



90 Day Progress Report

It has been 90 days since the close of the NIC Annual Meeting last April. Here is the progress report on the items addressed during the annual meeting programs and House of Delegates.

Relationship Statements and Document Review Committee

NIC Document Committee has been established with Dave Westol, charged with tracking and evaluating campus relationship statements

- Westol will chair a meeting of the committee in August at NIC headquarters in Indianapolis
- The committee members include: Sean Callan, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP; Jon Williamson, Lambda Chi Alpha, Ed Rodriguez, Delta Sigma Phi; Carlton Bennett, Theta Chi; Vivek Surti, Beta Chi Theta; and Paul Kittle, Phi Mu Delta
- Committee will focus their efforts on creating a communication that will be sent to campus administrators (Vice Presidents, Campus Advisors, Etc.) that outlines what fraternities can support, expectations and language that will not be supported, and methods for seeking involvement/support/input from the NIC and fraternities.
- Committee will create for fraternities a work sheet that will help member fraternities make decisions about their position and/or support of the document.
- Committee will help NIC create a protocol and process for efficient handling of agreements, communication to fraternities and campus, and the logistics of handling situations where agreement can not be reached.
- The timeline for the committee is aggressive with communication being complete by September 15th.

Fraternity Rights and the UniLOA

- Webinar "Train the Trainer" reached 60 staff and volunteers and as a result, a number of NIC member fraternities have:
 - Presented this at Conventions and Conferences
 - Used for staff and board training
 - Connected with UniLOA to survey their chapters
 - Used at FEA for executive session
- We are planning additional webinars and a video of the presentation for wider use by constituents
- NIC has submitted an article to AFA as well as a program for the upcoming AFA Annual Meeting
- Facilitator Presentation, Presenter's Guide and Handout are available for download at: www.nicindy.org/fraternityrights

Board Progress

- New NIC Board Members Patrick Allen, Gary Anderson & Buddy Cote came to Indianapolis for two days of orientation. Training was led by Chairman Howard Pickett and Vice Chairman Mark Romig, with involvement from NIC Staff.
- The Board has scheduled its next meeting for Saturday, September 11th in Cincinnati.
- The Board will also meet Saturday, December 4th in Phoenix. Although not being held specifically in conjunction with the AFA meeting, the board will attend and be part of several events/programs associated with the AFA meeting.

Campus Based Advocacy

As reported at the House of Delegates, campus based advocacy continues to be a priority for staff intervention.

- Feedback from member fraternities asking protocol to be established and for increased speed in resolving issues has been heard and is being addressed immediately by staff.
- Specific issues for University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo are receiving staff action. Members on that campus are receiving communication directly.
- The Supreme Court Ruling on the Hastings Christian Fellowship case is being analyzed by legal partners for implication to NIC and our position.



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Social Media

The multiple opportunities available to NIC via social media are being leveraged to better introduce fraternity to the potential joiner, convincing him of the benefit of membership, and creating ease of joining one of our member organizations.

Online Initiatives

- Use of social media has been heightened to connect people interested in fraternity to our member organizations. NIC's Facebook Page and Twitter Accounts (@nicfraternity & @fraternityinfo) are now linked to the corresponding pages of our member fraternities to increase their visibility.
- Social Media reach is growing: Fan Page (1,662), @nicfraternity (725), @fraternityinfo (273)

Online Media Response

- Constructed mechanism to track "fraternity" related posts across all online media
- Social media allows NIC the opportunity to respond with speed to current day news related to fraternity.

FraternityInfo.com

This is the number one Fraternity site after Wikipedia for Google search. The site is aimed at prospective members and parents, incorporating blogs and social media.

- 25,244 unique visits from 4/15/10-7/20/10 (103,245 page views)
- Partnership with new Associate Member CollegeWeekLive for cross promotion and to support our member's efforts in recruitment. This expands our reach to their newsletter readers (220,000) and online college fair participants (40,000). This public relationship partnership is an effective way to proactively share the value of fraternity membership on behalf of our member fraternities.

