2019-2020 CHAPTER PILLARS AND F&SL AWARDS

F&SL CHAPTER PILLARS OF EXCELLENCE

Mission
The office of Fraternity and Sorority Life at UT Arlington fosters a quality fraternal experience that enhances student success and development by promoting community values and integrity in a diverse and inclusive setting.

Purpose
The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life at UT Arlington strives to offer a program that promotes student success and development through the fraternal experience. While many of our chapters provide such an experience, the Pillars of Excellence Report will assist in developing achievable benchmarks and priorities to assure a vision of excellence for the future of the fraternity/sorority community at UT Arlington.

The objectives & expectations will be reviewed on an annual basis to assure they are aligned with current trends and best practices while also meeting the needs and challenges of the current UT Arlington fraternity & sorority community.

F&SL Community Pillars
- **Lifelong Friendship** – Joining a fraternity or sorority is the beginning of a new experience with new friends and the creation of a home away from home. By joining a fraternal organization, members become part of a larger national organization and find that they have friends all over the world.
- **Philanthropy and Community Service** – In the fraternity and sorority community at UTA, we encourage more than just making new friends within one’s chapter. Getting involved on campus and off allows you to help your community and give back to those around you.
- **Academic Support** – Fraternities and sororities provide members with an opportunity to earn academic awards, recognition, and possibly scholarships. Each organization offers academic support programs that could require study hours, offer tutoring sessions with other members, or possibly mentoring opportunities.
- **Leadership Development** – UTA offers many opportunities for students to become involved. Participation in a fraternity or sorority allows for numerous occasions for a member to develop critical leadership skills on campus and within one’s own chapter.

Expectation & Participation
Each chapter is expected to submit their Pillars of Excellence Report on an annual basis to remain in good standing with the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life at UT Arlington. The program is based our four F&SL Community Pillars. Each Pillar consists of three objectives for a total of (9) possible points for each Pillar. A “Gold, Silver, or Bronze” status will be determined for each Pillar by the number of points received:
- 7-9 points = Gold
- 4-6 points = Silver
- 1-3 points = Bronze

Additionally, chapters will receive an overall status of “Gold, Silver or Bronze” based on total accumulated points.
Submission
To promote on-going chapter excellence throughout the academic year, chapters will have access to submit documentation and reflections via a template online. A completed submission **must** include the following:

- **Documentation** (photos, screenshots, video, pdf documents, flyers, etc.)
  - We encourage you to tweet or post via Instagram using the hashtag #UTAPillars & mention @UTAFSL with picture/video representation and short reflection. However, for submission purposes upload screenshot of Twitter/Instagram post(s) to be included in your template as evidence.

- **Chapter Reflection**: Many of the Pillars require a chapter reflection to be submitted along with other accompanying evidence. The Pillars of Fraternity & Sorority Life at UTA help address the learning that each chapter member experiences through their involvement within their chapter. These reflections help to explain and characterize such learning within the Pillars of Excellence. The office will provide some guiding questions for your reflection.

### Clarifying Information
For pillar objectives that ask chapters to provide evidence and reflections of events hosted/attended, these events **cannot** be hosted all in one semester.

## Chapter Recognition
The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life will evaluate chapters each academic year on the criteria outlined and the overall chapter evaluation will be presented on the F&SL website at [https://www.uta.edu/greek/our-community/chapter-profiles.php](https://www.uta.edu/greek/our-community/chapter-profiles.php).

### Recognition Level Points Breakdown:
- 38-48 points = Gold Chapter (Scored at least 75% of total points)
- 27-37 points = Silver Chapter (Scored at least 50% of total points)
- 16-26 points = Bronze Chapter (Scored at least 25% of total points)

Additionally, each chapter will receive an individual report and community report. It is our hope that these reports will assist the chapter in on-going improvement to obtain and maintain a status of excellence in each of the pillars of the community.

Chapters must meet F&SL Minimum Standards in order to receive recognition.

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<th>Recognition Levels</th>
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| Gold Chapter       | • Recognition at F&SL Awards Ceremony  
|                    | • Letter of recognition sent to Headquarters regarding chapter standing  
|                    | • Paid registration for one additional member to the F&SL Leaders Institute (formally known as F&SL Leaders Retreat) by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life  
|                    | • $100 chapter programming grant provided by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life  |
| Silver Chapter     | • Recognition at F&SL Awards Ceremony  
|                    | • Letter of recognition sent to Headquarters regarding chapter standing  
|                    | • Two member registrations for the Follett Student Leadership Center’s Leadership Retreat or Institute by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life  |
| Bronze Chapter     | • Recognition at F&SL Awards Ceremony  
|                    | • Letter of recognition sent to Headquarters regarding chapter standing  |
Top Chapter of the Year Award
The five highest scoring chapters will be eligible to present to be recognized as Top Chapter of the Year. Top Chapter winners will receive a monetary award, the Top Chapter of the Year trophy, and a featured Shorthorn ad, in addition to the recognition actions in their respective scoring level.

