

RETENTION STUDY: GREEK STUDENTS vs. NON-GREEK STUDENTS

Description of the study

During the spring 2010 semester the Office of Greek Life partnered with the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment (OIRA) to conduct a study of the retention and graduation rates of students in the Auburn fraternity and sorority community.

Sample

The basis for comparison was first-time freshmen students who affiliated with a fraternity or sorority versus those who did not. The study assessed one year retention rates, four year retention/graduation rates, and six year graduation rates using fall 2001-2008 entering student cohorts.

Findings

The study revealed that students engaged in fraternity and sorority life are retained and graduate at a rate higher than their non-affiliated peers. The study also looked at various categories of students and how Greek affiliation correlated with retention and graduation rates.

Highlights of the study

One Year Retention Rates

Greek men (n=1334) 94.1%	Non-Greek men (n=1451) 82.49%
Greek women (n=2361) 92.6%	Non-Greek women (n=1170) 84.27%

Persistence to Second Year by Greek Affiliation

Greek (n=6583) 92.78%	Non-Greek (n=13388) 82.63%
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Four Year Retention/Graduation

Greek men (n=1177) 82.8%	All male 70.8%
Greek women (n=2401) 82.7%	All female 73.0%

Six Year Graduation Rate

Greek men (n=1011) 76.6%	All male 62.6%
Greek women (n=2446) 79.1%	All female 68.6%