

**MINUTES
PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON GREEK LIFE SUBCOMMITTEE III
NOVEMBER 15, 2017**

Verge Ausberry, Chair of the Subcommittee, called to order the Subcommittee III meeting of the President's Task Force on Greek Life in the LSU Student Union Tchoupitoulas Room 452, on November 15, 2017 at 5:01 p.m.

Hannah Rovira, Coordinator, called roll.

PRESENT

Verge Ausberry, Athletics Department Representative, Subcommittee III Chair

Jason Badeaux, Student Government President

Kenneth McMillin, Faculty Senate President

Delia Madrid-Nothdurft, Coordinator for Involvement, as a substitute for Mari Fuentes-Martin, Dean of Students

Camille Flint, Residence Hall Association President

Rob Stuart, Ex-Officio Member, Task Force Chair

Dan Layzell, Executive Vice President & CFO, Ex-Officio Member, Task Force Vice Chair

ABSENT

BJ Billeaudeau, Kappa Sigma House Corporation Representative

Also present for the meeting were the following: Carlton "Trey" Jones, Managing Attorney in the LSU Office of General Counsel; Ernie Ballard, LSU Media Relations Director; and Hannah Rovira, Coordinator in the LSU Office of the President.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made at the meeting.

1. Presentation from UREC Sport Clubs- Laurie Braden Exec Director of UREC

Laurie Braden, Executive Director for University Recreation, presented the Subcommittee with the procedures for Sports Clubs. Sports Clubs are registered as student organizations, they utilize Tiger Link to reserve spaces on the fields, sign in for officer trainings, follow all University Permanent Memorandums (PM), Policy Statements (PS), Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs), and Student Code of Conduct. Sports Clubs go through a training that defines what hazing is and the staff go through what it entails with the leaders of the Clubs. The training teaches the leaders how to report an incident, how to file appeal, and the student's rights and responsibilities. When hazing occurs in a Sports Club it tends to be more visible hazing which is immediately reported and handled through Student Accountability and Advocacy (SAA). All violations are reports are put in to Tiger Link and handed through SAA. UREC works closely with SAA. There have been multiple suspensions of Clubs through Laurie's time here due to behavioral misconduct. In the Sports Clubs the athletes hold each other accountable.

Verge Ausberry asked what areas of improvement are there for the Sports Clubs. Laurie responded they do a good job but are open to any improvements. There are general use rules of the UREC and there is not tolerance for inappropriate behavior. In regards to harassment there is no tolerance and all reports are taken seriously.

Camille Flint asked how often they see incidents within staff and Club Sports. Laurie stated there is less often incidents with staff. This year has been a good year of behavior for the Sports Clubs and

over the past few years there has been decent behavior.

Ken McMillin asked if the log or track incidents for the academic year. Laurie stated she can track the Club problems easily in the system but nothing has been tracked annually. All the files are kept through SAA, so they can all be found but no numerical tracking is done. There have been less than 10 Club Sports incidents in the past 8 years. The sanctions for violations are handled through collaboration through SAA and UREC. UREC pulls funds and no travel is allowed during Sports Clubs probations.

Verge Ausberry asked if there are mandatory trainings. Laurie stated yes they take roll and present an agenda. There are mandatory trainings and they utilize the trainings to be confident the teams are prepared. If an athlete is found through their nationals for drugs, they are not allowed active until approved by a doctor.

2. Presentation from Director of LSU Bands, Damon Talley

Damon Tally, Director of LSU Bands, presented to the Subcommittee about the procedures for the bands. There is a handbook available for the bands and the Golden Band from Tiger Band is the most relatable to this committee. The Tiger band is a class and all students have a financial stake to stay in the band. In terms of policy, every student receives a handbook and signs a form. The Student Code of Conduct is in the handbook and can be found online. The band has created a structure so every member is close to the band leaders, making it easy to report any issues. There is also graduate student staff that is available and close to the band members for support. The staff meet with the student section leaders every semester because their number one concern is to have the best time here and provide avenues for reporting if any issue arises. The students receive a stipend for being in the band so if you are removed from the band or fail the class you lose the stipend. The 16 staff members meet at the end of every season to debrief and open the floor to identify any issues and what needs to change. The Golden Girls have their own director that they can relate to and build a relationship. They are always open to suggestions for improvement.

Verge Ausberry asked how many members are in the band. Damon stated there are 307 members and not all are music majors.

Verge commented the band has been great and impressive. He asked if they have any hazing incidents in years past or a culture of hazing in the band. Damon stated no the LSU band has not had any incidents or a culture of hazing.

Ken McMillin asked if Damon was aware of what other schools bands did to change their culture. Damon stated they kicked kids out and changed the leadership. He noted the leadership had turned a blind eye to the problem and the right leadership is key. There is a service fraternity that exist within the band.

Dan Layzell inquired about what extent band alumni contributed to the Ohio State University issue. Damon stated that historically there was quite a bit of alumni involvement. The alumni were unhappy with the change of culture and the change in tradition. He informed the Subcommittee that here we reach out to alumni to get them to come to us to stay involved.

Verge Ausberry asked if there was a pledging process for Kappa Kappa Psi, the service fraternity for the band. Damon stated yes there it and is just involved knowing the history of the chapter and getting to know other members. The pledges take a test of the knowledge of the organization and this is the same across other campuses. The organization is the service organization for the band and you have to be in one of the bands to be a member.

3. Other Business/Next Meeting

Verge Ausberry stated he would like to bring ROTC to talk to the next Task Force meeting as there are three ROTCs on campus and hard to get all three together at the same time. They are all under a lot of federal programming and different regulations.

Ken McMillin asked if the main overseer knows conduct. Verge responded that they are all different branches but discipline per branch.

Jason Badeaux mentioned how the policy for hazing is so vague and broad and advocated for a tiered hazing policy. Ken McMillin stated couldn't the chapter create their own policies and share what they are doing with the Greek Life Office. They don't have to tell their rituals but they could go over what that plan to do at each point in pledge process. The University can't have half the fraternities on suspension, there must be self-policing. Jason agreed with Ken's statement. Dan added there is also a benefit to opening things up to public comment.

Ken McMillin asked if there are any Greek chapters that doesn't have alumni in the Baton Rouge area that wouldn't want to be involved if asked. Jason Badeaux stated his chapter has 62 alumni that still attend chapter meetings. Ken suggested every chapter should have to say that they have local alumni involvement. Managing Attorney Trey Jones asked if small chapters would have that opportunity. Jason stated they may not, or those who don't have houses may not either.

Robert Stuart, Task Force Chair, asked if the members had looked at the University of Alabama DKE documents sent to the task Force. He stated it they are clear on what everyone should be held accountable for. Jason stated the challenge is outsiders see this as an institution problem.

Verge Ausberry asked about the fraternity leadership and where are the leaders and why don't they report. Jason stated there is a lack of trust with the Greek Life office and institution so the fraternity is concerned with keeping the charter on the wall. As soon as anything is reported the Greek Life office shuts everything off for the fraternity. The fraternities have the perception they are guilty until proven innocent. Trey Jones commented how few individuals are found responsible in those reports. Jason stated it is because the chapters are being careful because if you give over some of your members that caused trouble, then your whole chapter is under investigation. The real challenge is trust between the office and chapter.

4. Adjournment

At 5:57pm Verge asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion from Ken McMillin, seconded by Jason Badeaux, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is on November 29, 2017 in the Student Union Tchoupitoulas Room at 5:00 p.m.