Fraternity and Sorority Life

EXPANSION PACKET
Introduction

Over the past few years, interest in the fraternity and sorority community at University of Northern Iowa (UNI) has consistently increased. The IFC community is becoming more visible on and off campus. Each chapter is in the process of reviewing and revising programs in such areas as scholarship, educational programming, member education, philanthropy and chapter management. Chapter and community unity is at all time high. The Interfraternity Council is a fully-functioning governing body consistently reviewing services, programs and leadership opportunities available to chapters and individual members.

With an increase in interest and member organization growth, adding another fraternity will strengthen the community, while also creating a new niche for men looking to affiliate. It is for that reason Fraternity and Sorority Life, in conjunction with the Interfraternity Council, is happy to announce University of Northern Iowa is open for expansion to NIC organizations.

In this packet you will find information about the University, the Interfraternity Council and the Expansion Process which outlines why we believe your organization could be the right fit for our community. We hope you find this information helpful as you evaluate the possibility of joining our fraternal community.

www.cedarfallstourism.org

The Right College Town

Home to the University of Northern Iowa, there are lots of great reasons to love Cedar Falls! Enjoy the charm of our nationally recognized historic downtown district. Ride, run, paddle or walk the 100+ miles of recreational trails in our area, and visit the newly re-opened Ice House Museum!

www.cedarfallstourism.org

Community Information

Cedar Falls is a member of a larger metropolitan area that includes Waterloo, Evansdale and Hudson, known collectively as the Cedar Valley, whose population is 160,691 overall. Cedar Falls’ population is 36,940.

There are a lot of things that have to click to make a truly great college town. Whether it’s feeling the palpable vibe of an alma mater, having tons to do, or the fact that your college town is a great place to stay after you’ve graduated. That’s why Cedar Falls is listed as one of the 50 Best College Towns in America by “Best College Reviews.”

CEDAR FALLS IS ALSO IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO SEVERAL MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREAS

APPROXIMATE DRIVE TIMES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Drive Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Des Moines, Iowa</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis, Minn.</td>
<td>3.5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago, Ill.</td>
<td>4.5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omaha, Neb.</td>
<td>4.5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary, Ind.</td>
<td>5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas City, Kan.</td>
<td>5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee, Wis.</td>
<td>5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Louis, Mo.</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Antonio, Texas</td>
<td>18 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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True to its roots, UNI continues to emphasize hands-on service
UNI has a long and rich history of service dating back to the mid-
1800’s. In 1866, an orphanage for children affected by the Civil
War was established in Cedar Falls. In a few years’ time, it became
apparent that the building’s usefulness would shortly be coming to
an end as orphans grew up and moved out into the world. Iowans
saw an opportunity and seized it; the Iowa State Normal School – an
institution created for and devoted to the training of teachers – was
founded in 1876. Since its inception, the institution has also gone
by the names of the Iowa State Normal School, Iowa State Teachers
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True to its roots, UNI continues to emphasize hands-on service
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National Recognition
Each year, UNI receives numerous accolades and awards from
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some of our honors include:

• Ranked No. 2 by U.S. News & World Report’s “America’s Best
Colleges,” Best Regional Universities (Midwest).
• Ranked as one of the 50 safest colleges in the U.S. according
to a study done by the Newsweek Daily Beast.
• Named one of the nation’s top 650 undergraduate colleges
and universities in Forbes Magazine’s annual ranking of top
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• Named as one of the country’s most environmentally
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Green Colleges
• Ranked nationally as one of the “100 Best Values in Public
Colleges” by Kiplinger’s Personal Finance magazine.
• Named a College of Distinction for having engaged students,
great teaching, a vibrant community and successful student
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ABOUT UNI

History
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Statistics

Enrollment and Projected Growth
In fall 2014, the University of Northern Iowa experienced a notable increase in several segments of our student population. The following segments increased at these outstanding rates:

- 4.4% new students direct from high school
- 20.2% new undergraduate minority students
- 22.3% new international students

The 2014 retention rate was the highest it’s been in 15 years. Approximately 84.7 percent of our students returned for a second year compared to 82.9 percent in 2013. Compare that to a national average of 71.7 percent for similar institutions.

