



2017 Fraternity & Sorority Life Arête Awards

Recognizing fraternity and sorority excellence for the 2016 calendar year.

Deadline to submit a nomination is Sunday, February 26, 2017

<http://greeklife.uconn.edu/award-nominations/>

Chapter Award Descriptions

Chapter of the Year

This award is designed to recognize the chapters that have demonstrated excellence in all endeavors and represent the highest qualities of fraternity and sorority life as related to the shared pillars of scholarship, leadership, service, and brotherhood/sisterhood.

Most Improved Chapter

This award is designed to recognize chapters that have sought out new opportunities, changed the status quo, and/or have demonstrated innovation or creativity to make significant advances to the chapter's performance.

Performance in the Chapter Accreditation Program will be considered for the following awards:

Excellence in Academic Achievement

We support the academic vision and mission of the university and fully engage in the relationship between academic and co-curricular activities. We enforce scholastic standards and policies to support our members in their academic success. We also make efforts to ensure that new members understand and are in compliance with the chapter's academic standards. We value academic achievement so that our members can contribute to their profession.

Excellence in Chapter Operations

We effectively and productively run all chapter meetings, programs, and events. We maintain productive relationships with our on-campus advisor, OFSL advisor, and alumni advisor that help chapter operations to run more smoothly. We have policies in place to ensure a thorough transition of officers, and maintain an updated constitution and/or bylaws. We create a budget and calendar that is aligned with our values. We improve chapter operations to provide a positive experience for our members.

Excellence in Community Impact

We support and provide opportunities for our members to be global citizens who excel in addressing the challenges of the local, national, and international communities through philanthropic and service initiatives. We encourage our members' involvement in Husky Haulers, Greek Alternative Breaks, Community Outreach, HuskyTHON, and other university-sponsored programs. From the UConn Academic Vision: "Through outreach and partnerships, we promote sustainable development and a happy, healthy, and inclusive society. This engagement is local and global, based on intercultural understanding and recognition of the transnational nature of the challenges and opportunities we face."

Excellence in Diversity & Inclusion

Our chapter shows a strong commitment to diversity and inclusion throughout all chapter operations. We create a space where our members can feel comfortable expressing their own identity while exploring others. We encourage a culture of civility and respect. We show the importance of diversity to our members through offering and requiring attendance at diverse programs, including the appreciation for global cultures and customs. We value diversity and inclusiveness so that our members are culturally competent and have a better understanding of the various dimensions of diversity.

Excellence in External Relations

Our chapter actively seeks partnerships with other Greek and non-Greek organizations or offices. We support the fraternity/sorority community, including organizations in all four councils. We are participants in all events and initiatives hosted by the Greek Community Affairs Board. We create meaningful relationships with our members' parents, our chapter alumni, and our graduate chapters. We host events that honor these relationships and show our appreciation. We create effective marketing items for our organization and the activities that we sponsor and we use campus resources and media to promote our activities. We strive to build a strong network of external constituents that could provide our members with beneficial opportunities for development and support.

Excellence in Leadership

We lend our organization as a method of growth in many leadership capacities. We encourage members to attend trainings and conferences to support their leadership development by promoting a multitude opportunities including but not limited to: LeaderShape, Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute (UIFI), Greek Emerging Leaders Conference. We expect involvement in our respective council and membership in co-curricular activities outside of the fraternity/sorority. We develop our members' leadership skills so that our members are viewed and recognized as campus and community leaders.

Excellence in Member Development

We are committed to the growth and development of our members by ensuring that our programming efforts reflect individual needs throughout their entire membership in the chapter. Our new member education program prepares individuals for active membership in the chapter and in the fraternity/sorority community. We provide opportunities for our members to be positively contributing members of society.

Excellence in Recruitment & Retention

We recruit with the intentions of building a sustainable chapter of members who share similar principles and reflect the values of our fraternity/sorority. We are conscious of our chapter size and our intake frequency in order to meet the requirements set by our inter/national organization, our local council, and the university. We also take measures to keep our members actively engaged in activities that encourage loyalty to the fraternity/sorority and to UConn.

Excellence in Ritual & Values

We actively practice the values of our fraternity/sorority and exemplify the shared values of the 2016 UConn fraternity and sorority community: family, unity, loyalty, respect, dedication, and growth. We are committed to learning our Ritual, living it in our daily lives, teaching it properly to others, and expecting it of ourselves and each other. We stay connected to our Ritual by performing aspects of it throughout the semester. Our policies, programs, and initiatives support the highest level of ethical standards amongst our members.

Excellence in Wellness & Safety

In order to protect our members, our chapter, our organization, and guests, we educate our members on safe and responsible behavior. We host programs for our members to be able to reasonably identify personal health and safety risks and take appropriate action. These programs address physical, mental, and emotional health as well as other risk factors such as hazing, sexual assault, alcohol, and other drugs. We follow risk management policies as set forth by UConn and our inter/national organization. We are participants in National Hazing Prevention Week.

Individual Award Descriptions

Greek of the Year

This award recognizes a Greek member for their outstanding and continued service to the Greek community; strong academics; significant campus and community participation; strong personal character; and a positive role model. The recipients should be widely known and highly regarded in the Greek community for their lasting contributions. Nominee must have been an initiated member prior to spring 2016 to be considered for this award.

Greek Emerging Leader of the Year

The purpose of this award is to recognize outstanding newer members of the fraternity and sorority community who are viewed as emerging leaders. Only members initiated in 2016 are eligible for this award.

Living the Ritual Award

This award is designed to recognize an individual member who exemplifies their chapter's values and principles as described in their chapter's ritual. This individual should also exemplify the values of our Greek community and challenge chapter and community members to do the same. The individual does not have to have held any office but someone that other members look to in regards to the values and principles of the organization.

Outstanding Advisor

In an effort to acknowledge the outstanding work of advisors, the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life wishes to recognize those individuals who have been exemplary Advisors over the past calendar year. The Outstanding Advisor will be chosen based on his/her involvement and influence in the organization and the fraternity and sorority community.

Outstanding Chapter President

The purpose of this award is to recognize the contributions, dedication and hard work of fraternity and sorority chapter presidents who served the Greek community during the last calendar year. This individual should have demonstrated exceptional leadership, character, ability to overcome adversity, and the highest values of their fraternity/sorority.

Outstanding Council Officer

The purpose of this award is to recognize the contributions, dedication and hard work of members of the Greek community who served on a council or as a GCAB director in the last calendar year.

Outstanding Greek Alumnus/a

In an effort to acknowledge the outstanding work of Greek alumni, the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life wishes to recognize those individuals who have been exemplary fraternity and sorority alumni. The Outstanding Greek Alumnus/a will be chosen based on his/her involvement in and support for the Greek community at UConn. This nominee must be an alumnus/a of a fraternity or sorority, but not necessarily a graduate of UConn.

Outstanding Greek Scholar

Nominees for Outstanding Greek Scholar must have among the highest GPAs within their chapter. The nominee's GPA should be provided in this nomination and will be verified by the OFSL. The nominees will be acknowledged and recognized for their outstanding academic performance. One student from a fraternity and sorority respectively will be selected based on his/her exemplary performance in academics as well as his/her strong and positive influence and activity in the fraternity and sorority community.

Outstanding Greek Senior

The purpose of this award is to recognize those individuals from our fraternity and sorority community who are in their senior year. The nominees for this award should be an integral and significant part of the campus and fraternity and sorority community at UConn.

Outstanding Greek Volunteer

The purpose of this award is to recognize members of the fraternity and sorority community who have completed, developed, and engendered a spirit of community service on the UConn campus and in the surrounding community.