

TRIANGLE FRATERNITY

Template for 10 Week New Member Education Program

Week 1: Welcome to Triangle

Focus: Introductions, Expectations, Teamwork, Communication, Program Objectives

Direction: Explain to the new members the purpose of new member education, namely, to inspire teamwork and effective communication. Introduce the next ten weeks of programming and hand out schedules outlining expectations. Explain Triangle's expectations of new members as the schedule is introduced.

Possible Activities: Icebreakers, Frenzy, Maze, Nail Balance

Materials/Handouts: New Member Notebooks, Contact Information List (punched)

Discussion: The Code of Ethics, The Purpose of Triangle, Artifacts of Triangle, How to generate a names list or "wish list" for recruitment

Explain: Week #1 covers a lot of information; break-up the "Welcome to Triangle" and "Communication Skills" into two separate sessions.

Week 1 Continued: Communications Skills

Focus: Conversation Skills, Professionalism, Presentation

Direction: This session should be mostly hands-on. As members walk in, use good communication tactics with some (i.e. shake their hands, make eye contact, start a conversation, etc.) and bad tactics (no eye contact, wimpy or silly handshakes, awkward silence, etc.) with others. Point out the awkwardness created by bad introductions to each member and explain that that's what we're here to discuss. After beginning the session, bring up the awkwardness of bad conversation skills. Have the men demonstrate on each other in small groups what bad conversation is like. Bring them back together, discuss, and model good conversation skills. Bring up a member to the front, shake his hand firmly, look him in the eye and get him to talk about himself. Discuss with the chapter what is different and then have them break into small groups of two to demonstrate good conversation.

Materials: The NIC Five Step Recruitment Model, One on One Conversation Topics

Challenge: Have the men choose a reasonable chapter reward from the alumni group. Challenge the men to personally meet five new men and obtain their contact information in five days. Set a specific date to turn in the personal list. After the lists are obtained, have each of the men contact their men to involve them in chapter events and begin fostering personal relationships with the group. Feel free to do this challenge as much as you want during the semester.

Assignment: For next week, read pages 2-5, and pages 46-68 of the New Member Manual

Week 2: Personal and Organizational Values

Focus: Personal Values, Leadership Values, Triangle Code of Ethics, Greek Alphabet

New Member Manual: Review the content in SECTION ONE and FOUR of the New Member Manual

Direction: Hand out personal values wheels to each member and have him take the time to fill them out.

Discussion: Discuss how personal values affect Triangle directly. Go around to each member to explain the values they picked and why.

Direction: Have members fill out their leadership values sheets and then discuss their decisions with the class. Lead them into a conversation about the Code of Ethics and how it factors directly into personal and leadership values. Cover why we refer to Triangle as a Fraternity and not a Frat. What roles do values have in our labeling systems? Include a conversation that introduces the Greek Alphabet and why Triangle does not use traditional Greek Letters.

Activity: Significant Items, Situational Ethics

Challenge: Challenge the chapter to establish three weekly events that reflect the values of the organizations and continually reinforce them in its membership. They can both occur whenever, but should promote a positive value maintained in the Code of Ethics. For example, a weekly group study session for all members would promote the line that reads, "Maintain a creditable scholastic record."

Assignment: Nominate an IFC representative – someone who will attend the IFC meetings with an active. Read pages 6-22 of the New Member Manual for next week.

Points of Interest: Triangle Founding Fathers, Local Chapter History, National History, Chapter Installations, The History of the Rattles, Names List Activity

Week 3: National History & Interfraternalism

Focus: The Founders, The Ritual, Triangle History, Triangle's role in the IFC & NIC

New Member Manual: Review the content in SECTION TWO

Direction: Discuss the purpose of Triangle, the 16 founding fathers and the Fraternity's rich history. Introduce the open idea of what the ritual is and how the men will be eventually initiated. How would the founders recommend that new men are brought into the organization? Why is Triangle's role with the IFC important? The North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC)?

Challenge: Challenge the new members to call an officer of another Triangle chapter (or their own) and discuss their experience in the organization. Share positive strategies for growth and development.

Activity: Human Overhand

Homework: NIC Five Step Recruitment Model, A.C.E.-ing Your Values, 5 F's of Conversation, Names List Activity

Week 4: Recruitment 365 – Growth & Retention

Focus: Resources, Networking, Professor/Faculty Recognition, Integrity

Direction: Educate the men on the various resources of recruitment: Professor/Faculty Relationships, Partnerships with Sororities, Exposure to Student Organizations, Classroom visits, Alumni networking, New Student Orientation, Engineering Days, and student welcome weeks. Have the students practice conversation with men who are in different stages of their academic careers in E,A,&S. Invite the Greek Advisor to participate and have her/him role play as a potential member as well. Encourage all alumni in attendance to participate as well.

Activity: Role Playing Recruitment Practice

Guests: Director of Greek Life. Sorority Recruitment Chairs.

Challenge: Challenge the Chapter to perform another 5 for 5 recruitment challenge. Evaluate the names list with the entire chapter and start to set goals about recruiting individuals the chapter has identified as ‘must-haves.’ Form a committee and organize five events for recruitment that promote Triangle’s values.

