohol and Drug Survey.)

The data from Greek and non-Greeks students' perceptions of the role of alcohol in the social life at OSU and within the Greek community are displayed in Table 10.0. The data of students' perceptions regarding substance abuse at OSU and in the Greek community are presented in Table 10.1.

- Both Greek and non-Greek students tended to agree that alcohol is a central part of the social life at OSU. However, non-Greeks were significantly more likely to agree with 47.4% responding that they “strongly agreed” compared to 30.4% of Greeks.
- The differences between Greek and non-Greek students' perceptions were even greater when asked about the role of alcohol in the Greek community. Almost 57% (56.9%) of non-Greeks strongly agreed that alcohol is a central part of the Greek community compared to only 17.0% of the Greeks. Furthermore, over 37% (37.4%) of Greeks disagreed with the statement compared to only 8.2% of non-Greeks.
- Greeks and non-Greeks responded similarly regarding their perceptions of the problem of substance abuse among students at OSU with about half of both groups “somewhat agreeing” that there is a problem.
- However, non-Greeks were significantly more likely to agree that there is a substance abuse problem among students in the Greek community than were Greek students.

**Table 10.0: Perceptions of the role of alcohol in the social life at OSU and in the Greek community (Greeks and non-Greeks)**

Response by %	Alcohol is a central part of the social life at OSU.		Alcohol is a central part of the social life of the Greek community.	
	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=341)	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=341)
Strongly agree (1)	30.4	47.4	17.0	56.9
Somewhat agree (2)	39.8	40.4	45.5	34.9
Somewhat disagree (3)	17.2	10.2	21.9	6.4
Strongly disagree (4)	12.6	2.0	15.5	1.8
Average Scores	2.12	*1.67	2.36	*1.53

\* Statistically significant at the 99% confidence interval.

**Table 10.1: Perceptions of substance abuse at OSU and in the Greek community (Greeks and non-Greeks)**

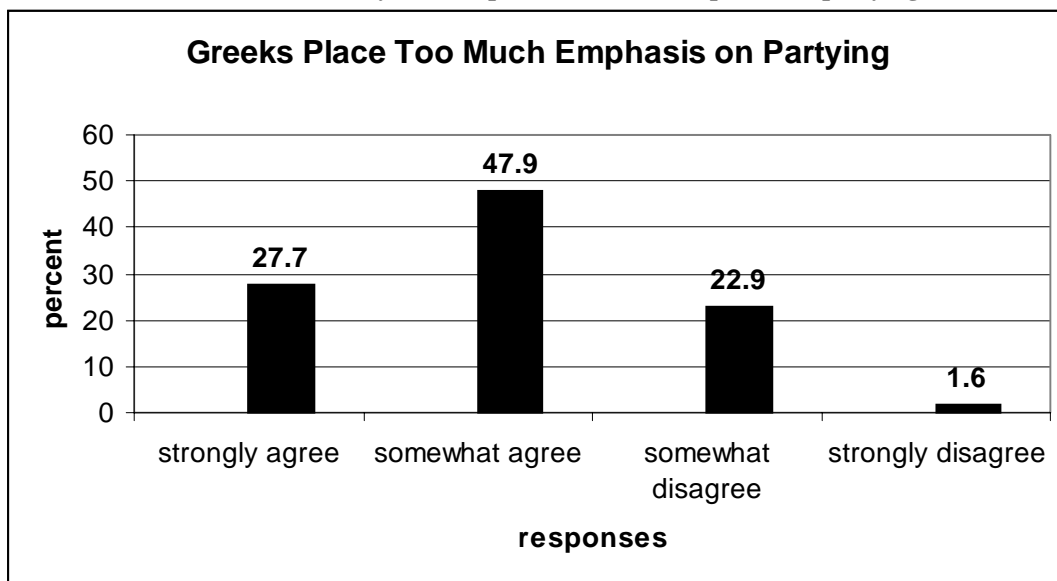
Response by %	There is a substance abuse problem among students at OSU.		There is a substance abuse problem among students in the Greek community.	
	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=341)	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=341)
Strongly agree (1)	19.3	17.2	11.2	19.9
Somewhat agree (2)	50.8	51.3	46.1	52.4
Somewhat disagree (3)	23.8	26.8	29.3	24.7
Strongly disagree (4)	6.2	4.7	13.4	3.0
Average Scores	2.17	2.19	2.45	*2.11

\* Statistically significant at the 99% confidence interval.

Non-Greek students were also asked about their level of agreement with the statement, “The Greek community at OSU places too much emphasis on partying.” (See Chart 10.0)

- The majority (75.6%) of non-Greek students agreed that the Greek community places too much emphasis on partying.

**Chart 10.0: The Greek community at OSU places too much emphasis on partying (Non-Greeks)**



In addition to questions about the general OSU student body and the Greek community, Greek students were also asked about the centrality of alcohol in the social life of their chapter and the prevalence of substance abuse among members of their chapter. (See Table 10.2)

- The majority of Greek students (60.3%) disagreed that alcohol is a central part of the social life of their chapter.
- Furthermore, most (83.7%) disagreed that there is a substance abuse problem among members of their chapter.

**Table 10.2: Perceptions of the role of alcohol and of substance abuse in their chapter. (Greeks)**

Response by % (n=617)	Alcohol is a central part of the social life of my chapter.	There is a substance abuse problem among members of my chapter.
Strongly agree (1)	7.5	2.0
Somewhat agree (2)	31.6	14.3
Somewhat disagree (3)	29.7	25.4
Strongly disagree (4)	30.6	58.3
Average Scores	2.84	3.40

In order to examine actual alcohol use, three questions were asked of all respondents. First in order to determine at-risk drinking behavior, students were asked, “In the past two weeks, how many times have you had five or more drinks at a sitting?” This question measures the binge drinking rate as defined by Core Institute at the Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Studies. A second question asked students how many drinks they consumed a week. Lastly, students were asked if they drank more, less, or about the same as they did before coming to OSU. (See Tables 10.3 & 10.4 and Chart 10.1)

- Similar to the findings in the Core Survey (see page 4), Greek students reported a higher binge drinking rate than non-Greeks: a difference of 17.0%. Furthermore, Greek respondents reported a greater likelihood of bingeing frequently (three or more times in the two week period) with 32.4% reporting such behavior compared to 22.7% of non-Greeks.
- Also consistent with the overall findings of the Core Survey, Greek students averaged more drinks per week than non-Greek students with 51.4% responding that they averaged 7 or more drinks a week compared to 32.9% of non-Greek respondents.
- Lastly, 53.9% of Greek students responded that they drink more now than they did prior to coming to OSU compared to 45.5% of non-Greeks.

**Table 10.3: In the past two weeks, how many times have you had five or more drinks at a sitting (Greeks and non-Greeks)**

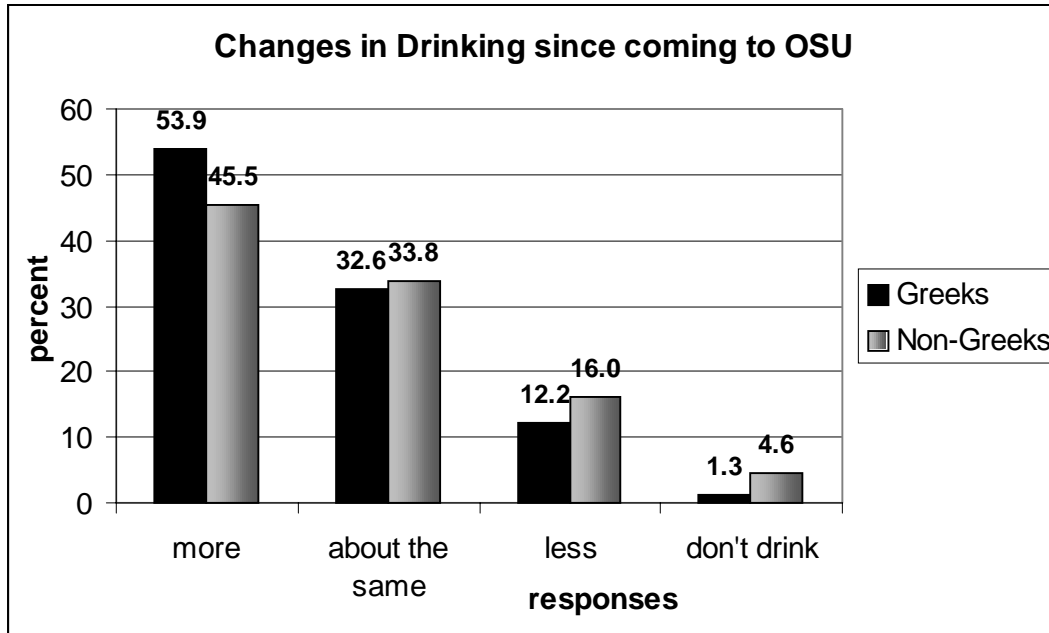
Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=402)
0	33.8	50.8
1	17.2	14.0
2	16.6	12.5
3-5	23.7	16.0
6-9	7.0	6.0
10 or more	1.6	0.7
Binge drinking rate	66.2	49.2
Frequent binge drinking	32.4	22.7

**Table 10.4: On average, how many drinks do you consume in a week (Greeks and non-Greeks)**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	Non-Greeks (n=402)
0	7.6	19.4
1-6	41.1	47.7
7-13	26.5	15.9
14-30	20.1	15.7
31 & higher	4.8	1.3
Average	9.60	*7.08

\* Statistically significant at the 99% confidence level.