An Unbeatable Academic Experience
UNI’s small classes are taught by professors, not teaching assistants. Teaching is their No. 1 priority, and they’re dedicated to helping students understand their strengths, determine their goals and realize their potential.

Our more than 675 faculty members are authorities in their fields, and they are your greatest academic resource. Students will work closely together on selecting classes, conducting research and finding internship opportunities so they’ll graduate on time and with a strong academic background.

When UNI Students graduate, they are ready to take on the world! No matter what major, every student will experience the same set of class choices in UNI’s Liberal Arts Core. This exposes students to a broad range of perspectives and subjects that develop new insights and ways of thinking. And for those students who aren’t quite sure what their major is, taking classes from departments all across campus will help them find the right academic fit.

99% of classes taught by faculty
23 average class size

16:1 student to faculty ratio
300+ student organizations

More than 160 Areas of Study
From accounting to pre-medicine, UNI has majors, areas of emphasis and pre-professional programs to fit any interest

$20 Million awarded in scholarships each year

Diversity – The Right Place for Everyone
A person’s heritage is an essential part of who they are and is why we have dozens of multicultural clubs and organizations to help students promote and celebrate their culture. And joining clubs and organizations is the best way they can make friends, become a campus leader and have an unforgettable time.

UNI offers campus-wide festivals and activities that students can help plan, promote and participate in. Each year, for example, the UNI campus comes together to celebrate African-American, Hispanic and Asian American heritage months with live music, dances and plenty of ethnic food. Students from every race and culture are valued and respected at UNI.
Mission

The mission of UNI’s Division of Student Affairs is “helping students succeed.” They help students prepare for responsible citizenship, personal fulfillment and success in life by supporting their efforts to learn through their experiences, achieve their academic goals and strive for excellence in all.

All members of the division adhere to this mission by:

• Developing environments that are safe, welcoming, inclusive and healthy;
• Providing services that are professional, supportive and personalized; and
• Fostering meaningful student engagement in campus and community life that develops leadership, educates about diversity, and contributes to learning.

How FSL Fits Within and is Supported By the Division

Fraternity & Sorority Life provides UNI students with meaningful student engagement experiences, develops leadership skills and contributes to student learning. The FSL community promotes living by the Four Pillars which unite all Greek-letter organizations: Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Brotherhood/Sisterhood. The Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Terry Hogan, has made his support known for growing the UNI FSL community. Fraternity and sorority membership is a way to help students succeed.

Our Core Values

**Scholarship:** Academic excellence is a vital aspect of fraternity and sorority membership. All chapters have required GPAs to join and stay an active member in good standing, and provide support and resources to members that fall below these standards.

**Leadership:** Developing leaders for life is an important part of Greek involvement. Besides holding executive and chair positions within their chapters, as well as on the Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils, members regularly hold leadership roles in a variety of student organizations across campus.

**Service:** Service is an essential pillar of fraternity and sorority involvement at UNI. In the last year, UNI Fraternity & Sorority Life donated $25,000 and more than 4,000 hours of service to charities such as Ronald McDonald House, Autism Speaks, American Veterans and the American Red Cross.

**Brotherhood/Sisterhood:** Joining a Greek organization is about building lifelong relationships that extend beyond the boundaries of ordinary friendships. Bonds of brother/sisterhood provide UNI Greeks with a home away from home, mentorship, career networking and a sense of community at a large university.

Greek life has given me numerous opportunities that I couldn’t have received anywhere else. Whether it’s bonding with lifelong brothers, to working to organize campus-wide events, I have most definitely benefited from Greek life.

