

Fraternity and Sorority Life at Middle Tennessee State University



Fraternity and Sorority Life

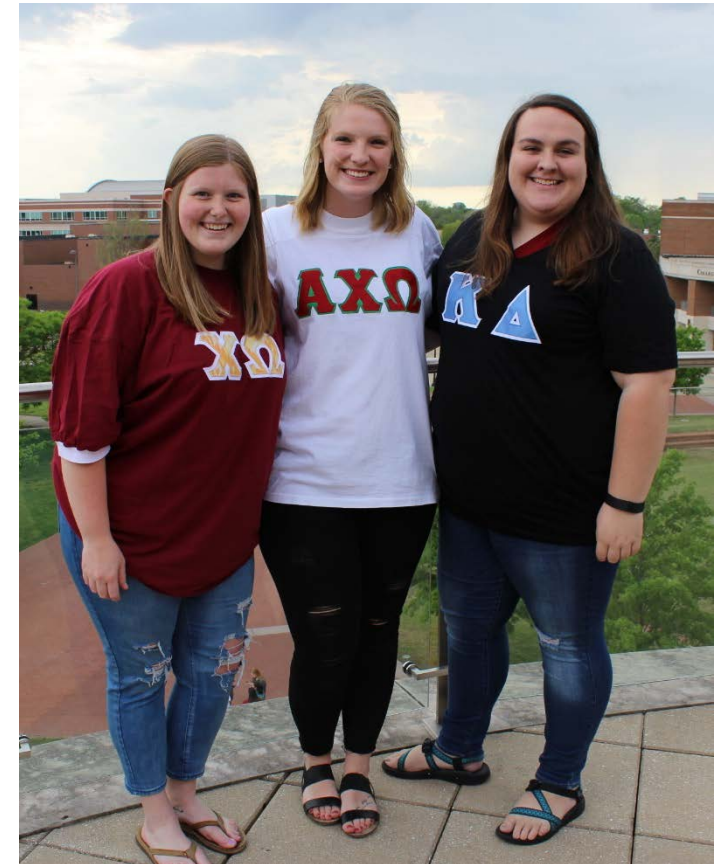
Fraternities and Sororities in the US

- Healthy groups contribute so much to campus life
- Changes since the 1980s vs. Today
 - Relative independence of the groups
 - Increase in legal drinking age, 1984
 - Rise in litigation and settlements
 - Hazing Related Deaths in the 2000s
- MTSU Challenges
 - High costs for low income students
 - First generation students with no legacy of Greek life
 - Average age of 24
 - TN Promise



Current Climate in Higher Education

- Penn State Headlines
- Millennial Generation vs. Generation Z
- Relevance of Greek Letter Organizations



MTSU Fraternity and Sorority Life Overview

- **25 chapters – 10 sororities and 15 fraternities**
 - Panhellenic – 7 chapters (includes 1 associate member)
 - NPHC – 7 chapters
 - IFC – 11 chapters (includes 2 colonies and 1 returning chapter in Fall 2017)
- **Shared Values:**
 - Leadership
 - Service
 - Scholarship
 - Friendship
 - Social Success/Responsibility



MTSU Fraternity and Sorority Life Successes

- **Recruitment Numbers are improving.**
 - 70 more individuals received bids in fall 2016 than in fall 2015.
- **Accountability within chapters is improving.**
 - This accounts for a small decline in IFC numbers.
 - Currently only one chapter on sanctioning with the university.
- **The new housing model is working better with then women than it did with the men previously.**
 - Currently 3 of the 6 sorority houses are full to capacity. Of this 3, 2 house only have 1 vacancy.
- **We are beginning to welcome old NPHC and IFC groups back onto campus and will soon be looking into CPH extension efforts.**
 - Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. rejoined the community in Fall 2016.
 - Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity will be rejoining in Fall 2017.
 - Ongoing dialogue with other groups who are interested in returning.