**Chart 10.1: Do you drink more, less, or about the same than you did before you came to OSU? (Greeks and Non-Greeks)**



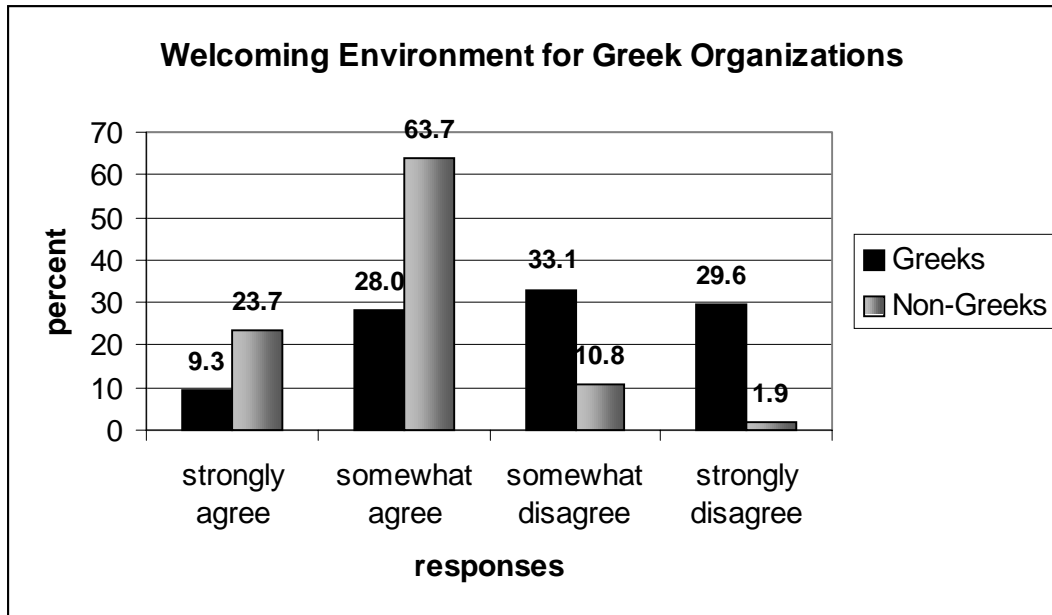
**University Support of the Greek Community**

While the GLTF recommendations increase the standards for the Greek community, they also call for the University to provide additional support and guidance for fraternities and sororities in order to assist them in reaching these new standards. As such, a number of questions on the survey asked students about their perceptions of the level of institutional support for the Greek community.

Both Greek and non-Greek students were asked their level of agreement with the statement, “The University provides a welcoming environment for its Greek organizations.” (See Chart 11.0)

- Greek and non-Greek respondents differed significantly in their perceptions regarding whether or not the University provides a welcoming environment for its Greek organizations. Over 87% (87.4%) of non-Greeks agreed with the statement compared to only 37.3% of Greek students.

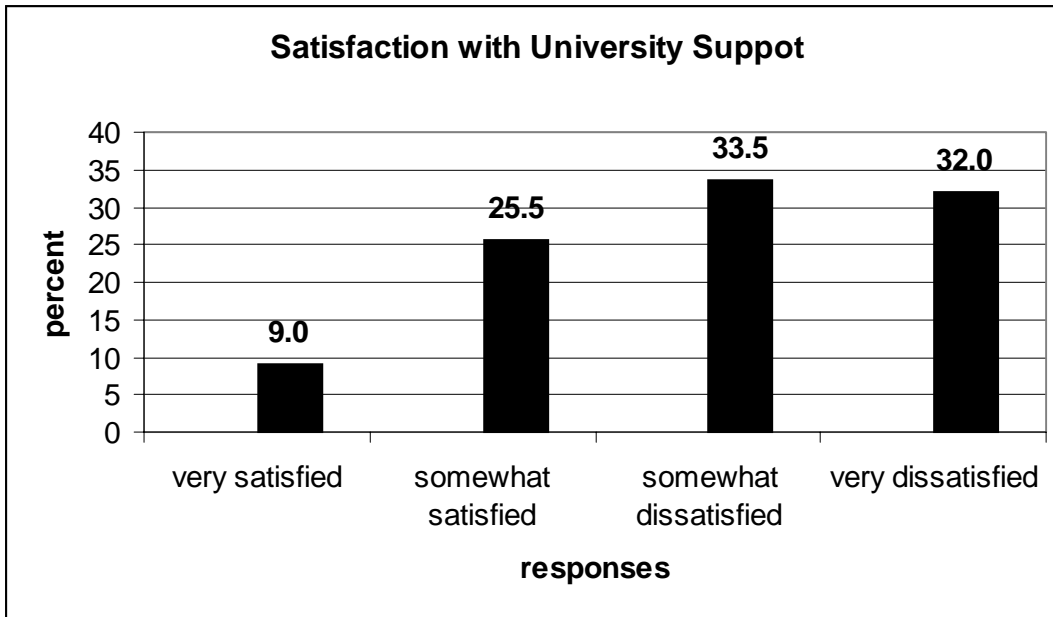
**Chart 11.0: The University provides a welcoming environment for its Greek organizations. (Greeks and non-Greeks)**



In addition, Greek students were asked about their level of satisfaction with the University’s support of the Greek community as well as whether or not they agreed that the Student Activities & Campus Programs Office helps their chapter establish relationships with the rest of the University and provides publicity for the Greek community. Lastly, they were asked about their familiarity with the GLTF and their attitude about the report. (See Chart 11.1 and Tables 11.0 – 11.2)

- The majority of Greek students (65.5%) expressed dissatisfaction with the level of support they receive from the University.
- About half of the Greek respondents agreed that the Student Activities & Campus Programs Office helps their chapter form relationships with the rest of the University (53.5%) and provides positive publicity for the Greek community as a whole (51.5%).
- Almost 48% of the Greek students reported that while they had heard of the GLTF they had not personally read the report. Another 7.8% responded that they hadn’t heard of the GLTF.
- Despite evidence that students were not overly familiar with the report, 42.6% reported that they understood the reasons for the GLTFR but did not think it was feasible, and another 9.7% were totally against it.

**Chart 11.1: How satisfied are you with the level of support your chapter and the Greek community receive from the University? (Greeks)**



**Table 11.0: Support from the Student Activities & Campus Programs Office. (Greeks)**

Response by % (n=617)	The Student Activities & Campus Programs Office helps my chapter form relationships with the rest of the University.	The Student Activities & Campus Programs Office provides positive publicity for the Greek community as a whole.
Strongly agree (1)	11.3	11.4
Somewhat agree (2)	42.2	40.1
Somewhat disagree (3)	29.6	30.3
Strongly disagree (4)	16.9	18.2
Average Scores	2.52	2.55

**Table 11.1: How familiar are you with the Greek Life Task Force Report? (Greeks)**

Response by % (n=617)	
You are very familiar with the report and could explain it to others.	13.8
You have read the report and are generally familiar with it.	30.6
You have heard of the report but have not personally read it.	47.8
You have not heard of the GLTF report.	7.8

**Table 11.2: Which of the following statements best describes your attitude toward the Greek Life Task Force Report? (Greeks)**

Response by % (n=617)	
I fully support the GLTFR and think it will improve the Greek system at Ohio State.	20.0
I generally support the GLTFR but am concerned about my chapter's ability to meet all the requirements.	27.7
I understand the reasons for the GLTFR but do not think it is feasible.	42.6
I am totally against the GLTFR.	9.7

## Students' Comments

Lastly, Greek students were given the opportunity to make any comments about their experiences with the Greek system at OSU. The intent was to allow students to comment on topics not covered in the survey and/or to expand on those things that were most important to them. Some students did not comment, and others commented on a number of different aspects of their Greek experience. These comments have been broadly coded into seven themes. (See Table 12.0 for summary)

Most frequently, students spoke to the positive personal experiences they have had in their fraternity or sorority – how it has helped them adjust to college, to develop skills and academic goals, to have fun, and others.

- Numerous students responded that they have had a wonderful time as a member of the Greek community. Comments included:
  - It has been a very positive thing for me.
  - It's awesome.
  - It is the best decision I have ever made.
  - It's been a great experience for me. I would recommend it to my younger siblings.
  - I don't know where I would be if not for the help of fellow brothers.
  - I enjoyed it, and it is worth every penny I spent.
  - Probably the best thing that I've done at OSU.
  - It's nothing but beneficial, and I think a lot of people miss out on this opportunity.
  - It rocks!
- Those students who commented on how Greek membership helped them adjust to college said the following:
  - I'm very glad I joined a Greek house; it's made a big difference in my college experience and made it a lot better since I am an out-of-state student to have a home here.
  - Good experience. It helped me adapt to life here during the first few months.
  - I think it has been worthwhile, and I have made a lot of friends within the Greek community.
  - I wouldn't have any of my friends without Greek life. I wouldn't like school without it.
  - It is probably the reason I stayed at OSU. I was homesick and hanging around the chapter house helped eliminate that feeling and replace it with a sense of community.
  - Coming to a big school was intimidating, and the Greek system made it more comfortable to be here.
- Other students talked about the personal benefits such as developing skills and assisting with academic/career goals.
  - The Greek system has helped me become less timid and more of a leader.
  - It has been very positive; it has improved my self-esteem. I would recommend it.
  - I think it has been one of the best things I have done by far. It has helped me meet a lot of new people and even increase my GPA.
  - It's been an overall positive experience that has developed my character.
  - It has helped with future career moves.
  - It has been fantastic and a lot about leadership. I can confront my peers in a more businesslike manner, and it helped my social and interactive skills.
  - I have enjoyed the experience; it has helped me in my studies and job search.

