
MEMORANDUM

To: President's Council
From: John Sparks, General Counsel and Christine Adam, Associate Vice-President Students and Dean, Faculty of Student Development
Date: MAY 14, 2021
Subject: *Greek Organizations* BRD 20-0 (the "**Greek Organizations Policy**")

Background and Purpose of this document: The University's Policy on *Policy Development and Approval*, provides that Board policies should be reviewed every 5 years and that drafts of revised policies should be reviewed by President's Council before consideration by the Board. The Greek Organizations Policy was last reviewed in February 2008 and is past due for review.

Office of General Counsel, with assistance of Clark Wilson LLP, external legal counsel; and Associate Vice-President Students and Dean, Faculty of Student Development, with the assistance of the Manager, Student Experience, and the Greek Organizations, has reviewed the Greek Organizations Policy and is proposing revisions, as summarized below, for consideration by the President's Council.

The purpose of this document is to summarize the proposed amendments to the Greek Organizations Policy.

Background of Policy: The Greek Organizations Policy sets out the framework under which Greek Organizations may be authorized to be present on, and operate at, the University.

Summary of Proposed Amendments: Set out below are the material proposed revisions to the Greek Organizations Policy and, where applicable, the rationale for these revisions (all proposed revisions are shown in the redlined copy attached):


1. Revise the introductory statement to reflect that the University will, from time to time, authorize the establishment and functioning of Greek organizations on campus. Provide deeper context about the role and functions of the fraternities and sororities.
 2. Changed to AVP of Students or designate: Changed title of Dean of Students to *Associate Vice-President Students and Dean, Faculty of Student Development* (AVP Students). Added *or designate* to reflect current practices in which the Manager, Student Experience has supported the Greek Organizations.
 3. Strengthened explanation of policy: In the Policy section added that Greek Organizations do not fall within student clubs, so this policy allows for the existence of Greek Organizations as it puts these activities under the purview of a department and sets regulations.
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4. Clarify that a Greek organization seeking to enter into an authorization agreement with the University must be affiliated with recognized national or international Greek organizations, is a minimum requirement. This is an important revision as the University may establish other qualifications, from time to time.
 5. Add a statement clarifying that nothing in the policy itself requires the University to enter into an authorization agreement with a Greek organization.
 6. Clarify that the terms of an authorization agreement outlined in the policy are only some of the terms that will be included, and other terms and conditions may be included as the University may determine, at its discretion.
 7. Clarify that the Greek Council may set rules and guidelines for all activities and events organized by a Greek Organization. The current policy just references "Rush Activities".
 8. Added *agreement may be temporary or ongoing* in Authorization Agreement #2: Added *this agreement may be temporary or ongoing* to allow time for new sororities or fraternities to complete application processes for chapters.
 9. Updated Membership of Greek Council #1: Membership has been updated to reflect new titles and current practices and up-to-date institutional structures.
 10. Added *making recommendations* to Greek Council #2d: Current practice is to recommend rather than establish disciplinary actions.
 11. Move the policy to the University's updated policy template as a housekeeping item. Please note the template changes will not show up in the redline.
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Action Requested:

The Office of General Counsel and AVP Students requests a review of the revised Greek Organizations Policy by President's Council as required by the Policy on *Policy Development and Approval*. Once President's Council has had an opportunity to comment, the draft will be provided to the Board of Governors for Notice of Motion. Once all comments have been received and any further changes are implemented, the revised Greek Organizations Policy will go to the Board of Governors for its consideration and approval.

Effective Date:

The approval of the revised Greek Organizations Policy will take effect upon the approval by the Board of Governors, anticipated to be at the meeting of 

Attachments:

Attached to this memo are the following documents:

- Attachment 1: Current Greek Organizations Policy
 - Attachment 2: Red lined draft of amended Greek Organizations Policy
 - Attachment 3: Amended Greek Organizations Policy with changes accepted.
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GREEK ORGANIZATIONS

POLICY NUMBER	BRD 20-0
APPROVAL DATE	FEBRUARY 29, 2008
PREVIOUS AMENDMENT	FIRST VERSION
REVIEW DATE	FEBRUARY 29, 2013
AUTHORITY	BOARD OF GOVERNORS
PRIMARY CONTACT	ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT, STUDENT AFFAIRS

POLICY

TRU supports the establishment and functioning of authorized Greek organizations, as they can and should make significant contribution to the intellectual and social life of the campus.

