MINUTES
PRESIDENT’S TASK FORCE ON GREEK LIFE
November 14, 2017

Rob Stuart, Chair, called to order the meeting of the President’s Task Force on Greek Life in the LSU Student Union International Room 303, on November 14, 2017 at 6:08 p.m. Stephanie Tomlinson, Executive Assistant to the Board of Supervisors, called the roll.

PRESENT
Rob Stuart, Chair
Dan Layzell, Vice Chair
Jason Badeaux, Student Government President
Kenneth McMillin, Faculty Senate President
Mari Fuentes-Martin, Dean of Students
Verge Ausberry, Athletics Department Representative
Mason Tusa, Interfraternity Council President
Anesha Pink, National Pan-Hellenic Council President
Madison Hopper, Panhellenic Council President
Camille Flint, Residence Hall Association President
BJ Billeaudeau, Kappa Sigma House Corporation Representative

ABSENT
None absent.

Also present for the meeting were the following: Carlton “Trey” Jones, Managing Attorney in the LSU Office of General Counsel; Stephanie Tomlinson, Executive Assistant to the LSU Board of Supervisors; Hannah Rovira, Coordinator in the LSU Office of the President; Ernie Ballard, LSU Media Relations Director; and representatives of the news media.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
There were no public comments made at the meeting.

I. Approval of Minutes for the October 16, 2017 Task Force Meeting

Rob Stuart, Chair, asked for a motion to approve of the minutes for the October 16, 2017 Task Force meeting. Upon motion of, seconded by Anesha Pink, the members voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

II. Tiger BITES Presentation

D’Ann Morris, Student Health Center Executive Director, presented an overview of the Tiger BITES Bystander intervention training program. The Task Force was provided with the Tiger BITES materials and flash drive with the training videos. The Tiger BITES program teaches others how to intervene when necessary. There is a committee overseeing the program that includes individuals from the Student Health Center, the Greek Life office, Athletics, the Dean of Students, Campus Life, and Residential Life. This program also includes sexual violence prevention that meets federal compliance related to Title IX. The program utilizes scenarios for training and they update the scenarios to meet the needs of the students. The program is always open to suggestion to do what it needs to help people gain this life skill. The program informs students you don’t have to be the loudest and pushiest person to
intervene. You can intervene, delegate, or distract and these are all sorts of ways to do any of these three methods. The real focus is to teach students to intervene not just come and lecture. Dr. Alexander stated stopping hazing is not going to be done by policy, it will take peer to peer and that’s what this training is for to teach bystander intervention. They have trained over 500 people and Residential Life is utilizes the training the most. The Gruver’s mentioned in their statement that “situation can quickly get out of control...please look out for yourself and for others...take action” and this speaks directly to bystander intervention. D’Ann stated Greek chapters are ideal for institutionalizing programs like this and could be the most positive and powerful method. She emphasized to the Task Force that changing a culture can take 7-10 years and this Task Force has the potential to change this process in a powerful way.

Rob Stuart asked the Task Force their thoughts on the program. He mentioned this seems like something we need to do, and is interested in a plan to assure if the Task Force adopts this program that every chapter goes through it. D’Ann suggested it could be enforced with the Dean of Students and Greek Life Office and the Greek Presidents could let us know when the right time to present the information to members would be. The program also has the option to train individuals to be facilitators so we could train chapter members who then could facilitate the training for their chapter. This method is very effective since students would rather listen to other students than the University.

BJ Billeaudeau asked about the impact this program has had in Residential Life. D’Ann stated that there is an increase in referrals from other students that maybe exhibiting risky behavior noticed in a roommate or neighbor. The number of referrals to the Student Health Center have increased by 20% from students living on campus.

BJ Billeaudeau asked how much of the intervention is anonymous. D’Ann stated the all the information is included in the training, including anonymity.

Verge Ausberry asked about this training for other student organizations? D’Ann said they have not been approached yet but they are more than happy to do it for anyone that asks. She noted that the Dean of Students, Dr. Mari Fuentes-Martin, required all of her employees to be trained and encouraged all student leaders to join the training as well. Mari commented she sees this as a leadership program for staff and students and the more people trained to facilitate the more people who can be trained.

Dan asked if Campus Dining is involved because they see students day in and day out. D’Ann stated that they are willing to train anyone that approaches them and she has reached out to Miriam Segar in Athletics to do the training for Athletics.

III. Public Input Meeting Discussion

Rob Stuart, Chair of the Task Force, opened the discussion about gathering public input for the Task Force’s work. He noted the Subcommittees have done most of the work to date and gathering input for various groups is important to get the recommendations ready. The Greek chapter presidents are a particular group Rob mentioned as needing to get input from.
BJ Billeauadeau asked if these meetings would be in the Subcommittees or the Task Force. Dan Layzell, Vice Chair, responded this would be a whole Task Force deal to gather suggestions through meetings, emails, or calls. The goal is to target specific stakeholders and provide open ended requests for comments.

IV. Process & Timeline Update

Rob Stuart stated there are no Subcommittee meetings next week.

Mari Fuentes-Martin commented her big concern was reviewing the policies and procedures, especially in regards to updating them. Dan Layzell agreed and stated the Greek Life policies would be interesting to review.

Rob Stuart asked the students for their opinion on the discussion. Jason Badeaux mentioned he was glad to hear presidents brought up as a group because everything will need to be enforced at a chapter level. Mason Tusa agreed with Jason and said involving the presidents would be beneficial.

Mari Fuentes-Martin asked about timeline for these discussions and the group identified the week of the 10th of December.

V. Adjournment

Rob Stuart made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Madison seconded the meeting, and the Task Force voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:27pm.