- I am the former president of the fraternity and treasurer, and all of this leadership experience helped me in interviews for internships and jobs. It showed the ability to work in large groups and manage large groups.
- Students also talked about the positive experience they have had in their chapter but recognize problems in the Greek community or with the relationship to the University.
  - I am very satisfied with my chapter but not all chapters are the same.
  - It has been awesome but too much concern about hazing and drinking.
  - It has been very positive but frustrating because of the new rules and restrictions.
  - I think my experience has been great. My expectations have been met in some areas, and the Greek system is what you make of it.
  - Wonderful opportunity but it's getting a bad reputation.
  - I strongly recommend it because of the sense of community and belonging, but there is a lot of pressure about alcohol. However, there is some pressure about alcohol use on campus as a whole. I think it is a good thing to belong to Greek life at OSU.
  - The best decision I ever made. I pledged the first two weeks here, best group of guys. Different from any other house. We are the good guys but are surrounded by the bad guys.
  - [For me] it's been phenomenal but I have seen people in other chapters negatively influenced.
  - I think other houses present a negative image that affects our fraternity.

Moreover, very few students (6) commented on negative experiences they had within the Greek community. They include the following:

- If I could be a freshman again, I wouldn't be part of the Greek system.
- Good experience going through rush but since then my Greek experience has gone down hill.
- They act nice to you to join, and then seem to forget about you. I felt like I was recruited to fill a quota. Therefore, I can't get motivated to recruit other girls because I'm trying to decide whether I'm wasting my money or not.
- It is easy to fall into things you might not – both good and bad – in the Greek system.

Almost 10% of respondents commented on the lack of university support for the Greek community. Some students felt that the University was trying to eliminate the Greek system. Comments included the following:

- OSU needs to support the Greek system in a more positive fashion.
- [The administration] doesn't seem to hear our side of the story. It seems like they are trying to shut it down, putting higher expectations on Greek students than everyone else...Now it's so heavily regulated it doesn't seem as much fun.
- What they are doing now with the Greek system is destroying the system.
- It was more organized and fun two years ago but with all the trouble with the University I would not recommend anyone joining now.
- I think the University is trying to get rid of the Greek society. Some of the moves they make are trying to kill it.
- The biggest hindrance to the Greek system at the University is the Office of Student Affairs.
- The University needs to start helping instead of working against us.
- Surprised to find out that the Kirwans are Greek members since they don't seem to support the Greek system at OSU.
- It has been fun but the University overlooks all the good we do as opposed to any small incident that makes us look bad.

- I heard what Kirwan did with Maryland and destroyed the community and is trying to destroy the community here also. Greeks are held to a higher standard compared to any other student here.
- The Greek system and life are being actively reduced at OSU. University policies and closing of chapters are too severe and are discouraging to new members. OSU should be encouraging growth and be promoted as a great part of the OSU community.

Related to students' general comments about the lack of support they feel from the University, other students spoke about the GLTF, Dry 2000 (a program initiated by the NPC and passed by the PHA at OSU that puts restrictions on sorority women's attendance at events in fraternities that are not "dry") and the negative reputation and publicity the Greek community receives.

- Students' opinions varied on the GLTF as did their understanding of the plan. Students' made the following comments:
  - The University means well with the Task Force but if other organizations had to live up to these rules, many of these organizations would be gone within 18 months. I feel that Greeks have been singled out.
  - About the Task Force, we already have standards set by the national organization, and they're harder than the ones proposed. I think that sororities can meet these standards already but perhaps not the fraternities.
  - I disagree with making students have 12 credit hours before joining a fraternity or sorority. Students should be treated as adults capable of making these decisions.
  - Greek Life Task Force is holding the Greeks to a higher standard than other groups that have houses that have common living areas. Hold everyone to the same standards or reduce the Greek standards to make them reasonable for all to follow.
  - The rules are becoming a burden on the Greek system. Some frats are going to get kicked off for non-compliance. Others are trying to meet the standards. It's too much to expect at one time. They need to scale back and incrementally institute change.
  - The University needs to pay more attention to the students by not just having a task force but by meeting WITH students. I'm dissatisfied with JUST having a 20-page report and no follow-up or commitment.
  - There are some good things about the GLTF that will help. However, some chapters will have difficulty meeting all of the terms of that task force, and so there may be some decrease in Greek membership.
- Some students talked about the impact of Dry 2000.
  - Sometimes the rules get out of control. I don't like the fact that sororities cannot come to fraternities, and you end up having to go out or to a bar to socialize.
  - They should get rid of Dry 2000.
  - The Greek system is getting worse. Since Dry 2000, there has been less involvement; there are difficulties between all the chapters.
  - Dry 2000 has made drinking worse, would rather go back to the way it was. There were rules and they were enforced.
  - I do not think Dry 2000 will make the Greek system fall apart, and if people would drink responsibly everyone can have a good time, and then they would be able to show new members and people a good time responsibly, and it doesn't have to be a dry event.

- Another area that students talked about was the negative publicity the Greek system receives and the negative reputation that results from it.
  - The University is only publishing the negative aspects of the community.
  - Sometimes the Greek community gets blamed for things we shouldn't be. The local media and the University media put a black mark on the Greek system, which is undeserved.
  - I think the Greek system has declined since I came to OSU. I would like to see more support from OSU. Poor public relations with OSU is the main problem. Every time we do something good you do not hear about it, but when something bad it done it is in the Lantern the next day. It is hard to get out with good public relations skills to get the good info out. OSU could come through and help with publicity.
  - I'm really disappointed in the perception of Greeks by non-Greeks, wish we were not perceived as "drunken rich kids." My parents do not pay for me at all. I'm an Honors student and on the deans list.
  - The University needs to start helping instead of working against us. There needs to be just as much positive publicity. It should make the front page of the Lantern, not the back page...it seems that only news on the front page is the bad stuff. When a house gets kicked off campus it gets put on the front page and when a house does something good it gets put on the back page.
  
- While some of the students who commented on the Greek system being in trouble at OSU focused their comments on the relationship with the University, others talked about troubles within the Greek community itself.
  - The number of Greek members at OSU is poor compared to other universities and poor compared to the number of students at Ohio State.
  - The Greek community needs to be more organized and have more confidence in itself to begin to repair its image at Ohio State.
  - I don't think Greeks are a big part of campus life.
  - The OSU Greek community is a failing Greek community. The University does not help a bit and seems to have no intention in helping the Greek community.
  - I see the Greek system going down hill. I hope that there will be people to continue the tradition of Greek life. I think OSU is trying to phase them out.
  - Overall, the spirit is lacking within the Greek community and I think it could use some improvements.

The last category of student comments included a wide range of comments. Some of those comments are as follows:

- Our organization is very much different than other Greek organizations. We promote diversity and the other ones do not.
- I like my house because of the no hazing policy. We don't have to worry about that.
- Problems with drinking are the same with all students.
- Greek organizations are more supportive academically and scholastically than people think.
- The system should become a community...and until houses come together without alcohol and partying the Greek system will not get the full support of the university. It should be about growth and not about drinking.
- My organization is different than most. We encourage academics and community leadership. We don't encourage drinking; we are accepting if you don't want to drink.
- A couple bad groups (fraternities) have done some stupid things that have ruined it for everyone. We now have to deal with a lot of stupid rules, but as a whole the Greek system at OSU is one of the best I have ever seen.

**Table 12.0: Do you have any comments that you would like to make about your experiences with the Greek system at OSU? (Greeks)**

Response by % (n=617)	
Positive personal experience	21.7
University support	9.9
Other	6.0
GLTF	3.1
Trouble within the Greek community	3.0
Negative publicity/reputation of the Greek community	3.4
Dry 2000	2.0
Negative personal experience	1.0

Comparisons Between IFC, PHA, and PHC Members

In this part of the report, the data are examined based on the council affiliation of the respondents. Such comparisons are important in understanding the differences between the various organizations.

**Overall Impressions**

Overall Impressions of OSU

In this section, comparisons between IFC, PHA, and PHC groups are made with regard to their general impressions of their experiences at Ohio State. (See Tables 13.0-13.3)

- Generally, IFC, PHA, and PHC members reported the same level of satisfaction with their OSU experience. The women of PHA organizations were more likely to report being “very satisfied” with OSU than were IFC or PHC students.
- PHC members were significantly less likely to report being connected to the OSU community than IFC or PHA members, with 69.0% of PHC members reporting being “very” or “somewhat connected” compared to over 92% of the other groups.