Homework: Roberts Rules of Order, Triangle National Structure, House Rules (if applicable)

Brotherhood Activity: Catchphrase with SWE

Assignment: read pages 93-129 of the New Member Manual for next week

Week 5: Organizational Structure and Procedure

Focus: Officer Structure, Meeting Procedure, Transition, National Reporting, Chapter Newsletter

New Member Manual: Review the content in SECTION SIX

Direction: Talk about the structure of National Council, HQ staff, and the local chapter. Discuss the officers the chapter will need as well as the business relationship of the Fraternity. Outline the three tiers of Triangle: National Council, Alumni Board, Active Organization. Talk about organization in becoming an officer for the spring semester as well as in preparing a transition for the officer who comes after you. Discuss the importance of reporting to national headquarters as well as paying dues on time. Show the new members where they can find the resources they need to report. It is possible to bring contact the National Council and have them visit during this time, or bring in a university official such as the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs. At the end of the discussion, discuss the need for a chapter newsletter and nominate a committee of men to draft the first fall newsletter.

Guest: University Official or National Councilman who can serve as an officer model and answer questions

Project: Chapter Newsletter – Due Week 7

Homework: Scheduling & Time-Management, Dinner Etiquette Information, Names List Activity

Week 6: Time Management, Professionalism & Etiquette

Focus: Accountability, Scheduling, Behavioral & Business Etiquette

Direction: Discuss the current time management struggles of all the members. Have the chapter split into groups of two and help each other develop daily schedules for their week. Be sure to include chapter meetings, upcoming events, personal and group study time, and time for rest and recreation. With these schedules, randomly assign accountability partners in the group to hold that person accountable to that schedule. Try this for the week and inform the members they will be required to follow up during week 7. During part 2, discuss professionalism and behavioral etiquette. Before the session, enlist the help of a local sorority President by asking her if she would

facilitate the dinner etiquette discussion to new members. Otherwise, ask a member of a sorority alumni board or the wife of an alumnus to facilitate discussion.

Activity: Accountability partners for one week. Dining Etiquette Video, Discussion, and brief quiz with the President of a local sorority.

Due: Hand out grade reports.

Guests: Female guest to present the Dining Etiquette Video: Sorority President or Wife of an Alumnus

Homework: Accountability partner assessment sheet. Scholarship and Educational Programs applications. Names List Activity.

Week 7: Scholarship & Educational Programming

Focus: Time Management Follow-Up, Academic Resources, National Programming

Direction: Start with a brief discussion following up the accountability activity from last week. Why is it good to keep Triangle members accountable? How can our organizational structure reflect this?

Move on to a brainstorming session where the members focus on generating a list of ways they can impact each other academically without violating ethical standards. After a list is generated, lead a goal setting session where members start to establish plans to collect test files, organize mid-term study sessions, etc.

Activity: Brainstorming activity. Presentation on National Programs which will cover scholarships from the education foundation, National Convention 2009, Herbert Scobie Leadership School and PLA.

Guests: Conference Call with either Brian Tenclinger or Leo Glass to discuss National Programming.

Challenge: Nominate at least 5 men to attend an upcoming Triangle leadership event.

Due: Mail out Chapter Newsletter. Collect Grade Reports.

Homework: Student Organization Lists. Intramural Activity Lists. Local community service information. Names List Activity.

Week 8: Becoming A Part of the Campus Community: Balanced Leaders

Focus: Community Service, Interfraternalism, Intramurals, Involvement

Direction: Bring in a professional from student involvement, habitat for humanity and IFC/NPC to talk to the students about opportunities on campus in these three areas. After they leave, facilitate a discussion about what it means to be a balanced leader. Why is involvement outside of Triangle important? Through are other interests, how are we all connected? Follow up this activity with Crossing the Line.

Activity: Crossing the Line

Guests: Representatives from student involvement, HFH, and IFC/NPC

Challenge: Reinforce why Triangle requires its men to be in at least two outside organizations, obtain hours in community service, and encourage participation in the Greek System.

Due: Mail out Chapter Newsletter

Homework: Risk Management Expectations, Contract Writing, Financial Stability Worksheet. Names List Activity.

Week 9: Event Planning, Financial Obligations & Risk Management

Focus: Stability, Hazing & Alcohol Policy, Financial Responsibility

Direction: Discuss the risk management policies of the National organization. Explain why chapters pay for insurance and how risk can be eliminated at chapter events. Discuss third party vendors as well as the do's/don'ts or contract writings. Also, teach members how to balance a personal checkbook and maintain financial responsibility in college. Why should the men of Triangle be expected to be responsible with their time, money and behavior?

Activity: Triangle Jeopardy, Final discussion of what we need to know as Triangle members

Homework: Risk Management Expectations, Contract Writing, Financial Stability Worksheet. Names List Activity.

Week 10: Career Exploration/ Networking

Focus: Local Chapter Alumni Base, National Networking, Triangle Review

Direction: Discuss the opportunities in the area for internships, coops and professional development. Discuss the role of Alumni Networking and the Triangle REVIEW magazine.

Guests: Successful alumni who can talk about interviewing skills, internship opportunities, etc.

Assignment: Read "Everyman" in the New Member Manual prior to Initiation; explain the logistics for Initiation (when to report, what to wear, etc.)

Suggested Pre-Initiation Activities:

- dinner with big brother
- reading "Everyman" with alumni in the chapter house living room (or other applicable area)
- Candle pass activity with the actives and alumni
- Watch "Dead Poet's Society" and make connections between the movie and the history of the American College Fraternity
- Write a letter to 1 or 2 of the Founding Father's and explain what you're looking forward to most gaining from being an Active Member of Triangle Fraternity

Note: Triangle Fraternity does not sanction the use of any type of written final exam, and any form of hazing throughout the new member process, but especially during the week prior to Initiation.

Week 11: Initiation