MTSU Fraternity and Sorority Life Successes

- **The Office of FSL is fully staffed with two full-time professionals and one part time student worker.**
 - Director – Leslie Merritt – Alumna of Kappa Delta, MTSU '07 '08 and current member of the MTSU Alumni Association Board of Directors
 - Coordinator – Zakary Gosa-Lewis – Alumnus of Pi Kappa Alpha, South Alabama '14, APSU '16
 - Program Assistant – Deandra Green – Current undergraduate member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
- **FSL member grades are increasing and are consistently above the All Student GPA.** (See grid.)
- **Immense efforts have been made to improve communications between administration and alumni.**
 - Creation of the Fraternity and Sorority Life Alumni Council.
 - Up to date reinstatement chart housed on the website.

MTSU Fraternity and Sorority Life Challenges

- **Member Retention**

- While Recruitment numbers are increasing, retention numbers still have room for improvement.
- Currently exploring a relationship with Phired Up to dive deeper into retention at the chapter levels.

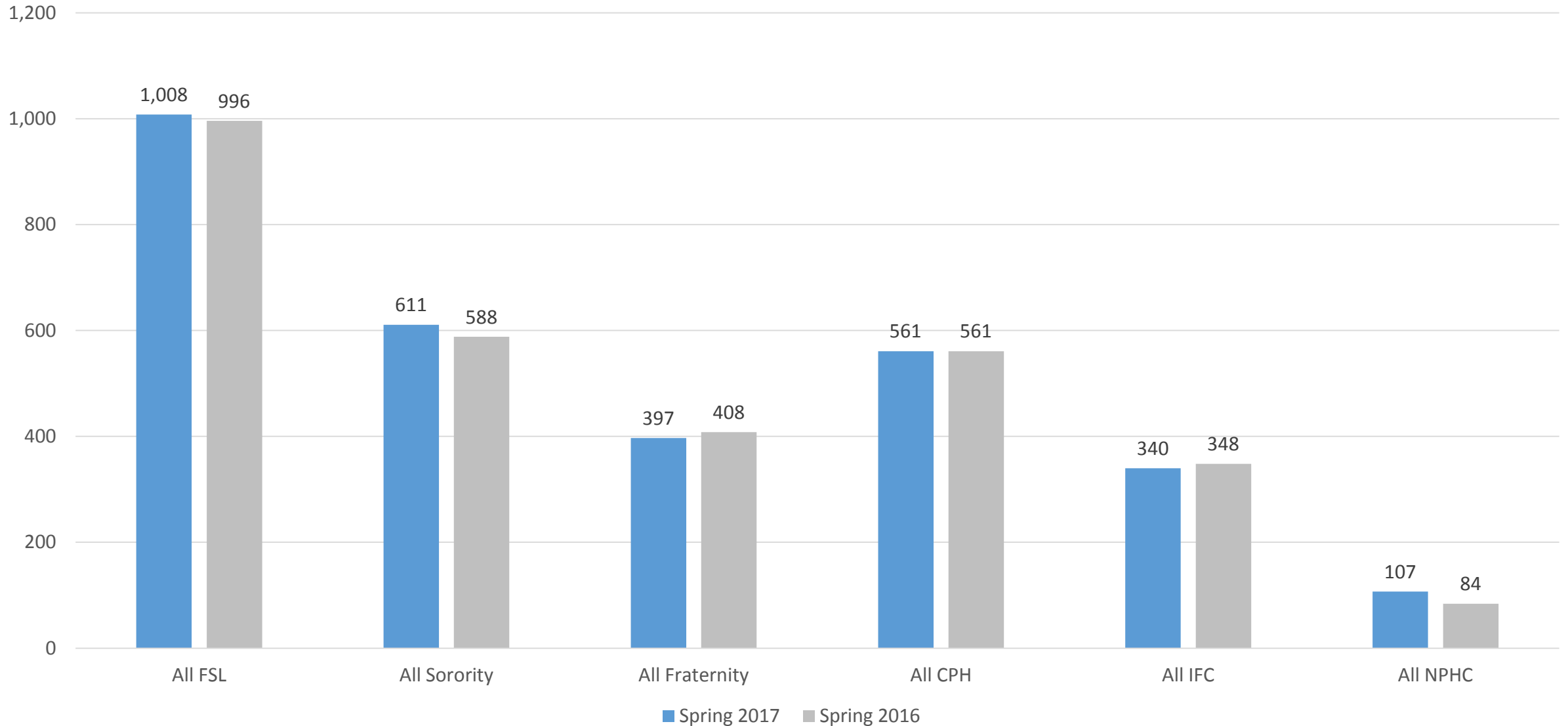
- **Fraternity Housing**

- Currently 1 fraternity is housed on campus and struggles to keep the house full and clean.
- 4 others maintain off campus residences and all other chapters have a common house with brothers that is their “unofficial” residence.