**Table 13.0: Overall, how satisfied are you with your experience at Ohio State?**

Response by %	All Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Very satisfied (1)	67.9	66.6	72.4	62.1
Somewhat satisfied (2)	29.2	30.5	24.4	37.9
Somewhat unsatisfied (3)	2.6	2.6	2.8	0.0
Very unsatisfied (4)	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.0
Average Scores	1.35	1.37	1.31	1.38

**Table 13.1: How well has OSU met your expectations so far?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Much better than you expected (1)	15.6	14.1	19.9	10.3
Better than you expected (2)	37.7	37.5	38.4	24.1
About what you expected (3)	40.6	41.9	37.0	51.7
Worse than you expected (4)	5.4	5.6	3.7	13.8
Much worse than you expected (5)	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.0
Average Scores	2.38	2.42	❖2.27	⊛2.69

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level.

⊛ Significantly different from PHA at the 95% confidence level.

**Table 13.2: Overall, how connected do you feel to the OSU community?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Very connected (1)	42.1	45.5	38.2	34.5
Somewhat connected (2)	48.9	46.9	55.3	34.5
Only a little connected (3)	7.3	5.9	5.5	27.6
Not connected at all (4)	1.6	1.8	0.9	3.4
Average Scores	1.68	⊛1.64	1.69	⊛2.00

⊛ Significantly different from PHA at the 95% confidence level.

⊛ Significantly different from PHC at the 95% confidence level

**Table 13.3: How important is it to you to feel a sense of community?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Very important (1)	55.9	53.1	61.8	48.3
Somewhat important (2)	37.8	39.6	34.6	41.4
Somewhat unimportant (3)	4.4	5.0	2.8	6.9
Not at all important (4)	1.9	2.3	0.9	3.4
Average Scores	1.52	1.57	❖1.43	1.66

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level.

Overall Impressions of Greek Life

Greek students were also asked about their overall impressions of their Greek experience. (See Tables 14.0-14.3)

- The women in PHA organizations expressed greater dissatisfaction with their Greek experience and expressed a greater gap between their expectations and their Greek experience than did members of IFC organizations.
- Moreover, PHA members were more likely to be unsatisfied with the cultural offerings of their chapters than IFC or PHC members. However, what is unclear is whether their chapters do a worse job of providing such opportunities or if such events are more important to PHA members than members of the other groups.

**Table 14.0: Overall, how satisfied are you with your experience as a member of a Greek organization?**

Response by %	All Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Very satisfied (1)	74.5	78.8	67.3	75.9
Somewhat satisfied (2)	21.8	17.6	28.1	24.1
Somewhat unsatisfied (3)	2.8	2.6	3.7	0.0
Very unsatisfied (4)	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.0
Average Scores	1.30	1.26	❖1.38	1.24

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level.

**Table 14.1: How well has your Greek experience met your expectations so far?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Much better than you expected (1)	34.2	40.3	25.0	31.0
Better than you expected (2)	37.6	35.6	40.3	48.3
About what you expected (3)	23.3	20.6	28.7	13.8
Worse than you expected (4)	4.4	3.5	5.6	6.9
Much worse than you expected (5)	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.0
Average Scores	1.98	1.87	❖2.16	1.97

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 99% confidence level.

**Table 14.2: How satisfied are you with the cultural activities offered through your chapter?**

Response by %	All Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Very satisfied (1)	38.9	41.6	29.9	53.6
Somewhat satisfied (2)	50.8	49.8	55.9	35.7
Somewhat unsatisfied (3)	8.1	7.6	10.0	7.1
Very unsatisfied (4)	2.2	0.9	4.3	3.6
Average Scores	1.73	1.68	❖1.89	1.61

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 99% confidence level.

**Table 14.3: How satisfied are you with the leadership development activities offered through your chapter?**

Response by %	All Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Very satisfied (1)	68.4	67.3	70.6	64.3
Somewhat satisfied (2)	27.3	27.4	25.7	35.7
Somewhat unsatisfied (3)	3.6	4.7	2.8	0.0
Very unsatisfied (4)	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.0
Average Scores	1.36	1.39	1.34	1.36

### Campus Involvement and Employment

Generally, Greek students were involved in the activities of their chapters and in other campus activities and organizations. (See Tables 15.0 & 15.1 and Chart 15.0)

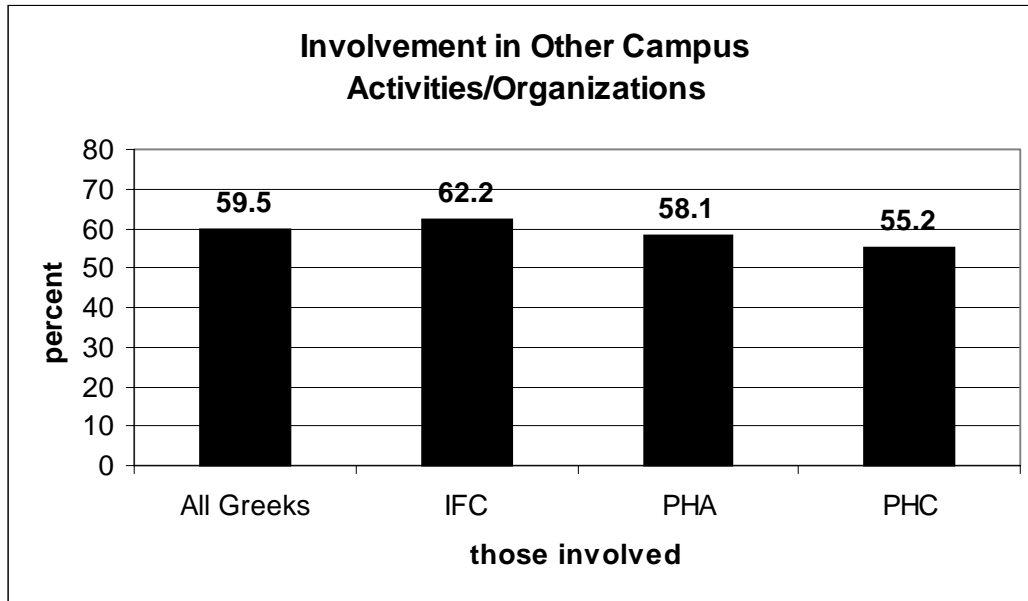
- Although PHA members responded that they were significantly less involved in their chapters than IFC members, the difference may reflect the non-respondent issues among the PHA members. That is, less active members in the sororities may have been more likely to participate in the survey than their more active sorority sisters.
- With PHC members being slightly less active in other campus activities and organizations, the majority of all Greeks indicated being involved elsewhere on campus.
- Overall, Greeks thought their chapters encouraged involvement in other campus organizations. PHA members were significantly more likely to feel encouraged than were IFC members.

**Table 15.0: How involved do you consider yourself to be in the activities of your chapter?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Very involved (1)	60.1	64.5	53.0	62.1
Somewhat involved (2)	35.2	31.1	41.9	34.5
Only slightly involved (3)	4.5	4.1	5.1	3.4
Not involved at all (4)	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0
Average Scores	1.45	1.40	❖1.52	1.41

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level.

**Chart 15.0: Other than the Greek community, are you involved in activities or organizations on campus?**



**Table 15.1: My chapter encourages campus involvement in addition to involvement with the chapter.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	67.9	61.8	75.1	75.9
Somewhat agree (2)	30.8	36.5	24.4	24.1
Somewhat disagree (3)	1.3	1.8	0.5	0.0
Strongly disagree (4)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Average Scores	1.33	1.40	❖1.25	1.24

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 99% confidence level.

When examining employment patterns among Greek students, IFC and PHA members were slightly more likely to be employed, on or off campus, than PHC members. (See Table 15.2)

**Table 15.2: Are you currently employed?**

Response by %	All Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Employed on campus	19.3	20.2	18.9	10.3
Employed off campus	39.4	38.7	42.9	31.0
Employed both on & off campus	4.1	4.7	2.3	10.3
Not employed	37.3	36.4	36.0	48.3
Average hours per week for those students who worked	16.64	16.60	16.67	17.53

### Community Service and Philanthropic Involvement

With regard community service and philanthropic involvement, there were some differences within the Greek community. (See Tables 16.0-16.3)

- PHC members were significantly more likely to agree that Greek organizations perform community service by raising money for non-profit organizations than were IFC or

PHA members. All PHC members agreed with the statement. This reflects the historical focus of NPHC organizations as service organizations.

- PHA members were significantly more likely to agree that Greek organizations perform community service than were IFC members.
- PHC members were not as likely to agree with the statement regarding participation in hands-on service as they were with philanthropic efforts.
- Overall, Greeks were more likely to “strongly agree” with the involvement of the Greek community in philanthropic efforts than they were with hands-on involvement.
- IFC members were more likely to respond that their chapter’s involvement in philanthropic activities is “not enough.” Over 27% (27.1%) of IFC members responded this way compared to 11.6% of PHA members and 6.9% of PHC members.