— Shane Boyer, IFC President, Sigma Phi Epsilon

Greek life has given me leadership experience, introduced me to new people, and it has got me out of my comfort zone. I think that I have become a better leader because of it.

— Ben Osterhaus, IFC Treasurer/Secretary, Sigma Alpha Epsilon
Fraternity & Sorority Life Mission Statement
The University of Northern Iowa Fraternity & Sorority Life is dedicated to providing its members a memorable experience during their time at college. We believe in the four pillars of: Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Brotherhood/Sisterhood. Developing these pillars is the mission of UNI fraternity and sorority community.

Community
Fraternity & Sorority Life at University of Northern Iowa is undergoing a major transformation, including the development of a Greek Advisory Team, designing a leadership course for emerging community leaders, and nurturing alumni involvement. In addition, the IFC is focused on the following major initiatives: 1) Proactively developing sexual assault awareness and education at all levels of the community; 2) Growth through the increase of recruitment efforts and expansion; and 3) Improving the GPA of the fraternal community.

These efforts will greatly enhance opportunities for student involvement at UNI, and will lead to gains in student engagement and academic success. The members of the Fraternity and Sorority community at UNI truly stand out compared to our other students. The area of Fraternity & Sorority Life is housed within the Student Involvement Center and staffed by Steffoni Schmidt, Program Coordinator, who brings over 10 years of experienced guidance and community building. The other staff members include an Administrative Secretary and Graduate Assistant, both of which serve as dedicated mentors and advocates for the advancement of the UNI and national fraternal movements.

FSL Community Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Sorority Women</th>
<th>Total Fraternity Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>299</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Sorority GPA</th>
<th>All Fraternity GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>2.89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>More than</th>
<th>4,000 hours of community service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$25,000 Donated to philanthropies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.93% of the student body is Greek</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average Sorority Chapter Size</th>
<th>Average Fraternity Chapter Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Information from Spring 2015*
Recruitment Process

Fall Fraternity Recruitment starts on the first day of classes and continues for two weeks. In this period the Interfraternity Council will be providing events schedules for each chapter and coordinating information tables around campus where prospective men can meet all the chapter members. Each fraternity chapter will have a wide variety of events for students to provide more information about their organization and meet current members.

Current FSL Organizations

Our community consists of eight organizations representing two governing councils:

**College Panhellenic Council**

*Name & Chartered date at UNI*

- Alpha Delta Pi, 1967
- Alpha Xi Delta, 1965
- Alpha Phi, 1970
- Gamma Phi Beta, 1968

**Interfraternity Council**

*Name & Chartered date at UNI*

- Kappa Sigma, 1984
- Pi Kappa Alpha, 1975
- Sigma Alpha Epsilon, 1965
- Sigma Phi Epsilon, 1993

History of FSL at UNI

Since the early 1900s, when the University of Northern Iowa was the Iowa State Normal School, fraternities and sororities have been part of the fabric of campus life. The number of chapters and percentage of Greek students on campus has fluctuated over the past 100 years; however, in recent years the system has remained stable and has shown signs of growth as chapters gain visibility and interest in joining a Greek chapter has increased.

The Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils have been doing more to support and grow the entire Greek system and increased professional staff helps the students support these efforts. Order of Omega is a viable honorary organization, working to improve individual members and the Greek system. In the past 5 years, UNI Fraternity & Sorority Life has been growing and thriving. Support for expansion has been expressed by the University President and Vice President for Student Affairs.

**NIC Fraternities that have been at UNI previously:** Sigma Tau Gamma (1947), Tau Kappa Epsilon (1955), Delta Upsilon (1968), Delta Chi (1970), Pi Kappa Phi *colony (2002)*
All the chapters at UNI have housing, although the community is not a house culture. Most of the chapter facilities only hold 10-18 members, usually made up of Chapter Executives and upperclassmen. There are no requirement to live-in from any chapter. In addition, UNI Department of Residence (DOR) has a 2-year contract for living in the residence halls for incoming student and many of them select this option.

