

## Chapter Culture and Active Restarts

“What is a better man” is a question that the fraternity does a poor job of answering. While there was some agreeance that Triangle’s traditions (e.g., Everyman) imply a certain degree of self-discovery and existentialist at the individual level, the Lecture also regards seniority as a respected and valued attribute. Consensus was that this implies the fraternity should have a Foundations program which establishes a minimum amount of success patterns to be followed.

Ambition is an attribute highly sought after with new members.

“Mental health (which has been a focus for previous active chapters), if anything is building habits in daily life” – Br. Hull

‘Quid Pro Quo’ [This for That], while not a fraternal tradition, was suggested as a possible solution to re-establishing the social contract of being in a social organization. Other potentially useful cultural concepts were “What’s In It For Me”, or “You get out what you put in”.

Accepting below standards members cost us greatly.

Brotherhood should come before housing, but very early survey results indicate that there is a disconnect in the value of housing. In general, “housing = good” is something we agree with... “housing = necessary” is not, per se. More data on this will become available in the next few weeks.

## Organizational Structure

The bicameral structure (actives and alumni both contributing both equally and collaboratively) seems to be out of fashion with those present. Instead, it was suggested that the alumni organization be able to provide a more managerial role of the chapter.

There was a general consensus that BoD Officers (or whatever the next name/structure is) should have “Graduated with a 4 Year Degree” as a requirement (though no requirement it be from OU or a technical degree).

Potentially adding **ombudsperson** (and creating a mechanism for dealing with conflicts of interest) is of value. This isn’t a panacea, of course, but in general dealing with problems before they escalate is better than the alternative.

## Parties

The classic “fraternity party” which appeals to 18-24 year olds is not very sustainable for older, married, and more established members that the alumni have. Besides the lack of wanting to throw “a rager”, the lack of a facility means holding events at venues limits our ability to brand/decorate/theme an event.

Br. Stocco specifically called out the desire to keep the “riff” or “parody” vibes of traditional Greek events (e.g., Nuclear Winter Formal, as a playful jab at the more traditional Winter Formal) could be interesting.

Bruce Nguyen, Neal Helfrey, and Zack McQuilling all own homes in the Norman/OKC metro area, and advised that they enjoy “entertaining in general”. Each of these individuals would be prime candidates for future social engagements.

A “Dad’s Club” or “Diaper Party” (?) was suggested as other potential ideas for subgroups in the fraternity.

### **Founder’s Day/Weekend**

While the alumni group doesn’t “measure time in semesters”, having Founder’s Weekend straddled so that it occurs every six months is something the group prefers.

Discussion that ticket prices are likely to be higher due to inflation was had. This Founder’s Weekend was subsidized in part by the lack of an April Founder’s Weekend in 2023.

Inviting Guest Speakers for Founder’s Weekend can serve as a way to increase engagement both inside and outside the fraternity.

Lawrence Kincheloe has offered to be a general speaker for some topics.

### **Road Trips / Retreats**

Road Trips and Retreats were blended together in the conversation. Suggested road trips destinations were limited to the “Braum’s States” (i.e., Oklahoma and adjacent states). Retreats weren’t discussed at all.

### **Casual Events**

Instructions on how to add events to the chapter calendar will be added to the website and announced via email.

An email with “This Month in Triangle”, summarizing upcoming events would be highly appreciated. Due to the lack of us maintaining Event Horizon / publication process mean that these emails should be automated. It’s not immediately clear how this is to be done technically, but certainly software (hopefully free) exists.

3x3 basketball and hot yoga were suggested as “less physical” activities which interested the groups there. The ability to add these types of ‘casual events’ to the calendar and empower people to self-promote is highly useful.

### **PTC**

“Moderated” or “Time-boxed” format the last time was generally well received.