**Table 16.0: Greek organizations at OSU perform community service by raising money for non-profit or community service organizations.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	69.3	62.4	79.2	82.8
Somewhat agree (2)	27.8	35.0	17.1	17.2
Somewhat disagree (3)	2.1	2.4	1.9	0.0
Strongly disagree (4)	0.8	0.3	1.9	0.0
Average Scores	1.34	✱1.41	❖1.26	1.17

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level.

✱ Significantly different from PHC at the 95% confidence level

**Table 16.1: Greek organizations at OSU perform community service through hands-on involvement in the community.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	48.1	42.6	56.5	46.4
Somewhat agree (2)	43.9	47.1	38.0	46.4
Somewhat disagree (3)	6.4	8.5	3.7	7.1
Strongly disagree (4)	1.6	1.8	1.9	0.0
Average Scores	1.62	1.41	❖1.51	1.61

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level.

**Table 16.2: Would you say that your chapter’s level of involvement in philanthropic activities is...**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Too much (1)	1.6	1.8	1.4	0.0
Just right (2)	78.7	71.1	87.0	93.1
Not enough (3)	19.7	27.1	11.6	6.9
Average Scores	2.18	✱2.25	❖2.10	2.07

✱ Significantly different from PHC at the 95% confidence level

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 99% confidence level.

**Table 16.3: Would you say that your chapter’s level of involvement in community service activities is...**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Too much (1)	1.6	1.8	1.4	3.6
Just right (2)	69.1	65.1	72.2	75.0
Not enough (3)	29.3	33.1	26.4	21.4
Average Scores	2.28	2.31	2.25	2.18

When looking at personal participation, members of PHC groups were slightly more likely to indicate involvement in required philanthropic events and community service activities as well as involvement in community service that was not required by their chapter than were IFC or PHA members. (See Charts 16.0-16.2)

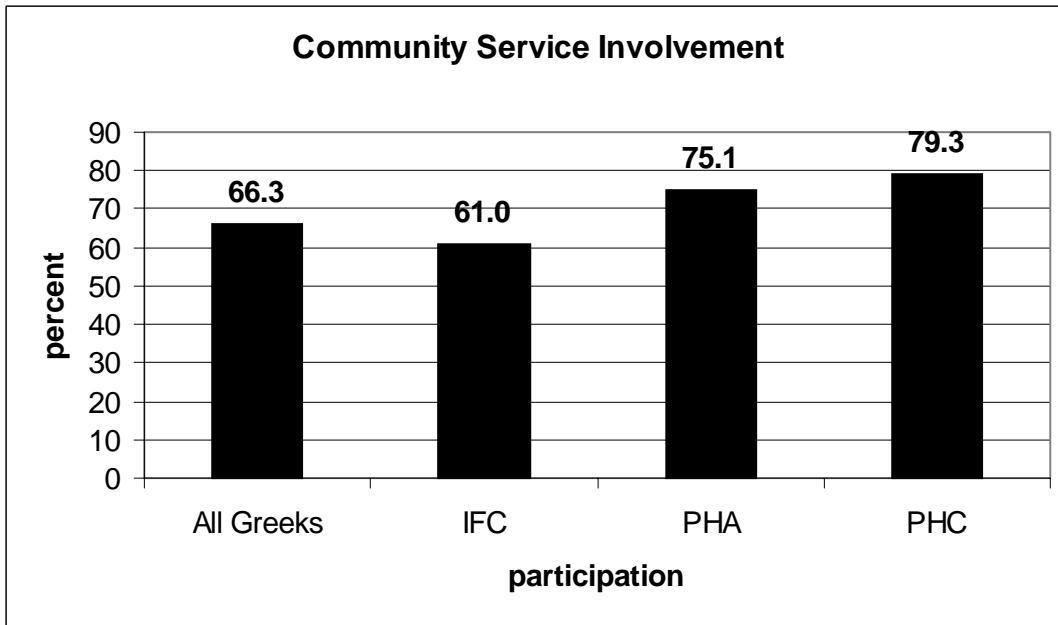
**Chart 16.0: Have you personally participated in philanthropic events this year that were required by your chapter?**



**Chart 16.1: Have you personally participated in community service activities this year that were required by your chapter?**



**Chart 16.2: Have you personally participated in volunteer or community service activities that were not required by your chapter?**

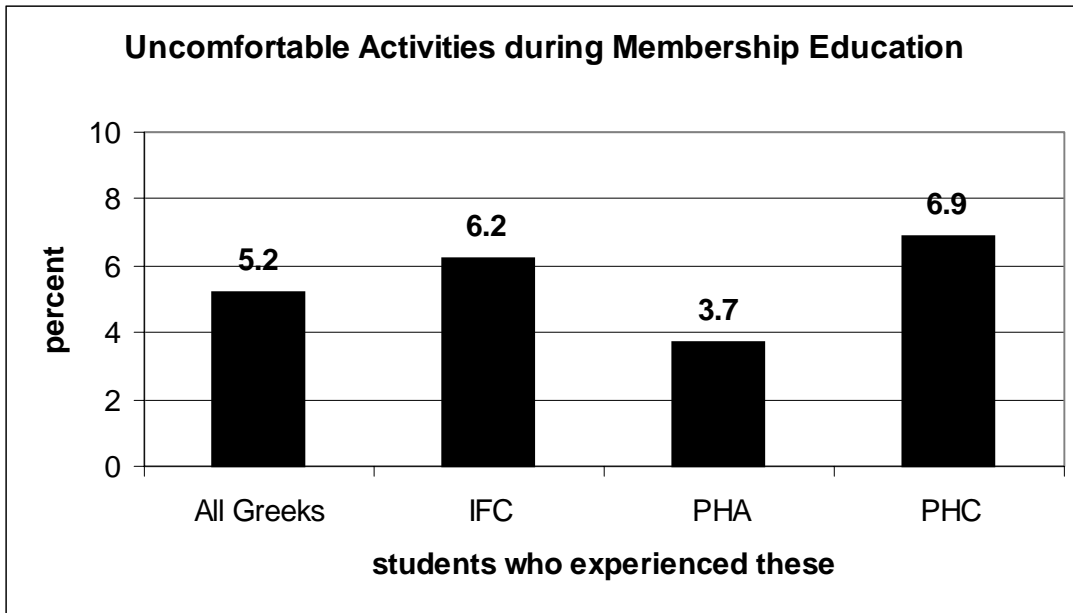


**Membership Education**

When examining the various councils and responses to questions regarding membership education, there were minimal differences. (See Chart 17.0 & Tables 17.0-17.2)

- Members of IFC and PHC organizations were slightly more likely to report having experienced uncomfortable activities during pledging than were PHA members.
- PHA members were significantly more likely to agree that they knew of others who participated in activities that would be embarrassing if they became public when compared to IFC members. However, it cannot be assumed that the students they knew who participated in embarrassing activities were members of PHA chapters; they could have been from PHC or IFC chapters.
- There were no noticeable differences in how members of IFC, PHA and PHC responded to the questions about their ability to keep up academically or to acquire knowledge about Greek life during the new membership period.

**Chart 17.0: Did you experience any activities that made you uncomfortable during the new members, pledging, or intake process?**



**Table 17.0: I am aware of others in the Greek community who participated in events or activities during the new member process that would be embarrassing to the University or to the national organization if they became public.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	20.8	19.6	23.2	14.3
Somewhat agree (2)	35.2	29.6	43.1	46.4
Somewhat disagree (3)	25.3	27.8	23.2	17.9
Strongly disagree (4)	18.7	23.0	10.4	21.4
Average Scores	2.42	2.54	❖ 2.21	2.46

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 99% confidence level.

**Table 17.1: During the new member process, I found it difficult to keep up academically.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	3.6	3.2	3.3	6.9
Somewhat agree (2)	13.7	13.2	14.9	13.8
Somewhat disagree (3)	25.7	25.9	26.0	17.2
Strongly disagree (4)	57.0	57.6	55.8	62.1
Average Scores	3.36	3.38	3.34	3.34

**Table 17.2: The membership education I received during the new member process provided me with the knowledge I needed about Greek life at OSU.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	57.9	59.8	54.0	58.6
Somewhat agree (2)	34.1	32.7	37.2	27.6
Somewhat disagree (3)	5.9	5.7	6.5	6.9
Strongly disagree (4)	2.1	1.8	2.3	6.9
Average Scores	1.52	1.49	1.57	1.62

**Academics**

There were differences in how Greek students responded to questions about academics based on their council affiliation. (See Tables 18.0-18.3)

- PHC members reported spending significantly less hours per week on academic activities when compared to PHA members.
- Interestingly, PHC members were most satisfied with their chapter’s academic support with 72.4% reporting being “very satisfied.” The difference was significantly higher than the satisfaction reported by IFC members.
- Furthermore, PHA members were significantly more satisfied than IFC members with the academic support their chapter offered.
- However, at the same time, PHA and PHC members were significantly more likely to report that Greek membership was not helpful to their grades when compared to IFC members.

**Table 18.0: On average, how many hours do you spend out of class per week on academic activities?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
0-5 hours	12.0	13.8	8.8	17.2
6-10 hours	32.7	31.8	31.0	41.4
11-15 hours	25.9	25.0	27.3	24.2
16-20 hours	15.1	15.6	16.7	10.3
21-30 hours	10.9	10.6	12.5	6.9
31 or more hours	3.4	3.2	3.7	0.0
Average	14.28	14.03	15.12	⊛11.76

⊛ Significantly different from PHA at the 95% confidence level.

