PROHIBITION OF HAZING

PURPOSE

In accordance with the purpose and philosophy of Louisiana State University (LSU) and the laws of the State of Louisiana, this policy is consistent with the belief that true fraternality can be nurtured only in an atmosphere of social and moral responsibility, respect for human dignity, adherence to the principles of true living-learning communities. This policy prohibits all forms of hazing, and holds that its practice is antithetical to the principles of LSU and incongruent with the responsibility of student organizations to provide constructive and educational experiences to their members.

DEFINITIONS

**Hazing** -- As stated in Section 5.2.B.3. of the *Code of Student Conduct*:
Hazing is defined as any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, occurring on or off campus, by one person alone or acting with others, that subjects a student to an unreasonable risk of physical, mental, emotional or academic harm for reasons related to that student's status at the University or for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization whose members are or include students at the University. Hazing includes, but is not limited to, any type of physical assault or restraint; placement of an undesirable substance on or in the body; any type of physical activity, such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, calisthenics, or other activity that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student; any activity or expectation which is so time consuming as to significantly interfere with class work or study time; any activity involving consumption of food, liquid, alcoholic beverage, drug, or other substance that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that is unpleasant; any activity that would subject a reasonable person to intimidation, shame, belittlement, humiliation, embarrassment or undue mental stress, including, but not limited to personal servitude, pranks, assigning or endorsing the wearing of apparel that is conspicuous and not normally in good taste, line-ups and verbal abuse; or any activity that induces, encourages, causes, or requires the student to engage in an activity that involves a violation of law or University policy.

Activities that violate the University’s prohibition against hazing include, but are not limited to,
- Activities or events that facilitate rapid drinking, drinking games, intoxication or impairment.
- Activities or expectations that are so time consuming as to significantly interfere with class work or study time.
• Any action taken or situation created which may foreseeably cause pain, injury, undue physical stress, or fatigue. This includes, but is not limited to, paddling, caning, slapping, pushing, shoving, burning, shocking, tackling, and exercise that is not part of a reasonable all-organization athletic event.

• Activities including any type of confinement, restraint, kidnapping, or transportation and abandonment.

• Activities involving lineups, interrogation or verbal abuse.

• Any activity that encourages or endorses the consumption of unpalatable foods, or unpalatable combination of foods, or the placement of unpleasant or undesirable objects or liquids on another person.

• Activities that cause psychological stress, including, but not limited to, any deception designed to convince a student that he/she will not be initiated, will be removed, or will be injured during any activity.

• Activities that involve personal servitude and/or purchasing items for others.

• Work assignments, tasks or exercise that primarily includes new members.

• Assigning, encouraging, endorsing or carelessly allowing conduct that is illegal or in violation of University policy, including, but not limited to, theft, burglary, trespassing, defacement, subjecting any animal to risk, providing false information, academic dishonesty or that could be morally objectionable to an individual.

• Creating any situation for a student that is extremely uncomfortable due to temperature, noise, size, or air quality.

• Encouraging or expecting the carrying of items by an individual that have no immediate personal utility.

• Encouraging or facilitating stunts, acts of buffoonery, and the wearing of apparel that is conspicuous and not normally in good taste, including, but not limited to dressing like animals.

Activities that may, depending on the circumstances, violate the University’s prohibition against hazing include, but are not limited to

• Scavenger hunts
• Road trips
• Blindfolding

**Office of the Dean of Students** -- For the purposes of this policy, the terms “Office of the Dean of Students” and “Dean of Students” refer to the Dean of Students or the Dean's designee.

**GENERAL POLICY**

No individual student, group of students or student organization shall conduct or participate in any activity, occurring on or off campus, which includes hazing.
Hazing with or without the consent of the student being hazed is prohibited, and a violation of that prohibition renders both the person inflicting the hazing and the person submitting to the hazing subject to discipline.

**Individual Violations**

A person commits a hazing offense under this policy if that person does one or more of the following:

1. engages in hazing, including submitting to hazing;
2. solicits, encourages, directs, aids or attempts to aid another engaging in hazing;
3. carelessly allows hazing to occur; or
4. has knowledge of the planning of a specific hazing incident, or has knowledge that a specific hazing incident has occurred, and fails to report that knowledge in writing to the Dean of Students.

Students who violate the University’s prohibition against hazing are subject to sanctions in accordance with the procedures outlined in the *Code of Student Conduct*. The sanctioning of individual members of a student organization in no way precludes the sanctioning of that organization, or the imposition of civil or criminal penalties.

Louisiana State University employees that violate the University’s prohibition against hazing are subject to sanctions, including termination of employment.

**Organizational Violations**

An organization commits a hazing offense under this policy if the organization condones, encourages or recklessly allows hazing or if an officer or any combination of members, new members, prospective members, or alumni of the organization commits or assists in the commission of hazing.

Organizations that violate the University’s prohibition against hazing are subject to sanctions in accordance with the procedures outlined in *Policy Statement 52*. The sanctioning of a student organization in no way precludes the sanctioning of individual members of that organization, or the imposition of civil or criminal penalties.

**STATE LAW**

**Louisiana Revised Statutes 17:1801 Hazing prohibited; penalties**

Hazing in any form, or the use of any method of initiation into fraternal organizations in any educational institution supported wholly or in part by public funds, which is likely to cause bodily danger or physical punishment to any student or other person attending any such institution is prohibited.

Whoever violates the provisions of this Section shall be fined not less than ten dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, or imprisoned for not less than ten days nor more than thirty days, or...
both, and in addition, shall be expelled from the educational institution and not permitted to return during the current session or term in which the violation occurs.

REPORTING

A faculty member, staff member, or student who becomes aware of possible hazing of LSU students must immediately report the matter to the Dean of Students, 116 Johnston Hall, 578-4307, or to the LSU PD, 578-3231.