NICINDY.org

The NIC's primary website is continuing to be refined. Efforts are being made to improve the online & print directories that are synchronized through the website. Once those updates are finalized all organizations will be asked to review and update their contact information.

Resources on the website continue to be a focus. The most popular section on the site has been the announcement of All-Greek sports teams.

Grade Reports

The NIC has requested academic information from host institutions for the Spring 2010 academic term. This will continue to be updated in preparation for membership grade report that is prepared each fall.

Staff Transition

Andy Huston has transitioned into the role of Director of Member Services. He started on June 2nd after Meghan Ward-Bopp's departure. The transition period has been smooth through the effective succession planning and meetings with staff.

Government Relations

Thank you for your ongoing assistance with our legislative efforts. This summer the NIC has made progress facilitating a couple items that have made an immediate impact:

- Updated listing of candidates running for Senate/Congress
- Letters to University Presidents for support of CHIA from member fraternities



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Annual Meeting

- The programming at the NIC Annual Meeting was well-received across the board. The top-three programs were: 1) Freedom of Association 2) Standards 3) Tie: UniLOA / Relationship Statements
- The lowest rated sessions: 1) Trends in Higher Education 2) 990 Tax Information 3) Innovative Leadership
- This feedback will be considered in planning for 2011 meeting

Association of Public & Land Grant Universities Outreach

NIC was involved in a panel discussion about fraternities at the annual meeting of Vice Presidents for Student Affairs of all Public and Land Grant Universities. Of note: some of these men and women represent the largest fraternity and sorority communities in the nation. Significant discussion centered on freedom of association issues, recognition agreements, and fraternity involvement.

- NIC has been invited to participate in further meetings with this group to continue the conversation.

Training

NIC staff has been involved in a number of training programs involving our member organizations and staff. Involvement has included in FEA Field Staff Training, consultant training, board meetings, and conventions.

UIFI 2010

Participation

- 10 national sessions and 3 campus based sessions (Purdue, Minnesota, Ohio State) are being held in 2010. All sessions have reached their capacity and a total of 981 students and 185 facilitators are participating in UIFI this summer.
- Of the 981 student participants, 54 member fraternities are represented
- Of the 185 facilitators, who are all fraternity/sorority staff members, volunteers, or campus professional, 42 member fraternities are represented.
- 22 member fraternities provided scholarships so that students can attend UIFI

Assessment

- 100% of facilitators agree or strongly agree that they would encourage students they work with to attend UIFI (with 90.1% Strongly Agreeing)
- 99.5% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that UIFI deepened their commitment to fraternity/sorority life (with 88% Strongly Agreeing)
- 99.1% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they are a better leader because of UIFI (with 76.9% Strongly Agreeing)
- 100% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they would recommend UIFI to a peer (with 94.7% Strongly Agreeing)
- Participants were also asked to rate their growth in several areas on a scale of 1-10. They reported the following:
 - My appreciation for my own fraternity/sorority: 8.91
 - My appreciation for fraternity/sorority life: 9.03
 - My willingness to contribute to my fraternity/sorority on a national level: 8.56
 - My commitment to living **my** Ritual: 9.07

Funding

- UIFI, as well as all other educational programs, continues to be fully funded from registration fees and sponsorships from partners such as St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Greek101.com, and Willis North America.
- After accounting for all program costs, including staff time and salaries, UIFI returns funds to the operating budget of the Conference.



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Communications

This 90-day Progress Report is the first of its kind issued by the North-American Interfraternity Conference. It is our intent to keep member organizations regularly updated.

The NIC has developed a communication plan so our member organizations can be more informed of relevant issues and the work that is being done through the Conference.

After feedback from the Caucus meetings at the Annual Meeting, the NIC board will reintroduce and facilitate Caucus Calls spaced throughout the year.