**Table 18.1: How satisfied are you with the academic support your chapter offers?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Very satisfied (1)	56.8	51.6	60.9	72.4
Somewhat satisfied (2)	36.0	39.5	33.5	24.1
Somewhat dissatisfied (3)	6.1	7.4	4.7	3.4
Very dissatisfied (4)	1.1	1.5	0.9	0.0
Average Scores	1.52	⊛1.59	❖1.46	1.31

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level.

⊛ Significantly different from PHC at the 95% confidence level

**Table 18.2: What extent do you feel your chapter emphasizes academic and intellectual development?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
To a great extent (1)	56.3	54.3	56.3	69.0
To a moderate extent (2)	38.4	40.5	38.6	27.6
To a slight extent (3)	4.9	4.4	5.1	3.4
Not at all (4)	0.5	0.9	0.0	0.0
Average Scores	1.50	1.52	1.19	1.34

**Table 18.3: In general, how has your Greek experience affected your grades?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Very helpful to your grades (1)	17.6	21.2	12.0	10.3
Somewhat helpful to your grades (2)	32.0	36.3	28.2	24.1
Neither helpful nor harmful to your grades (3)	47.1	40.1	56.0	62.1
Somewhat harmful to your grades (4)	3.1	2.4	3.2	3.4
Very harmful to your grades (5)	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.0
Average Scores	2.36	✱2.24	❖2.52	2.59

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 99% confidence level.

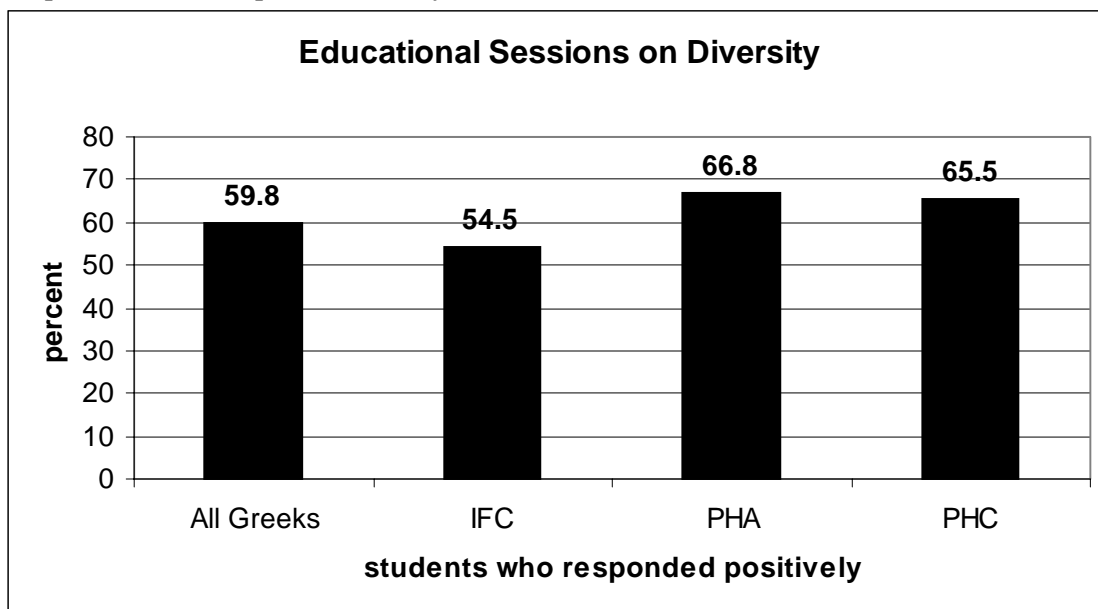
✱ Significantly different from PHC at the 95% confidence level

### Diversity

When comparing IFC, PHA, and PHC members on diversity related issues some interesting findings emerged. (See Chart 19.0 and Tables 19.0 & 19.1)

- Members of PHA and PHC chapters were more likely to report that their chapters offered education sessions on diversity or encouraged participation in other diversity-related campus events than were IFC members.
- While PHC members indicated that they perceived the Greek community to be slightly more concerned with diversity-related issues than IFC or PHA members, these differences were not significant.
- Interestingly, IFC members were more likely to perceive their chapter to be diverse in terms of race, ethnicity, religion and sexual orientation than the other groups.

**Chart 19.0: Does your chapter currently offer educational session on diversity or encourage participation in campus events that emphasize diversity?**



**Table 19.0: Based on your experience, how concerned do you think the Greek community is with issues related to diversity?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Very concerned (1)	7.9	7.5	8.5	7.1
Somewhat concerned (2)	47.1	48.1	45.3	57.1
Neither concerned nor unconcerned (3)	27.9	28.1	29.7	21.4
Somewhat unconcerned (4)	12.9	12.8	12.7	10.7
Very unconcerned (5)	4.1	3.6	3.8	3.6
Average Scores	2.58	2.57	2.58	2.46

**Table 19.1: Do you consider your chapter to be diverse in terms of race, ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Yes to all	37.7	40.2	31.9	27.6
Yes to some, no to some	41.6	39.6	46.3	48.3
No to all	20.7	20.2	21.8	24.1

When students were asked about the attitudes of members of their chapters, we found the following: (See Tables 19.2-19.5)

- Although there were no differences in how IFC, PHA, and PHC members responded to members of their chapters being interested in knowing people from different racial and ethnic backgrounds, IFC members reported that members of their chapter were significantly more likely to be prejudiced or racist than other OSU students when compared to PHC members.
- Also, IFC members reported that members of their chapters were significantly less likely to be accepting of gays, lesbians, and bisexuals than were members of PHA or PHC groups.
- There were more PHA members who reported that their membership was “more likely” to be from wealthy families (compared to other OSU students) than did IFC or PHC members.

**Table 19.2: Do you think members of your chapter are more likely, less likely, or about as likely as other OSU students to be interested in knowing people from different racial and ethnic backgrounds?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
More likely (1)	34.2	33.1	32.2	31.0
About as likely (2)	59.1	58.9	62.6	65.5
Less likely (3)	6.7	8.0	5.1	3.4
Average Scores	1.73	1.75	1.73	1.72

**Table 19.3: Do you think members of your chapter are more likely, less likely, or about as likely as other OSU students to be prejudiced or racist?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
More likely (1)	2.8	4.1	0.9	3.4
About as likely (2)	43.5	46.7	44.6	20.7
Less likely (3)	53.7	49.1	54.5	75.9
Average Scores	2.51	✱ 2.45	2.54	2.72

✱ Significantly different from PHC at the 95% confidence level

**Table 19.4: Do you think members of your chapter are more likely, less likely, or about as likely as other OSU students to be accepting of gays, lesbians, and bisexuals?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
More likely (1)	15.4	11.1	17.2	34.6
About as likely (2)	59.7	52.7	70.8	53.8
Less likely (3)	24.9	36.2	12.0	11.5
Average Scores	2.10	* 2.25	❖ 1.95	1.77

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 99% confidence level.  
 \* Significantly different from PHC at the 99% confidence level

**Table 19.5: Do you think members of your chapter are more likely, less likely, or about as likely as other OSU students to be from wealthy families?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
More likely (1)	33.9	26.9	44.4	37.9
About as likely (2)	48.6	47.9	52.3	41.4
Less likely (3)	17.5	25.1	3.3	20.7
Average Scores	1.84	1.98	❖ 1.59	* 1.83

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 99% confidence level.  
 \* Significantly different from PHA at the 95% confidence level.

Lastly, Greek students were asked to rate the change in their acceptance level of people different from them, since they joined their chapter. (See Table 19.6)

- IFC members reported the greatest gains in their acceptance of others with 48.5% reporting being more accepting, compared to 38.4% of PHA members and 37.9% of PHC members.
- Moreover, the IFC members reported significantly higher gains in their acceptance of others than did PHA members.

**Table 19.6: Since joining your chapter, have you become more accepting, less accepting, or about the same in accepting those who are different from you?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
More accepting (1)	45.0	48.5	38.4	37.9
About the same (2)	54.2	50.9	60.2	62.1
Less accepting (3)	0.8	0.6	1.4	0.0
Average Scores	1.56	1.52	❖ 1.63	1.62

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level.

**Fiscal Issues**

Overall, PHA and PHC members expressed greater concern over the costs and financial issues of belonging to their chapter than did IFC members. (See Tables 20.0 & 20.1)

- Members of IFC organizations were significantly less likely to report that the cost of belonging to their chapter was “too much” compare to members of PHA or PHC chapters. Only 12.9% of IFC members reported that the costs were “too much” compared to over 31% of PHA and PHC members.

- While most IFC members (78.1%) and most PHA members (86.4%) felt that the cost of living in their chapter house was “about right,” 13.1% of IFC members responded the costs were “too little” compared to only 2.8% of PHA members.