This Policy sets out the framework under which sororities and fraternities (“Greek Organizations”) may be authorized to be present on, and operate at, the University.

Greek Organizations that do not comply with this Policy and its Regulations are not authorized to be present on, or operate at, the University.

In order to be authorized to be present at TRU a Greek Organization must have entered into an Authorization Agreement with the University authorizing the Greek Organization to be present on and operate at TRU. The criteria that Greek Organizations must meet in order to be qualified to enter an Authorization Agreement are set out in the Regulations.

REGULATIONS

I. AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT

1. Application

Greek Organizations wishing to be present on, or to operate at, the University must apply to the Associate Vice-President of Student Affairs to enter an Authorization Agreement.

2. Qualifications Required of Greek Organization

The University will enter into Authorization Agreements only with Greek Organizations that have affiliations with recognized national or international sororities or fraternities as determined by the Associate Vice-President Student Affairs.

3. **Contents of Authorization Agreement**

An Authorization Agreement will authorize the Greek Organization to be present on, and operate at, the University subject to the Greek Organization's ongoing compliance with the terms of the Authorization Agreement. The Authorization Agreement will require the Greek Organization to join the University's Greek Council and to comply with its bylaws, code of conduct and decisions.

Authorization Agreements will provide that they may be terminated by the University at any time on 6 months written notice.

II. **GREEK COUNCIL**

1. **Membership**

The University will have a Greek Council consisting of the following members:

- Manager of Student Affairs (Advisor to Greek Council);
- One Dean appointed by the President of the University;
- One faculty member appointed by the President of the University;
- One alumnus of TRU appointed by the Advancement Office;
- 2 members from each Greek Organization appointed by the respective Greek Organization

2. **Responsibilities**

The Greek Council will oversee all matters related to Greek Organizations at the University and will have responsibilities including:

- a. making recommendations to the Associate Vice-President Student Affairs with regard to actions that the University should take respecting one or more Greek Organizations;
- b. considering applications by new Greek Organizations and making a recommendation to the Associate Vice-President Student Affairs with regard to whether the University should enter an Authorization Agreement with the applying Greek Organization;
- c. making recommendation to the Associate Vice-President Student Affairs with regard to a code of conduct for Greek Organizations to follow at the University;
- d. establishing a process for disciplinary actions for Greek Organizations including placing Greek Organizations that have contravened applicable standards on probation;
- e. liaising with the University community on behalf of Greek Organizations;
- f. coordinating activities/events, including those though Campus Life;
- g. setting Rush Activities/Guidelines;
- h. establishing bylaws for the Greek Council including determining the term of office for the various Greek Council members;
- i. ensuring that liaisons with other TRU related leader groups are maintained.

III. **LIABILITY**

Neither the University nor the Greek Council assumes any responsibility for any act or omission of any Greek Organization which Greek Organization remains solely responsible for their acts or omissions.



THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY



GREEK ORGANIZATIONS

POLICY NUMBER	BRD 20-0
APPROVAL DATE	◆ FEBRUARY 29, 2008
PREVIOUS AMENDMENT	FIRST VERSION
REVIEW DATE	FEBRUARY 29, 2013
AUTHORITY	BOARD OF GOVERNORS
PRIMARY CONTACT	[ASSOCIATE VICE- PRESIDENT, STUDENTS AND DEAN, FACULTY OF STUDENT AFFAIRS DEVELOPMENT]

POLICY

~~TRU supports~~From time to time Thompson Rivers University authorizes the establishment and functioning of ~~authorized sororities and fraternities~~ (“Greek Organizations, ~~as they can and should make significant contribution to~~”), on the intellectual and social life of the University’s campus. Greek Organizations recruit and train new members, provide networking opportunities, engage in philanthropic activities, host events, and create a sense of belonging.