Chapters that have received disciplinary sanctions during the current academic year from their council, the office of Student Conduct, or their regional/(inter)national organization are not eligible for the Top Chapter of the Year recognition.

Excellence in Lifelong Friendship
The fraternity/sorority community at UT Arlington is dedicated to connecting students and alumni to a positive lifelong fraternal experience, as well as promoting the fraternal experience in a positive light.

1A) Chapter Branding Plan. Chapter has outlined a year-round chapter branding plan for purposes of demonstrating the chapter’s goals and values, as well as the promotion of chapter’s operations and events.
   - 3 points = Chapter has submitted a year-round chapter branding plan, chapter has a media presence that is current and updated with post or content regularly (at least twice a month), and the chapter has utilized council or campus resources to better promote their events (i.e. alternative posting outside of social media, Shorthorn ads, etc.)
   - 2 points = Chapter has submitted a year-round chapter branding plan and chapter has a media presence that is current and updated with post or content regularly (at least twice a month)
   - 1 point = Chapter has submitted a year-round chapter branding plan and chapter has a media presence

1B) Internal Relationship Building. Evidence of activities/programs that support the fraternal value of brotherhood/sisterhood and are non-alcoholic in nature. (i.e. brotherhood/sisterhood retreats, movie nights, parent/family days, etc.). These events should only be open to active chapter members, alumni/ae, and/or member’s parents and family. Events should not be intended for relationship building outside of the organization but instead focusing on the chapter.
   - 3 points = 6 or more events focused on internal relationship building
   - 2 points = 4-5 events focused on internal relationship building
   - 1 point = 2-3 events focused on internal relationship building

1C) External Relationship Building. Chapters will create intentional programming to build relationship among other groups and organizations (another fraternity/sorority, non-F&L registered student organization, university department, off-campus organization). Chapters are encouraged to collaborate/co-create programming with a group/organization outside of their own, and are non-alcoholic in nature. These events are intended to have equal responsibility of all organizations involved, which means that chapters should be able to articulate how the relationship among other organizations and/or departments has positively evolved from the events submitted.
   - 3 points = 6 or more events focused on external relationship building
   - 2 points = 4-5 events focused on external relationship building
   - 1 point = 2-3 events focused on external relationship building
Excellence in Philanthropy and Community Service
The fraternity/sorority community at UT Arlington values service through philanthropic (charitable aid or awareness) and community service (service to a need) efforts to UTA, Arlington community and beyond.

2A) Chapter participation in The Big Event or Relay for Life

**Big Event**
- 3 points = 70% of chapter membership participation
- 2 points = 60% of chapter membership participation
- 1 point = 50% of chapter membership participation

**Relay for Life**
- 3 points = participation, $700 or more raised
- 2 points = participation, $500 or more raised
- 1 point = participation, $200 or more raised

2B) Chapter-hosted philanthropic event(s). Philanthropy is an event or program where participants raise awareness, money, and/or goods to directly benefit an organization or group of people.
- 3 points = 3 chapter-hosted philanthropic events
- 2 points = 2 chapter-hosted philanthropic events
- 1 point = 1 chapter-hosted philanthropic event

2C) Chapter-hosted community service event(s). Community service is seen as serving the needs of others and fostering relationships by understanding the root cause of the community’s need.
- 3 points = 3 chapter-hosted community service events
- 2 points = 2 chapter-hosted community service events
- 1 point = 1 chapter-hosted community service event

Excellence in Academic Support
The fraternity/sorority community at UT Arlington is supportive of the academic mission and seeks to provide opportunities for students to be successful in their academic pursuit.

3A) Chapter Scholarship Plan and Academic Support Programming. Chapter creation of scholarship plan and hosting of seminar(s)/program(s) that promotes academic support of chapter membership (i.e. time management, campus academic resources, study skills, note taking strategies, faculty guest speaker, etc.). This should be three separate events, not three of the same event.
- 3 points = Chapter has submitted scholarship plan and hosted 3 or more academic support programs/seminars
- 2 points = Chapter has submitted scholarship plan and hosted 2 academic support programs/seminars
- 1 point = Chapter has submitted scholarship plan and hosted 1 academic support program/seminar

3B) Improvement of Chapter GPA. Chapter’s semester GPAs (calendar year) should strive to equal or exceeds the All Undergraduate semester average

**Chapter receives the following point breakdown for each semester:**
- 1.5 points per semester = Chapter’s semester GPA is equal or exceeds the All Undergraduate semester average

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1 point per semester = Chapter’s semester GPA improved from previous semester’s chapter GPA
0.5 point per semester = Chapter’s semester GPA equals the previous semester’s chapter GPA

3C) Career Preparation Programming. Chapter hosted program focusing on career preparation for chapter membership (i.e. resume workshop, alumni career panel, interview skills, professional attire, etc.).
   o 3 points = 3 chapter-hosted events focused on career preparation
   o 2 points = 2 chapter-hosted events focused on career preparation
   o 1 point = 1 chapter-hosted events focused on career preparation

Excellence in Leadership Development
The fraternity/sorority community at UT Arlington strives to provide opportunities for students to enhance and develop their leadership skills through campus involvement.

