

January 2024

## Dear TCNJ Community:

With the Spring semester underway, I am writing on behalf of the Fraternity & Sorority Community and the Office of Student Life to share information about **Sigma Pi** (ΣΠ) and **Phi Kappa Tau** (ΦΚΤ). These groups that use Greek letters have lost recognition from TCNJ for violations of college policies. Though these fraternities were once recognized by TCNJ, over the past few years the College has suspended or revoked recognition of each of these organizations for multiple, serious violations of the Student Organization Code of Conduct and Student Life processes. Presently, none of these groups receive recognition privileges, advisement or support from TCNJ.

Despite this lack of recognition, these groups may still engage in events, recruit membership, and host social activity and parties. The College may not have notice of such activities (either in advance or at all) and in any event does not sanction them. The College recognizes the valuable contributions that recognized student organizations make towards maintaining a vibrant, healthy and fun campus community for our students. The College seeks to promote recognized student organizations that foster camaraderie and appreciation of shared interests, and developmental and experiential opportunities in a healthy, respectful environment. Student organizations whose College recognition has been suspended or revoked, but continue to operate do not enjoy the support, guidance, and oversight that recognized student organizations do. Experience teaches us that non-recognized organizations, unfortunately, can be more prone to engaging in risky, unhealthy and harmful behavior, such as hazing, excessive drinking, using illicit drugs, harassment, sexual misconduct and violent acts. As student safety is paramount to what we do at TCNJ, we strongly discourage any student from joining, affiliating, or engaging in activity with these groups.

There are two additional fraternities that recently failed to complete our expansion process requirements. **Kappa Sigma** ( $K\Sigma$ ) and **Omega Psi Phi** ( $\Omega\Psi\Phi$ ) may still be engaging in events, recruit membership, and host social activity and parties, but currently do not have recognition or privileges on our campus.

Lastly, **Kappa Delta (ΚΔ)** sorority is currently on a probation status with TCNJ, and their national organization has placed the chapter on a national probation status with a full suspension of activities for a minimum of 12 months. The chapter and/or members are prohibited from holding or participating in any activities, including but not limited to chapter meetings, council meetings, social events, continuous open bidding, primary recruitment, new member activities, philanthropy events, or rituals.

If you are pledging or attending a party or social event, or otherwise engaging with an unrecognized group, you do so at your own risk. It is important for students to recognize that without College oversight of their pledging, risk management, or affiliation processes, non-recognized organizations are less likely to comply with College and council policies and procedures that reduce the risks associated with pledging and social events. Students should also understand that the Student Conduct Code does apply to off-campus behavior.

There are over 30 recognized Fraternities and Sororities and 240+ Recognized Student Organizations at TCNJ. All of these recognized groups can be found through <u>studentlife.tcnj.edu</u> and the Roar app. We would encourage you to use these resources when determining how to get involved. If you have any questions about the status of a specific organization or the potential repercussions if you engage with an unrecognized student group, or if you want to report the activity of an unrecognized group, please contact the Office of Student Life at <u>studentlife@tcnj.edu</u> or 609-771-2466. The Student Conduct Code has amnesty provisions for students who seek help for themselves or others who are in danger. We appreciate your help in achieving our goal of ensuring a safe, healthy, and respectful campus community.

Sincerely,

Dave Conner

Director of Student Life