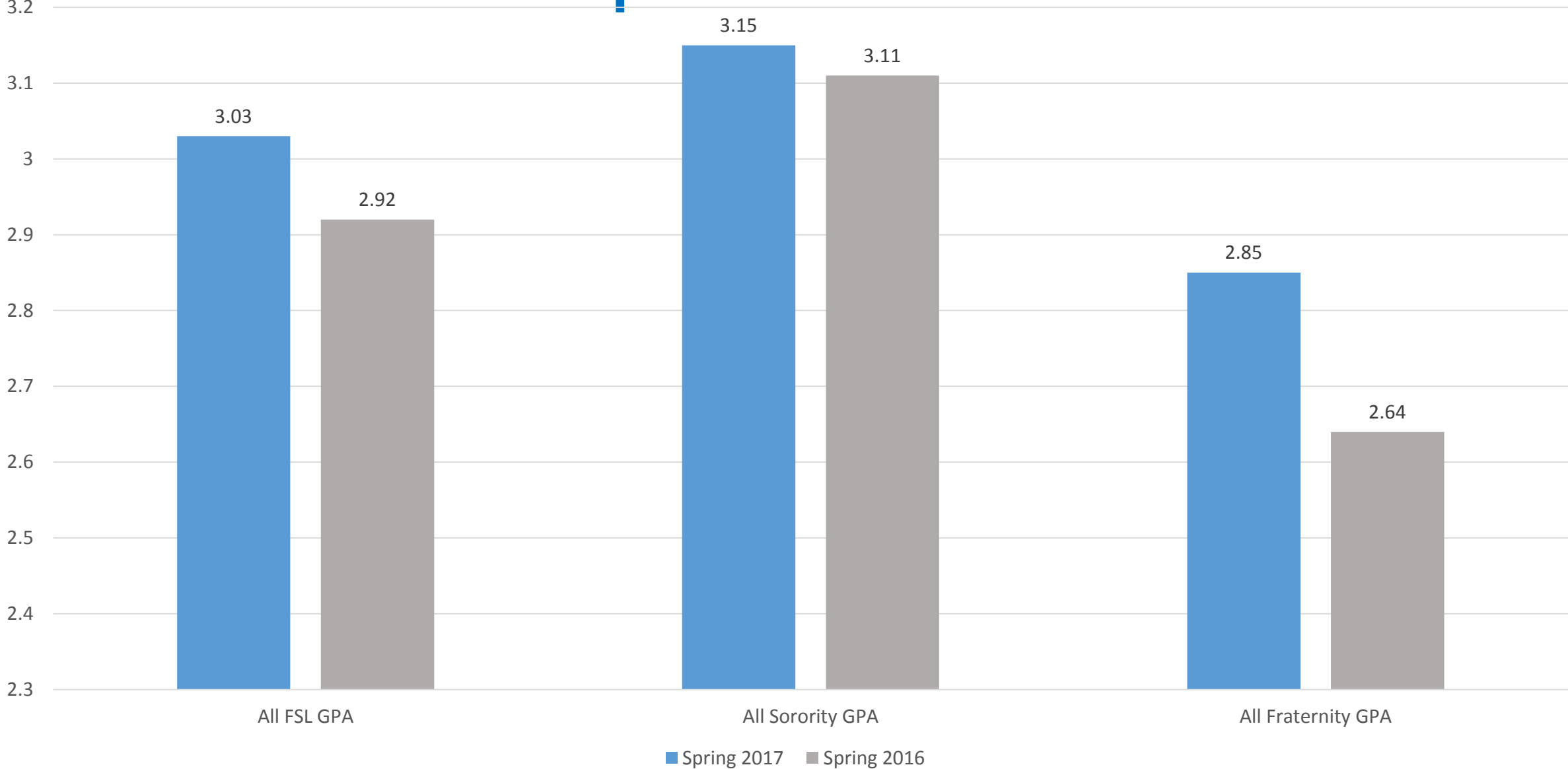
- **Alumni Relations**

- Creation of MTSU Greek Alumni Facebook Page.
- Despite positive strides in this area, we still have work to be done in reengaging alumni into our community and increasing positive interactions between current collegians and alumni.

