

Updated 10/22/09

Grand Valley State University
Chapter of Excellence Assessment
2009

In 2002, the GVSU Fraternity and Sorority Community developed a mission and values statement. This statement represents not only the community, but also chapters and each individual member. Each chapter voted on the written values and they were approved unanimously at Presidents Council, now known as the Greek Life Council. These values are the basis for the Chapter of Excellence Assessment. All chapters are required to participate and we believe that this is the most inclusive and values oriented program in the country. This is a repetitive process that continues to ask “where have we been, where are we now, and where do we want to be”?

Assessment – Overview

1. Each fraternity and sorority is required to participate in the Chapter of Excellence Assessment.
2. Designated assessment committee members will review each chapter based on the Chapter of Excellence criteria submitted. After review the chapter representatives will participate in a brief interview with the assessment committee members. This criteria is based on the Fraternity and Sorority Life Mission and Values Statements.
3. Outcomes of the review and presentation will determine the 2009 Chapter of Excellence recipients and the recognition status of the chapter.
4. All information presented must have occurred during the year 2009. Please do not include anything past the Fall 2009 semester.
5. Awards will be presented at the Office of Student Life Recognition Reception on January 26, 2009 at 9:00pm in the Grand River Room.

Assessment – Written Documentation = 50% of Total Weight

1. Written documentation is due by November 13th at 5:00PM to the OSL front desk. Upon submission of written documentation, the chapter may sign up for an interview time.
2. Each focus area shall have a five page summary that addresses the identifying question for each theme area.
3. Chapter must submit six (6) written documentation packets; one packet for each judge, plus an extra packet for the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office.

Assessment – Interview = 30% of Total Weight

1. Interviews will be held on December 4th.
2. Each chapter will have 30 minutes to answer 10 questions presented by the judges.
3. Four questions will be standardized for all chapters, one question will be posed by the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office, and five will be based specifically off the written documentation.
 - a. One of the standardized questions will ask, “What accomplishments has the chapter made since the November 13th due date for the written presentation that you would like to share at this time?”
4. Chapters may bring as many members as they like to the interview
 - b. Recommend no more than ten
 - c. Recommend one new member
 - d. Chapter advisors may attend to listen, but are not to present or speak

Assessment – Statistics = 20% of Total Weight

1. Statistics submitted at the end of the previous Winter and the current Fall semester will be assessed using a measurement tool.
2. Chapters have no responsibility other than attending statistics meeting.
3. Statistics will be assessed using a matrix universal for all Fraternities and Sororities.

Feedback - Timeline

1. Written feedback will be provided to the chapter in February.
2. Feedback provided will be a combination of Fraternity and Sorority Life team and the judging panel.
3. Actual scores and scoring matrix will be provided after the Awards Ceremony.

Judges:

1. Fraternity and Sorority Life Team will host a room, but will not serve as a judge unless needed due to an unforeseeable conflict with judges.
2. Five judges shall review written materials and attend the interviews. The committee shall be composed of:
 - a. One involved, unbiased student (No more than one)
 - b. One CSAL graduate assistant (No more than one)
 - c. One alumnus
 - d. Other University constituents
 - e. No more than one Student Life Staff member
3. While we strive to maintain this judging structure, due to last minute conflicts, this format is not guaranteed.

Colonies:

1. Colonies will not participate but will be invited to observe one interview process with approval by the chapter being observed. Chapters have the right to refuse.
2. Colonies will be shown strong written documentation to prepare them for the following year.

Chapter of Excellence

2009

The Chapter of Excellence Award recognizes organizations that exceed expectations in all areas.

VALUES INTEGRATION - FOUNDERS AWARD

The Founders Award recognizes organizations for their commitment to the values set forth by their founders, their (inter)national organization, and university community.

Value: Chapter will instill the values of their organization, Greek community, and Grand Valley State University. Chapter will be responsible for its actions and recognize their implications in the Greek and campus community.

- 1) Describe how your chapter reviews the core values, ritual and purpose with new members, members and graduating seniors?
- 2) Citing no more than three programs that the chapter has sponsored or co-sponsored, how has the chapter exemplified the values of the organization and integrated the mission of Grand Valley State University, "Educating students to shape their lives, their professions, and their societies..."
- 3) How does your chapter communicate the values of your organization to **potential** members?
- 4) Citing specific examples, address how the chapter instills life-long commitment in it's members through the following elements:
 - a. Alumni
 - b. New members
 - c. Members

INTELLUCTUAL DEVELOPMENT – COAT OF ARMS AWARD

The Coat of Arms Award recognizes organizations for the achievement in the areas of intellectual and leadership development.

Value: Chapter will develop and maintain a scholastic program for its members that will enhance their academic success.

- 1) In what way is the chapter reviewing its overall performance? Through this review process, what areas did the chapter determine were the strongest and in most need of improvement for the past year (January 2009-November 2009)?
- 2) How does your chapter serve to meet the academic needs of your members at each stage of their collegiate career?
- 3) Please address how the following are addressed in your chapter academic program:
 - a. New Members/Members not meeting academic expectations
 - b. New Members/Members who have shown significant academic improvement
 - c. New Members/Members who achieve academic excellence
 - d. Faculty involvement (Non-staff)
 - e. New initiatives or changes to your academic program in the past year

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT – COAT OF ARMS AWARD

The Coat of Arms Award recognizes organizations for the achievement in the areas of intellectual and leadership development.

Value: Chapter will encourage leadership development and promote leadership opportunities for its members.

- 1) What impact have your chapter members made to the Grand Valley campus through their involvement outside of your chapter? How has the chapter encouraged this involvement?
- 2) Provide an overview of the leadership experiences provided for the following individuals:
 - a. Chapter leadership/Executive Board
 - b. New Members/Neophytes
 - c. Members
- 3) What initiatives have your chapter implemented as a direct result of attendance at Leadership Conferences, Laker Leadership Programs, Professional Speakers Workshops, National/Regional/District Conferences or other similar programs?

POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS – LIGHTHOUSE AWARD

The Lighthouse Award recognizes organizations that promote and achieve positive relationships and citizenship.

Values: Chapter will foster brotherhood and sisterhood between all Fraternities and Sororities. Chapter will respect the dignity of people while embracing the free exchange of ideas and beliefs. Chapter will educate and promote healthy lifestyles.

- 1) How has your chapter actively contributed to the campus' intercultural climate?
- 2) How has your chapter promoted social responsibility and sustainability within your members?
- 3) How has your chapter enhanced or fostered positive relationships among the Fraternity and Sorority community?
- 4) How has your chapter perpetuated a positive image of Fraternities and Sororities to the Grand Valley Community?
- 5) How does your chapter promote overall wellness in your members?

OUTREACH – LIGHTHOUSE AWARD

The Lighthouse Award recognizes organizations that promote and achieve positive relationships and citizenship.

Value: Chapter will recognize the importance of serving our community.

- 1) Which community service or philanthropic agency has your chapter worked with that has had the most impact on your chapter?
- 2) In what way has the chapter engaged and educated the parent's and family members of your members?
- 3) Describe your most successful educational outreach program to the campus community. What made this effort successful?