There are opportunities that can be discussed regarding housing for a new chapter. The FSL community is currently in talks with the DOR to develop a plan for more structured chapter facilities within the residence halls and taking advantage of the living-learning community concept to enhance the student experience.

### Sororities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>House Max Occupancy</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Delta Pi</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Xi Delta</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Phi</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Phi Beta</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fraternities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>House Max Occupancy</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kappa Sigma</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pi Kappa Alpha</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sigma Alpha Epsilon</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>Private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sigma Phi Epsilon</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Renting – not zoned for a fraternity facility</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Requested Materials

Letter of interest

Logistical Information
- Name of your organization
- Founding date
- History with University of Northern Iowa
- Current number of colonies and colonies chartered in the last five years
- Current number of undergraduate members
- Number of chapters and average chapter size
- Membership costs: new member, initiation fees, insurance, regular dues
- Average chapter GPA
- Verification of appropriate coverage for the colony by the inter/national organization

Program Policies
- Position on risk management, including a copy of the risk management policy
- Position on hazing
- Information on insurance coverage
- Length/focus of new member program
- Minimum standards of potential new members
- Scholarship program and academic standards
- Community service and philanthropy programs
- Leadership/member development program
- Constitution and Bylaws
- Financial support provided to colonies and financial expectations of the colony

Colonization
- Contact information for 1-2 institutions of recent expansions
- Procedures for colonization (including time line if possible)
- Ongoing support for colony/chapter
  - Field staff visits
  - Recruitment support
  - Additional resources
- Criteria for chartering: to include minimum number of students pledged to establish a secure colony
- Housing Expectations: Indicate housing expectations of the University. Include plan for acquiring housing.

Organizational structure
- Volunteer support at the district and local level

Resources
- (Inter)National Headquarters
  - Foundation Scholarships/loans
  - Housing Support/ (Inter)National Housing Corporation
  - Leadership schools or conventions
Expansion Process

Timeline
While the colonization dates and timeline will be established in conjunction with the selected group(s), the following is a time table for the initial process and projected dates.

Fall 2015:
Open Communication about Expansion and Exploratory Visits (optional)

Due January 15, 2016: Packet Submission

January 18-29, 2016: Packet Review

February 2016: Dialogue with UNI IFC, NIC, and Interested Organizations

March 2016: Develop Timeline for Interested Organizations to Colonize

Colonization Minimum Expectations
Organizations selected to colonize or re-colonize are expected to meet the following criteria prior to leaving campus:

1. Recruit to a reasonable chapter size as deemed appropriate by the organization’s national headquarters.

2. Representatives must attend all IFC meetings and all members are strongly encouraged to participate in every facet of the FSL community.

3. Meet the requirements of becoming a registered student organization as set forth by the Northern Iowa Student Government.

4. Secure the support of a university advisor as well as have all university paperwork approved by the Student Involvement Center.

5. The organization shall provide alumni support to the new colony as is appropriate based on the organization’s national standards.

6. The chapter must abide by all IFC and University policies, regulations, and guidelines.

Active IFC membership becomes automatic when the fraternity begins the colonization process.

Contact Information
Please electronically submit all materials to: Steffoni Schmidt, Program Coordinator - Steffoni.Schmidt@uni.edu

For questions, please contact Steffoni Schmidt, by phone at 319-273-7422 or email Steffoni.Schmidt@uni.edu

Website: http://www.uni.edu/involvement/fsl

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319-273-7605

Steffoni Schmidt, FSL Advisor 
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Dr. Lisa Kratz, Director of Maucker Union 
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Dr. Leslie Williams, Dean of Students 
Leslie.Williams@uni.edu
319-273-2332

Dr. Terry Hogan, VP for Student Affairs 
Terry.Hogan@uni.edu
319-273-2332