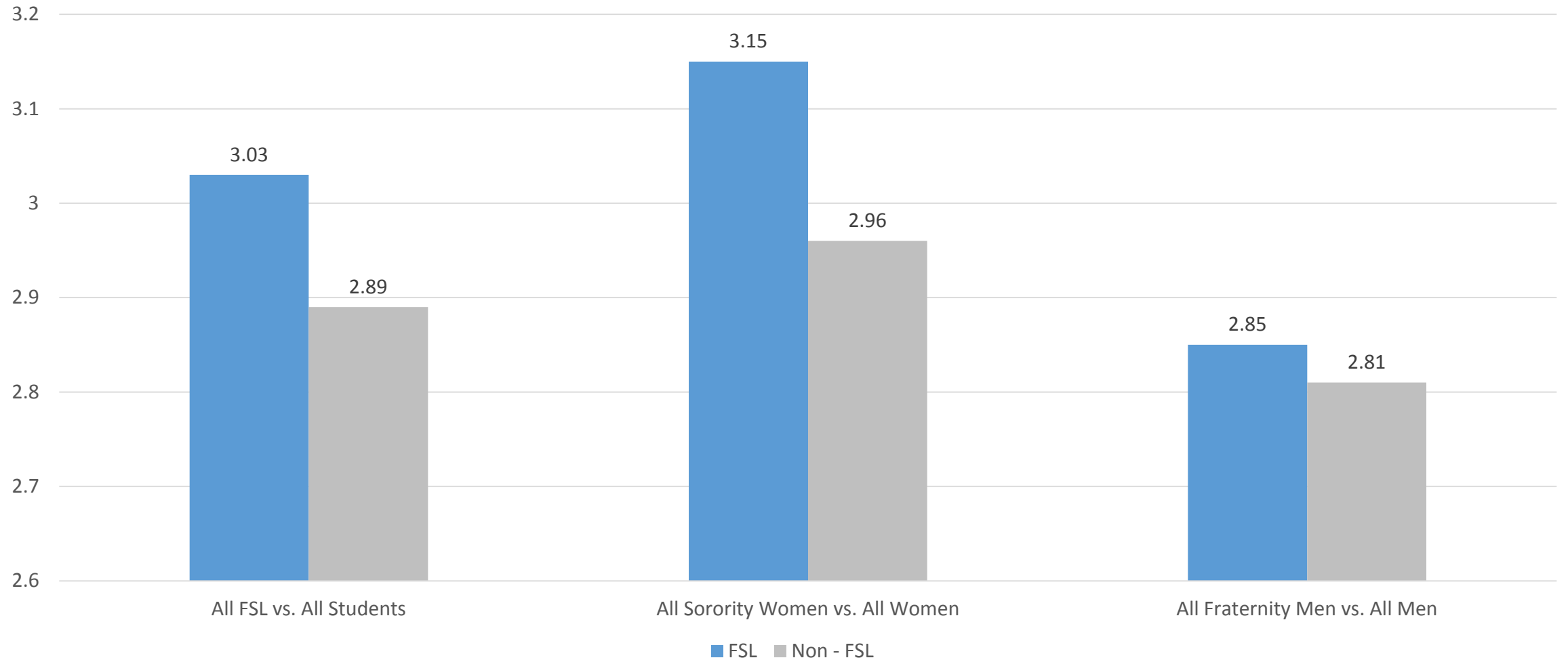
FSL Membership Numbers 2017 vs. 2016



FSL Scholarship Numbers 2017 vs. 2016



FSL Scholarship Numbers FSL vs. Students



IFC Reinstatement Chart

Fraternity	Established	Status	Significant Action	Reinstatement Date	Update
Beta Theta Pi (ΒΘΠ)	1988	left 2010	Closed by the executive office.	Currently eligible to return	Spoke with NHQ in Spring 2016; followed up with them in Summer 2016; HQ is currently engaged in conversations with local alumni.
Kappa Alpha (ΚΑ)	1969	left 2014	3 year suspension by the executive office. Concurrent 3 year suspension by MTSU Judicial Affairs.	Eligible to return fall 2017	Spoke with NHQ in Spring 2016 and again in September 2016 and January 2017. Plan a local visit soon to meet with staff. Have submitted expansion packet and letter of intent.
Pi Kappa Alpha (ΠΚΑ)	1971	left 2011	3 year suspension by MTSU Discipline Committee.	Currently eligible to return	Spoke with NHQ in Spring 2016. Unable to return at this time.
Pi Kappa Phi (ΠΚΦ)	2003	left 2015	3 year suspension by executive the office. Concurrent 3 year suspension by MTSU Judicial Affairs.	Eligible to return summer 2018	Will begin discussions with NHQ staff this spring.
Sigma Phi Epsilon (ΣΦΕ)	1977	left 2014	Surrendered charter upon vote of undergraduates.	Currently eligible to return	Spoke via email in Spring 2016. Will connect again this spring.
Sigma Nu (ΣΝ)	1970	left 2015	5 year suspension by MTSU and executive office.	Eligible to return spring 2019.	Will begin discussions with NHQ staff in Fall 2017.
