

## UMBC Fraternity & Sorority Accreditation Plan

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of the UMBC Greek Accreditation Plan is to establish a set of standards that inspire Greek organizations to act in congruence with their values and illustrates the positive contributions the Greek community makes to the campus community and beyond. We hope that this plan will create recognition and respect from the university community as well as raising interest in the individual chapters by improving the overall quality and contributions of our Greek organizations.

### **History of the Development of the Accreditation Plan:**

In Fall 2008, UMBC hosted the Greek Coalition Assessment project where four consultants bringing expertise and knowledge in the areas of Higher Education and Greek Life, spent two days on campus. After interviewing students (both Greek and non-Greek), faculty, staff and other constituents, the consultants submitted a thorough report that discussed strengths and areas for improvement in five categories (Developing Positive Interpersonal Relationships, Advancing Current Leadership Development, Strengthening Social IQ, Citizenship, and Service Learning, Advancing Academic Interests/Assessing Graduation Rates of Members, and Determining Effectiveness of Campus Interface with and Support of the Fraternity and Sorority Community.) Based on recommendations by the Blue Ribbon Committee (a group of staff and a student leading efforts to implement some of the recommendations in the report) as well as suggestions from an open forum by students, it was decided that the community would pursue the development of an accreditation plan.

The Accreditation Plan is a document that outlines basic expectations for Greek chapters which promote the Greek ideals and allows for the enhanced unity of all Greek organizations. In August 2009, the Executive Boards of the four governing Councils came together to begin the development of an accreditation plan by agreeing on the foundational principles that should serve as the framework for the plan. Open meetings were held during the Fall semester for Greek students to provide ideas and suggestions. In January, the Council Executive Boards reconvened to identify specific expectations under each foundational principle. Each Council then brought the draft back to their member chapters to discuss in smaller settings. An open forum held in April 2010 allowed for general members of the community to discuss their opinions of the plan and provide feedback. The final plan was unveiled at the Greek Awards Banquet in May 2010.

### **Timeline –At a Glance:**

- October 2008: Coalition Assessment Project consultant team visits campus
- April 2009: Coalition Assessment Report Open Forum
- August 2009: Council Executive Boards develop foundation principles for accreditation plan
- Fall 2009: Open meetings for development of plan are held
- January 2010: Council Executive Boards brainstorm specific expectations
- Spring 2010: Councils discuss expectations in meetings
- April 2010: Open Form held
- May 2010: Final plan unveiled

## UMBC Fraternity & Sorority Accreditation Plan

### Overview:

Under each section, you will find three numbers. The first number is the total that can be achieved in the “required” section. The second number is what chapters need to obtain to achieve the “meets expectation” status (75% of total.) The third number is bonus points available within that area. Bonus points will boost chapters into bronze, silver or gold status as long as they have obtained 75% of the total within each area.

### Totals:

Scholarship: 100/75/20

Philanthropy/Service: 80/60/60

Brotherhood/Sisterhood: 60/45/25

Leadership: 80/60/50

Community & Diversity Awareness: 120/90/35

### Levels:

Meets Expectations: at least 75% in each required area

Bronze: at least 75% in each required area and overall total of 450 points

Silver: at least 75% in each required area and total of 500 points

Gold: at least 75% in each required area and total of 550 points

### Important Notes:

This document will be reviewed by council executive boards every two years but a one year review will occur in Summer 2011 based off the first year in existence. Any changes must be approved by Council Presidents.

If council hosts an event, then at least 50% or specified percentage (whichever is greater) of chapter needs to be in attendance in order to count towards chapter points.

If a chapter does not meet expectations, they will need to meet with the Coordinator for Greek Life and their respective Council President to develop a plan for how they will meet expectations for the upcoming year.

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**Scholarship**

Goal: Fraternities and sororities at UMBC promote the academic achievement of their members through educational opportunities, programming and support.

20 points	Chapter meets a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25
20 points	Established a scholarship chair or person responsible for academic programming and member accountability
20 points	Submits an academic action plan that includes process for individual member accountability and supports members falling below the minimum GPA requirement
20 points	Chapter has a UMBC faculty/staff advisor
10 points	Policy exists and is followed that members must meet a 2.5 GPA to hold an executive board position (cumulative and semester)
5 points	New member ed program contains section on academic skills such as time management or study skills
5 points	Chapter GPA is above the all-UMBC average
5 points	Hosts Faculty appreciation or recognition initiative
5 points	Sponsored academic programs or training
5 points	Chapter achieved a 2.75 cumulative GPA or higher
5 points	Chapter achieved a 3.0 cumulative GPA or higher

(Total: 100/75/20)

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### Philanthropy/Service

Goal: Fraternities and sororities at UMBC fulfill their organizations' mission to serve their community by contributing time, money and education that support various non-profit organizations, both locally and globally.