Given that Greek Organizations do not qualify as a student club, this policy sets out the framework under which ~~sororities and fraternities~~ (“a Greek Organizations”) may be authorized to be present on, and operate at, the University. This policy ensures that Greek Organizations fall under the purview of a department and sets regulations.

Greek Organizations that do not comply with this policy and its regulations are not authorized to be present on, or operate at, the University.

In order to be authorized to be present ~~at TRU~~on, or operate at, the University, a Greek Organization must have entered into an authorization agreement with the University authorizing the Greek Organization to be present on, and operate at ~~TRU~~. ~~The criteria that Greek Organizations must meet in order to be qualified to enter, the University~~ (an “Authorization Agreement ~~are set out in the Regulations.~~”).

REGULATIONS

I. AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT

1. Application

Greek Organizations wishing to be present on, or ~~to~~ operate at, the University must apply to the [~~Associate Vice-President Students and Dean, Faculty of Student Affairs~~ Development (or designate)] to enter an Authorization Agreement.

2. Minimum Qualifications Required of Greek Organization

The University will ~~enter only consider entering~~ into Authorization Agreements ~~only~~ with Greek Organizations that have affiliations with recognized national or international sororities or fraternities as determined by the [~~Associate Vice-President Students and Dean, Faculty of Student Affairs~~ Development (or designate)], in their discretion

For avoidance of doubt, nothing in this policy or its regulations requires the University to enter into an Authorization Agreement with any particular Greek Organization, The agreement may be temporary or ongoing.

3. Contents of Authorization Agreement

An Authorization Agreement ~~will authorize, entered into between the University and the Greek Organization, authorizes~~ the Greek Organization to be present on, and operate at, the University subject the terms and conditions set out therein and to the Greek Organization's ongoing compliance with the terms of the Authorization Agreement. ~~The Any~~ Authorization Agreement will ~~require the Greek Organization~~ include, terms to address the following:

- a. the requirement that the Greek Organization join the University's Greek Council (as described below) and ~~to~~ comply with its bylaws, code of conduct and decisions;
- b. that the Authorization Agreements will provide that they Agreement may be terminated by the University immediately and without notice where the Greek Organization is in breach of any term of the Authorization Agreement, or in any event at any time on the University providing the Greek Organization with 6 months written notice; and
- ~~b-c.~~ such other terms and conditions the University may determine, at its discretion.

II. GREEK COUNCIL

1. Membership

The University will have a Greek Council consisting of the following members:

- ~~Manager of Student Affairs~~ Associate Vice-President Students and Dean, FSDVP Students (or designate) (Advisor to Greek Council);

- ~~One Dean appointed by the President of the University; Two faculty or administrators appointed by the Associate Vice-President Students and Dean, FSD (or designate);~~
- ~~One faculty member appointed by the President of the University;~~
- ~~One alumnus of TRU appointed by the Advancement Office;~~
- 2 members from each Greek Organization appointed by the respective Greek Organization
- ~~Two staff members appointed by the Associate Vice-President Students and Dean, FSD (or designate)~~

2. Responsibilities

The Greek Council will oversee all matters related to Greek Organizations at the University and will have responsibilities including:

- a. making recommendations to the [Associate Vice-President Students and Dean, Faculty of Student Affairs Development (or designate) or designate] with regard to actions that the University should take respecting one or more Greek Organizations;
- b. considering applications by new Greek Organizations and making a recommendation to the [Associate Vice-President Students and Dean, Faculty of Student Affairs Development (or designate)] with regard to whether the University should enter an Authorization Agreement with the applying Greek Organization;
- c. making ~~recommendation~~ recommendations to the [Associate Vice-President Students and Dean, Faculty of Student Affairs Development (or designate) or designate] with regard to a code of conduct for Greek Organizations to follow at the University;
- d. ~~establishing a process~~ Making recommendations for disciplinary actions for Greek Organizations including placing Greek Organizations that have contravened applicable standards on probation;
- e. liaising with the University community on behalf of Greek Organizations;
- f. coordinating activities/events, ~~including those through Campus Life;~~
- ~~e.~~ setting Rush Activities/Guidelines;
- g. setting rules and guidelines that Greek Organizations must abide by in connection with any activities or events organized by a Greek Organization;
- ~~g.~~ h. establishing bylaws for the Greek Council including determining the term of office for the various Greek Council members;
- ~~h.~~ i. ensuring that liaisons with other TRU related leader groups are maintained.