Tau Kappa Epsilon (ΤΚΕ)	1990	left 2012	Members elected to close the chapter.	Currently eligible to return	Spoke with NHQ staff and local alumni this summer and have a letter of intent on file.

NPHC and CPH Reinstatement Chart

NPHC

Fraternity/Sorority	Established	Status	Significant Action	Reinstatement Date	Update
Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA)	1973	left 2016	2 year suspension by the executive office.	Eligible to return spring 2018	Judicial Affairs spoke with regional representative to gain more information about suspension in Spring 2016. No further communications.
Iota Phi Theta (IΦΘ)	2007	left 2017	Chapter dissolved its membership	Currently eligible to return	Chapter and HQ has not communicated with FSL about plans, etc.

CPH

Sorority	Established	Status	Significant Action	Reinstatement Date	Update
Delta Zeta (ΔZ)	1968	left 2006	Closed by executive office. (10/31/2006)	Currently eligible to return	Spoke to NHQ in Summer 2016 and December 2016. Letter on file.

Current On-Campus Housing Model

- **CPH Sororities -**

- All 6 NPC-affiliated chapters maintain a house on Greek Row.
- Houses are overseen by the Office of Residential Life and have an RD that lives on the Row.
- Individual leases are signed between the Office of Residential Life and the individual resident. Billing is done through MTSU billing.
- Houses must be filled to capacity each fall to be eligible for upgrades to the house.
- As of today, 3 houses are filled to capacity with 2 additional houses only having 1 vacancy.