**Table 20.0: Would you say the cost of belonging to your chapter is...**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Too much (1)	23.7	12.9	39.3	31.0
About right (2)	72.1	80.6	59.8	69.0
Too Little (3)	4.2	6.5	0.9	0.0
Average Scores	1.81	✱2.04	❖1.62	1.69

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 99% confidence level.

✱ Significantly different from PHC at the 95% confidence level (IFC)

**Table 20.1: Would you say the cost of living in your chapter house is...\***

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)
Too much (1)	9.4	8.8	10.8
About right (2)	81.7	78.1	86.4
Too Little (3)	8.9	13.1	2.8
Average Scores	1.99	2.04	❖1.92

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 99% confidence level.

\* PHC fraternities and sororities do not have chapter houses.

The differences continued when comparing IFC, PHA, and PHC responses to fiscal issues as they relate to recruitment and retention of members. (See Tables 20.2-20.4)

- Both PHA and PHC members were more likely to agree that the cost of belonging to a fraternity or sorority is a barrier to attracting new members than were IFC members.
- Furthermore, PHA and PHC members were significantly more likely to agree that their chapter had members become inactive because they were unable to pay their dues compared to IFC members.

**Table 20.2: The cost of belonging to a fraternity or sorority is a barrier to attracting new members.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	17.6	14.5	22.1	25.9
Somewhat agree (2)	50.0	46.2	54.0	51.9
Somewhat disagree (3)	19.7	22.5	17.4	11.1
Strongly disagree (4)	12.7	16.9	6.6	11.1
Average Scores	2.27	2.42	❖2.08	2.07

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 99% confidence level.

**Table 20.3: My chapter has had members become inactive because they can't pay their dues.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	24.5	20.2	30.7	37.9
Somewhat agree (2)	37.3	34.0	41.6	41.4
Somewhat disagree (3)	17.1	18.7	14.9	13.8
Strongly disagree (4)	21.1	27.1	12.9	6.9
Average Scores	2.35	✱2.53	❖2.10	1.90

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 99% confidence level.

✱ Significantly different from PHC at the 95% confidence level (IFC)

**Table 20.4: My chapter has difficulty getting members to pay their chapter bills.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	14.4	12.8	15.8	21.4
Somewhat agree (2)	32.1	34.9	29.2	25.0
Somewhat disagree (3)	28.5	28.7	28.2	25.0
Strongly disagree (4)	25.0	23.6	26.8	28.6
Average Scores	2.64	2.63	2.66	2.61

**Risk Management**

Overall, members of the various councils were similar in their responses to questions about risk management polices and education. (See Tables 21.0 – 21.7)

- PHC members were somewhat less likely to respond that they were knowledgeable about their council’s and their chapter’s risk management policies than were members of IFC or PHA.
- However, PHC members were more likely to agree that their chapter’s risk management polices are appropriate with 80.8% strongly agreeing compared to 70.9% of IFC members and 67.3% of PHA members.
- Interestingly, about the same percentage of PHC members said they received information about safety issues in the house as did PHA and IFC members, despite the fact that PHC organizations do not have chapter houses.
- Across groups, practically all students reported having received information on hazing policies through their chapter. All PHC members responded positively.
- Members of all three councils responded similarly with regard to receiving information about hosting responsible social functions, understanding and preventing sexual abuse, and reducing high risk drinking.

**Table 21.0: Would you say you are knowledgeable about your council’s risk management policies?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Yes	94.2	94.4	96.3	82.8
No	5.3	5.3	3.2	17.2
Don’t know/not applicable	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.0

**Table 21.1: Would you say you are knowledgeable about your chapter’s risk management policies?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Yes	95.6	95.9	97.2	89.7
No	4.1	3.8	2.3	10.3
Don’t know/not applicable	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.0

**Table 21.2: My chapter’s risk management policies are appropriate.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	69.4	70.9	67.3	80.8
Somewhat agree (2)	25.1	24.5	26.5	11.5
Somewhat disagree (3)	4.1	3.4	4.7	3.8
Strongly disagree (4)	1.4	1.2	1.4	3.8
Average Scores	1.37	1.35	1.40	1.31

**Table 21.3: Did you learn anything about physical safety in the house, such as fire codes, through your chapter?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Yes	76.4	79.2	77.9	75.0
No	19.4	18.2	20.3	25.0
Don't know/not applicable	4.2	2.6	1.8	0.0

**Table 21.4: Did you learn anything about hazing policies through your chapter?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Yes	98.7	98.5	99.5	100.0
No	1.1	1.5	0.5	0.0
Don't know/not applicable	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0

**Table 21.5: Did you learn anything about hosting responsible social functions through your chapter?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Yes	98.1	98.8	96.8	96.6
No	1.5	0.9	2.8	3.4
Don't know/not applicable	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.0

**Table 21.6: Did you learn anything about understanding and preventing sexual abuse through your chapter?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Yes	88.3	87.4	90.3	89.7
No	11.0	11.7	9.2	10.3
Don't know/not applicable	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.0

**Table 21.7: Did you learn anything about reducing high risk drinking through your chapter?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Yes	91.2	90.3	93.5	93.1
No	8.3	9.4	5.5	6.9
Don't know/not applicable	0.5	0.3	0.9	0.0

Two additional questions examined students' opinions about alcohol and drug policies. (See Tables 21.8 & 21.9)

- The women of PHA chapters were significantly more likely to agree that their chapter enforces the council's alcohol and drug policies than were IFC members.
- Interestingly, members of all three groups responded similarly in their general agreement (at least 80%) that the stronger policies and guidelines regarding social events that were being implemented have limited the social interaction of chapters.

**Table 21.8: My chapter enforces the council's alcohol and drug policies.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	57.3	50.7	65.3	64.3
Somewhat agree (2)	35.3	40.4	29.2	32.1
Somewhat disagree (3)	6.6	8.3	4.2	3.6
Strongly disagree (4)	0.8	0.6	1.4	0.0
Average Scores	1.51	1.59	❖1.42	1.39

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level. (PHA)

**Table 21.9: Stronger policies and guidelines regarding social events, such as Dry 2000, have limited the social interaction of chapters.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	55.8	54.4	59.8	60.7
Somewhat agree (2)	23.8	25.2	21.1	25.0
Somewhat disagree (3)	13.7	15.5	11.0	3.6
Strongly disagree (4)	6.7	4.9	8.1	10.7
Average Scores	1.71	1.71	1.67	1.64

### Alcohol and Partying

When comparing across councils the perceptions regarding the role of alcohol in the social life at OSU, in the Greek community, and in their chapters, we found some interesting differences. (See Tables 22.0 –22.2)

- PHC members (44.8%) were more likely to “strongly agree” that alcohol is a central part of the social life at OSU than were IFC (28.1%) or PHA (31.8%) members.
- PHA members were significantly more likely to agree that alcohol is a central part of the social life of the Greek community compared to IFC members.
- PHC members were significantly less likely to agree that alcohol is a central part of the social life of their chapter than IFC or PHA members were. Over 62% (62.1%) of PHC members “strongly disagreed” compared to 30.0% of IFC members and 26.6% of PHA members.

**Table 22.0: Alcohol is a central part of the social life at OSU.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	30.4	28.1	31.8	44.8
Somewhat agree (2)	39.8	40.2	40.2	24.1
Somewhat disagree (3)	17.2	17.5	18.2	13.8
Strongly disagree (4)	12.6	14.2	9.8	17.2
Average Scores	2.12	2.18	2.06	2.03

**Table 22.1: Alcohol is a central part of the social life of the Greek community.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	17.0	15.3	18.3	20.7
Somewhat agree (2)	45.5	44.2	50.2	31.0
Somewhat disagree (3)	21.9	22.7	20.7	24.1
Strongly disagree (4)	15.5	17.7	10.8	24.1
Average Scores	2.36	2.43	❖2.24	2.52

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level.

**Table 22.2: Alcohol is a central part of the social life of my chapter.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	7.5	9.4	4.7	10.3
Somewhat agree (2)	31.8	31.8	35.0	20.7
Somewhat disagree (3)	29.9	28.8	33.6	6.9
Strongly disagree (4)	30.8	30.0	26.6	62.1
Average Scores	2.84	❖2.79	2.82	❖3.21

❖ Significantly different from PHC at the 95% confidence level.

❖ Significantly different from PHA at the 95% confidence level.

When looking at substance abuse, we found the following differences: (See Tables 22.3-22.5)

- Greek students’ opinions about whether or not there is a substance abuse problem among OSU students differed greatly. PHC members (93.1%) were most likely to agree, compared to 75.4% of PHA members and 64.4% of IFC members. In addition, PHA members were significantly more likely to agree with the statement than were IFC members.
- Furthermore, IFC members were significantly less likely to agree that there is a substance abuse problem among students in the Greek community than both PHA and PHC members were.
- However, when it came to members of their own chapter, generally members of the three councils responded similarly; they tended to disagree that there is a substance abuse problem.

**Table 22.3: There is a substance abuse problem among students at Ohio State.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	19.3	14.9	22.3	34.5
Somewhat agree (2)	50.8	49.5	53.1	58.6
Somewhat disagree (3)	23.8	27.7	19.9	3.4
Strongly disagree (4)	6.2	7.9	4.7	3.4
Average Scores	2.17	✱2.29	❖2.07	✳1.76

- ✱ Significantly different from PHC at the 99% confidence level.
- ❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level.
- ✳ Significantly different from PHA at the 95% confidence level.