III. LIABILITY

Neither the University nor the Greek Council assumes any responsibility for any act or omission of any Greek Organization which Greek Organization remains solely responsible for their acts or omissions.



THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

GREEK ORGANIZATIONS

POLICY NUMBER	BRD 20-0
APPROVAL DATE	◆
AUTHORITY	BOARD OF GOVERNORS
PRIMARY CONTACT	ASSOCIATE VICE- PRESIDENT STUDENTS AND DEAN, FACULTY OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

POLICY

From time-to-time Thompson Rivers University authorizes the establishment and functioning of sororities and fraternities (“Greek Organizations”), on the University’s campus. Greek Organizations recruit and train new members, provide networking opportunities, engage in philanthropic activities, host events, and create a sense of belonging.

Given that Greek Organizations do not qualify as a student club, this policy sets out the framework under which a Greek Organizations may be authorized to be present on, and operate at, the University. This policy ensures that Greek Organizations fall under the purview of a department and sets regulations.

Greek Organizations that do not comply with this policy and its regulations are not authorized to be present on, or operate at, the University.

In order to be authorized to be present on, or operate at, the University, a Greek Organization must have entered into an authorization agreement with the University authorizing the Greek Organization to be present on, and operate at, the University (an “Authorization Agreement”).

REGULATIONS

I. AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT

1. Application

Greek Organizations wishing to be present on, or operate at, the University must apply to the Associate Vice-President Students and Dean, Faculty of Student Development (or designate) to enter an Authorization Agreement.

2. Minimum Qualifications Required of Greek Organization

The University will only consider entering into Authorization Agreements with Greek Organizations that have affiliations with recognized national or international sororities or fraternities as determined by the Associate Vice-President Students and Dean, Faculty of Student Development (or designate), in their discretion.

For avoidance of doubt, nothing in this policy or its regulations requires the University to enter into an Authorization Agreement with any particular Greek Organization, the agreement may be temporary or ongoing.

3. Contents of Authorization Agreement

An Authorization Agreement, entered into between the University and the Greek Organization, authorizes the Greek Organization to be present on, and operate at, the University subject the terms and conditions set out therein and to the Greek Organization's ongoing compliance with the terms of the Authorization Agreement. Any Authorization Agreement will include, terms to address the following:

- a. the requirement that the Greek Organization join the University's Greek Council (as described below) and comply with its bylaws, code of conduct and decisions;
- b. that the Authorization Agreement may be terminated by the University immediately and without notice where the Greek Organization is in breach of any term of the Authorization Agreement, or in any event at any time on the University providing the Greek Organization with 6 months written notice; and
- c. such other terms and conditions the University may determine, at its discretion.

II. GREEK COUNCIL

1. Membership

The University will have a Greek Council consisting of the following members:

- AVP Students (or designate) (Advisor to Greek Council);
- Two faculty or administrators appointed by the AVP Students (or designate);
- 2 members from each Greek Organization appointed by the respective Greek Organization
- Two staff members appointed by the AVP Students (or designate)

2. Responsibilities

The Greek Council will oversee all matters related to Greek Organizations at the University and will have responsibilities including:

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- designate) with regard to whether the University should enter an Authorization Agreement with the applying Greek Organization;
- c. making recommendations to the Associate Vice-President Students and Dean, Faculty of Student Development (or designate) with regard to a code of conduct for Greek Organizations to follow at the University;
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