- **IFC Fraternities –**

- 1 chapter (Sigma Chi) maintains a house on Greek Row.
- The Office of FSL oversees the billing of the house and Health and Safety Inspections.
- The house must cash flow yearly and has at times struggled with this.
- Damage is a frequent issue at this house.

- **NPHC – N/A**

True Blue Accreditation

- The purpose of the accreditation program is threefold:
 - Allows chapter leaders the autonomy to assess and identify where challenges exist and where improvements can be made within their organization giving chapters the ability to create objectives that are pertinent to their success.
 - Allows chapters the capability to align the values of their organization with the institution's values, those outlined in the True Blue pledge, which will aid chapters in sustaining their relevancy on campus.
 - Allows for additional and intentional support from the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life as staff members will meet with chapter leaders and advisors regularly to discuss outlined goals, progress, and opportunities for the office to assist.

True Blue Accreditation

- **True Blue Areas of Achievement:**

- Learning
- Growth
- Service
- Health and Safety
- Respect for Diversity
- Engagement in the Community

- **Accreditation Measures**

- Chapters will be given a status of “Exceeds Expectations - True Blue,” “Meets Expectations,” or “Does Not Meet Expectations.” Each chapter’s status will be determined by an Accreditation Committee composed of MTSU faculty and staff and the IFC, NPHC, and CPH president or their designee. Chapter leaders will be given 20 minutes to present to the Accreditation Committee their objectives for the year and what actions the chapter took to achieve objectives.



True Blue Accreditation

- **Minimum Expectations**

- Attendance requirements must be fulfilled for ALL identified True Blue events.
- Chapter leaders must meet with FSL staff a minimum of two times per semester to discuss objectives.
- Chapter must have a minimum yearly semester GPA of 2.5.
- Rosters, Bid Acceptance Forms, Annual Report Updates, Officer Update Forms, etc. must be submitted by established deadlines.
- At least one chapter representative must be in attendance at All-Presidents meetings.
- Chapter must not have any major university judicial violations.



2017 True Blue Accreditation Statuses

Chapter	Status
Alpha Chi Omega	True Blue - Exceeds Expectations
Alpha Delta Pi	True Blue - Exceeds Expectations
Alpha Gamma Rho	Meets Expectations
Alpha Omicron Pi	True Blue - Exceeds Expectations
Alpha Phi Alpha	True Blue - Exceeds Expectations
Alpha Sigma Phi	N/A
Alpha Tau Omega	True Blue - Exceeds Expectations
Chi Omega	True Blue - Exceeds Expectations
Delta Sigma Theta	Meets Expectations
Kappa Alpha Psi	True Blue - Exceeds Expectations
Kappa Delta	True Blue - Exceeds Expectations
Kappa Sigma	Meets Expectations

Chapter	Status
Lambda Chi Alpha	N/A
Lambda Theta Alpha	Meets Expectations
Omega Psi Phi	N/A
Phi Beta Sigma	Meets Expectations
Phi Delta Theta	Does Not Meet Expectations
Phi Kappa Tau	True Blue - Exceeds Expectations
Phi Mu Alpha	Does Not Meet Expectations
Sigma Chi	True Blue - Exceeds Expectations
Sigma Gamma Rho	Does Not Meet Expectations
Sigma Pi	Meets Expectations
Zeta Phi Beta	Meets Expectations
Zeta Tau Alpha	True Blue - Exceeds Expectations

Strategic Plan 2018-2022

- The Office of FSL is currently working with a committee of alumni, current students, recent graduates, staff and advisors representative of all three Greek Councils to create the 2018-2022 FSL Strategic Plan.
- The previous Strategic Plan expired this year and was based on the Gold Standard, an accreditation plan that no longer exists.



Questions?

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