4A) FSLC Leadership Retreat/Institute. Chapter participation at the Leadership Retreat or Leadership Institute hosted by the Follett Student Leadership Center. Please note that this does not include participating in the annual Fraternity and Sorority Life Leaders Institute (formally known as the F&SL Leaders Retreat).
   o 3 points = Attendance of 3 or more chapter members
   o 2 points = Attendance of 2 chapter members
   o 1 point = Attendance of 1 chapter member

4B) (Inter)national Leadership Programming. Chapter participation in leadership development hosted by the chapter’s (inter)national organization (locally, campus-wide, statewide, regionally, and or (inter)national).
   o 3 points = Attendance of 6 or more chapter members
   o 2 points = Attendance of 4-5 chapter members
   o 1 point = Attendance of 2-3 chapter members

4C) Diversity & Inclusion Programming. Chapter-hosted event(s) that educates its members on areas related to diverse populations identified by ethnicity, race, nationality, religious preference, gender, sexual orientation, disability, etc. (i.e. workshops provided by HQ, speaker from Multicultural Affairs, Global Engagement, etc.). The intent of the program is to encourage the institutional vision of fostering an inclusive environment that supports a diverse community, encourages the exploration and discovery of the unfamiliar, and promotes the understanding of differing viewpoints.
   o 3 points = 5-6 chapter-hosted events focused on diversity and inclusion
   o 2 points = 3-4 chapter-hosted events focused on diversity and inclusion
   o 1 point = 1-2 chapter-hosted events focused on diversity and inclusion
FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE AWARDS
All organizations and council executive board members may apply for any/all awards on behalf of their chapter, individual members, alumni, and advisors. In addition, anyone may nominate individuals for individual awards regardless of chapter affiliation.

Each chapter can nominate more than one member for each individual member award by submitting multiple nomination forms. Members are also allowed to nominate and apply on their own.

All members and chapters must be in good standing with the local, national organization and the University to be eligible for awards.

Individual Awards

Emerging Leader of the Year
This award recognizes a member, within their first year of joining a fraternity or sorority, for their contribution to their chapter, the Fraternity and Sorority Community, UT Arlington, and their potential for further leadership. All members meeting award requirements are eligible.

Member of the Year
This award recognizes a Fraternity Man and/or Sorority Woman for their outstanding and continued service to the Fraternity and Sorority community at UT Arlington; strong academics; significant campus and community participation; strong personal character; and a positive role model for the 2019-2020 school year. The recipients should be widely known and highly regarded in the F&SL community for their lasting contributions.

Advisor of the Year
This award is designed to recognize a chapter advisor (alumnae/alumni or faculty/staff) who goes above and beyond to serve the undergraduate chapter. When considering which advisor to nominate (if you have more than one), chapters should account for service to the UT Arlington F&SL community, involvement with the national fraternity or sorority, assistance/guidance provided during chapter issues, as well as overall engagement with the chapter membership.

Friend of the Community Award
This award is designed to recognize UTA faculty, staff, or departments who have contributed to the support and genuine care for the growth and development of the Fraternity and Sorority Life community at UT Arlington. The individual(s) have demonstrated having a passion for their work, and an overall supportive attitude towards students and their endeavors.
Chapter Awards

Outstanding Philanthropy/Community Service Award
This award recognizes chapters that have developed an innovative program that provides a service to the community while educating individuals throughout the process. The program or activity has significantly contributed to those in attendance through engagement and education. Programs that were mandated by F&SL, UTA, or your Organization are not eligible for this award.

Outstanding Community Building Award
This award recognizes a chapter that displays a genuine effort in building community among their peers. It recognizes a chapter who has intentionally collaborates/co-created an event with another group that is non-alcoholic in nature.

Creating a Culture of Care Award
This award will be given to the chapter who has demonstrated efforts to influence their peers to create safe environments by taking a stand against incongruent behavior and educating its members/peers on effective risk management practices. Programs that were mandated by F&SL, UTA, or your Organization are not eligible for this award.

Outstanding Alumni/Alumnae Programming Award
This award recognizes a chapter that displays a genuine effort in building relationship and engagement among their alumni/alumnae members. Programs that were mandated by F&SL, UTA, or your Organization are not eligible for this award.

Outstanding Diversity and Inclusion Program Award
This award will be presented to the chapter who has promoted the institutional vision to foster an inclusive environment that supports a diverse community, encourages the exploration and discovery of the unfamiliar, and promotes the understand of all viewpoints.

Mardie Sorenson Outstanding Program Award
This award honors the chapter who has excelled in creating successful, unique programming in any aspect of Fraternity and Sorority Life. The chapter may submit more than one application for consideration if they wish. The event should have occurred after the previous awards ceremony and before the designated deadline. Programs that were mandated by F&SL, UTA, or your Organization are not eligible for this award.