**Table 22.4: There is a substance abuse problem among students in the Greek community.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	11.2	9.2	12.6	17.9
Somewhat agree (2)	46.1	44.0	49.3	53.6
Somewhat disagree (3)	29.3	30.5	28.0	21.4
Strongly disagree (4)	13.4	16.3	10.1	7.1
Average Scores	2.45	✱2.54	❖2.36	2.18

- ✱ Significantly different from PHC at the 95% confidence level.
- ❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level.

**Table 22.5: There is a substance abuse problem among members of my chapter.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	2.0	2.1	1.9	3.4
Somewhat agree (2)	14.3	13.9	13.6	31.0
Somewhat disagree (3)	25.4	25.2	26.8	10.3
Strongly disagree (4)	58.3	58.8	57.7	55.2
Average Scores	3.40	3.41	3.40	3.17

The prevalence of alcohol consumption also differed between members of the three councils. (See Tables 22.6-22.8)

- Members of IFC chapters had the highest binge drinking rate at 71.0% and the highest rate of frequent bingeing at 41.4% compared to PHA and PHC members whose binge drinking rates were 62.8% and 55.2% respectively. The frequent bingeing rate was only 20.5% for both PHA and PHC.

- Moreover, IFC respondents averaged 11.86 drinks per week compared to 7.57 for PHC members and 6.31 for PHA members.
- Only 24.1% of PHC members reported having increased their use of alcohol since coming to OSU compared to 61.0% of PHA members and 52.1% of IFC members.

**Table 22.6: Binge drinking**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
0	33.8	29.0	37.2	44.8
1	17.2	13.2	23.7	24.1
2	16.6	16.4	18.6	10.3
3-5	23.7	29.9	15.3	10.3
6-9	7.0	10.0	3.3	6.9
10 or more	1.6	1.5	1.9	3.4
Binge drinking rate	66.2	71.0	62.8	55.2
Frequent binge drinking	32.4	41.4	20.5	20.6

**Table 22.7: On average, how many drinks do you consume in a week?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
0	7.6	3.9	10.3	24.1
1-6	41.1	35.7	49.5	37.9
7-13	26.5	25.0	29.0	24.1
14-30	20.1	29.8	7.5	10.3
31 & higher	4.8	5.7	3.7	3.4
Average	9.60	✱ 11.86	❖ 6.31	7.57

❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 99% confidence level.

✱ Significantly different from PHC at the 95% confidence level.

**Table 22.8: Do you drink more, less, or about the same than you did before you came to OSU?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
More	53.9	52.1	61.0	24.1
About the same	32.6	33.2	30.5	44.8
Less	12.2	14.4	7.0	20.7
I don't drink	1.3	0.3	1.4	10.3

### University Support of the Greek Community

Greeks also differed in their opinions about the University’s support of the Greek community. (See Tables 23.0 – 23.3)

- IFC members, who on average disagreed that the University provides a welcoming environment for its Greek organizations, were significantly more likely to disagree with the statement than were PHA or PHC members.
- Similarly, IFC members were less likely to be satisfied with the level of support their chapter and the Greek community receive from the University than were PHA members.
- PHC members were most likely to agree that the Student Activities & Campus Programs Office helps their chapter form relationships with the rest of the University and provides positive publicity for the Greek community as a whole.

**Table 23.0: The University provides a welcoming environment for its Greek organizations.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	9.3	7.7	9.3	25.0
Somewhat agree (2)	28.0	22.2	33.0	32.1
Somewhat disagree (3)	33.1	34.6	33.5	28.6
Strongly disagree (4)	29.6	35.5	24.2	14.3
Average Scores	2.83	✱2.98	❖2.73	✳2.32

- ❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level.
- ✱ Significantly different from PHC at the 99% confidence level.
- ✳ Significantly different from PHA at the 95% confidence level.

**Table 23.1: How satisfied are you with the level of support your chapter and the Greek community receive from the University?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Very satisfied (1)	9.0	9.2	9.3	3.7
Somewhat satisfied (2)	25.5	21.3	28.0	44.4
Somewhat dissatisfied (3)	33.5	31.4	39.3	25.9
Very dissatisfied (4)	32.0	38.2	23.4	25.9
Average Scores	2.89	2.99	❖2.77	2.74

- ❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level.

**Table 23.2: The Student Activities & Campus Programs Office helps my chapter form relationships with the rest of the University.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	11.3	10.8	11.2	25.9
Somewhat agree (2)	42.2	37.7	48.8	51.9
Somewhat disagree (3)	29.6	30.1	30.2	11.1
Strongly disagree (4)	16.9	21.4	9.8	11.1
Average Scores	2.52	✱2.62	❖2.39	2.07

- ❖ Significantly different from IFC at the 95% confidence level.
- ✱ Significantly different from PHC at the 95% confidence level.

**Table 23.3: The Student Activities & Campus Programs Office provides positive publicity for the Greek community as a whole.**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
Strongly agree (1)	11.4	9.1	13.3	27.6
Somewhat agree (2)	40.1	38.2	44.3	27.6
Somewhat disagree (3)	30.3	29.4	30.0	37.9
Strongly disagree (4)	18.2	23.3	12.3	6.9
Average Scores	2.55	✱2.67	2.41	2.24

- ✱ Significantly different from PHC at the 95% confidence level.

Turning specifically to the GLTF, we found the following: (See Tables 23.4 & 23.5)

- PHA members were less likely to have read the GLTF report with 58.6% reporting that while they had heard of the report they hadn't read it compared to 44.8% of PHC members and 40.2% of IFC members. Again, the non-respondent error of PHA members may be reflected in these differences.
- However, PHA members were also more likely to fully support the GLTFR and less likely to be totally against the report than were members of IFC or PHC.

**Table 23.4: How familiar are you with the Greek Life Task Force Report?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
You are very familiar with the report and could explain it to others.	13.8	17.6	8.4	24.1
You have read the report and are generally familiar with it.	30.6	35.5	26.5	24.1
You have heard of the report but have not personally read it.	47.8	40.2	58.6	44.8
You have not heard of the GLTF report.	7.8	6.7	6.5	6.9

**Table 23.5: Which of the following statements best describes your attitude toward the Greek Life Task Force?**

Response by %	Greeks (n=617)	IFC (n=341)	PHA (n=217)	PHC (n=29)
I fully support the GLTFR and think it will improve the Greek system at Ohio State.	20.0	17.8	23.9	19.2
I generally support the GLTFR but am concerned about my chapter's ability to meet all the requirements.	27.7	24.8	31.5	26.9
I understand the reasons for the GLTFR but do not think it is feasible.	42.6	44.3	40.2	38.5
I am totally against the GLTFR.	9.7	13.1	4.3	15.4

## REFERENCES

Astin, A.W. (1993). What matters in college? Four critical years revisited. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers.

Kimbrough, W. (1995). Self-assessment, participation, and value of leadership skills, activities and experiences for black students relative to their membership in historically black fraternities and sororities. The Journal of Negro Education, 64, 63-74.

Kun, G. & Lyons, J. (1990). Fraternities and sororities: Lessons from the college experiences study. NASPA Journal, 28, 20-29.

Malaney, G. (1990). Student attitudes toward fraternities and sororities. NASPA Journal, 28, 37-24.

Neuberger, C. & Hanson, G. (1997). The Greek life self-study: A powerful process for change on campus. NASPA Journal, 34, 91-100.

Reisberg, L. (2000a, January 7). Ethnic and multicultural fraternities are booming on many campuses. The Chronicle of Higher Education, A59.

Reisberg, L. (2000b, January 7). Fraternities in decline. The Chronicle of Higher Education, A59.

Reisberg, L. (2000c, January 7). Fraternities try to clean up their acts – to the dismay of some members. The Chronicle of Higher Education, A62.

## APPENDIX A

**Refusal Rate of PHA Sorority Members**

In order to compensate for the high refusal rate among some of the PHA sororities, we explored the viability of weighting the data. Two of the sororities had very high refusal rates (Kappa Delta and Delta Zeta), and there was only one respondent for each of them. After consulting with statistical experts, it was determined that these cases would need large weights, which would not be acceptable and that these respondents probably weren't representative of their chapters because they did respond when others wouldn't. In addition, Kappa Alpha Theta and Kappa Kappa Gamma were also seriously under represented in the sample.

According to the Greek Life membership list, PHA members represent 49% of the Greek community. In the sample, PHA represents 42% of our sample. We also considered weighting the sample so that PHA responses were closer to 49% of the sample. However, this would mean weighting a group that we know does not fully represent the PHA council.

As a result of these issues, it was determined that weighting the data would not be an acceptable course of action to compensate for the high refusal rate among the PHA sorority members.

APPENDIX B

Housing

Issues regarding the conditions of the chapter houses were addressed in a separate survey during Autumn Quarter 2001. However, during this survey, non-Greek students were asked about their level of satisfaction with the appearance of both the fraternity and sorority houses at OSU. (See Chart 24.0)

**Chart 24.0: How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the overall physical appearance of the fraternity/sorority houses at OSU? (Non-Greeks)**