20 points	Chapter meets minimum number of community service hours (total members * 5)
20 points	Host/Co-host one event per year that raises money for a philanthropy (national or one of their choosing)
20 points	75% of members attend the Philanthropy Carnival
20 points	Chapter has a Philanthropy and/or Service Chair OR designated someone who is responsible for philanthropy/service programming
5, 10, 15 points	Fundraising \$25/person, \$ 50/person, or \$100/person for National foundation, national philanthropy, or other charitable organization
5 points	Submit an article to any UMBC media about your event
5 points	Incorporate service into the recruitment process
5 points	Host at least four service projects per academic year
5 points	Collaborate with On-Campus Resources (ie: Shriver Center or SL GRAD) to plan a service/philanthropy program
5 points	Co-sponsor a Service event/program
5 points	Chapters that go over the minimum hours by 25%
5 points	Incorporate Service Learning (reflection, social justice activities, etc.) into programs
5 points	Support current on-campus awareness events such as World AIDS Day/breast cancer awareness/alcohol awareness by having 25% of members in attendance (limited to extra 10 points)
5 points	85% participation in the Philanthropy Carnival/all greek service project

(Total:80/60/60)

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**Brotherhood/Sisterhood**

Goal: Fraternities and Sororities at UMBC promote their members' personal growth by providing a positive support system.

20 points	Host program to build relationships with Alumni
10 points	Chapter publishes one paper or electronic alumni/alumnae newsletter per semester
10 points	Big Brother/Big Sister or other mentorship program is established
10 points	Host team building activities/initiatives with 75% of membership in attendance (retreat, ropes course, etc.)
5 points	Award Sister/Brother of the Month Awards at least monthly
5 points	Develop and implement a process to recognize accomplishments of chapter members within the organization
5 points	Chapter keeps 100% retention for academic year (This does not include students graduating or leaving the University.)
5 points	Chapter has a Historian (position that keeps records of family trees, scrapbooks, past flyers/invitations, etc)
5 points	Chapter holds one alumni/alumnae or parent/family program each semester
5 points	Chapter has an advisory board (of 1 or more) who mentors and advises the chapter
5 points	Chapter sends at least one member to their national convention or conference

(Total: 60/45/25)

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**Leadership**

Goal: Fraternities and sororities at UMBC role model the values of their organizations through their daily actions and contributions to campus.

20 points	Chapter has its own judicial/standards board or utilizes standardized process to deal with issues of member accountability and honor/integrity
20 points	No judicial incidents for the academic year
20 points	Chapter plans and executes an officer transition workshop
20 points	New member education program includes session on leadership development
5 points	Member of your organizations attends UMBC sponsored leadership development programs such as STRIVE or L.A.T.T.E. (Limit=10 points)
5 points	Member serves in campus leadership position such as OPA, Woolie, RA, or Peer Health Advocate (Limit=20 points)
5 points	Chapter sends one or more members to Greek leadership conference (UIFI, NGLA, or other national Fraternity/Sorority community event)
5 Points	Chapter member serves on respective council executive board (Limit=10 points)
5 points	Chapter education program includes session on ethics or values clarification

(Total: 80/60/50)

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**Community & Diversity Awareness**

Goal: Fraternities and sororities at UMBC provide opportunities for social development and diversity awareness by building relationships with the campus community and encouraging members to participate in campus organizations and activities that educate them on diverse perspectives.

20 points	35% attendance to at least one diversity awareness event on campus (Black History Month, Women's History Month, National Coming Out Day etc.)
20 points	Co-sponsor any educational event with a non-Greek organization
20 points	Host/Co-host a diversity awareness program that focuses on either race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or religion
20 points	Follow council policies and pay your dues on time
20 points	Turn in all required paper work on time to council and Coordinator for Greek Life
10 points	Host at least one on campus social event per semester with another organization with a minimum 50% membership attendance
10 points	Have social with an organization NOT in your council
10 points	25% of chapter participates in Welcome Week, Involvement Fest, Homecoming, or Quadmania
5 points	10% of chapter attends gender identity/sexual orientation training
5 points	20% of chapter attends at least one UMBC Talks session
(1-5) 5 points (6-10) 10 Points (11+) 15 points	Chapter members are also members of other campus organizations. If 1-5 campus organizations are represented within your chapter, you receive 5 points. If 6-10, you receive 10 points and if 11 or more, you received 15 points.

(Total: 120/90/35)