Getting to the Good Stuff: A Look at Compelling Outcomes from the AFA/EBI Assessment

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Available at: https://works.bepress.com/ldlong/11/
Getting to the Good Stuff

Outcomes:

- Understanding of the trends in the outcomes of Fraternity/Sorority Life
- Learn about potential practices to improve F/S Life on your campus or within your organization
- Interact and learn from other professionals about ways to improve the experiences of F/S members
Assessment was developed by EBI in partnership with AFA. Over 110 institutions have used the assessment.
AFA/EBI Fraternity/Sorority Assessment

- Focus on improvement
  - Identifies where to focus scarce resources to improve overall effectiveness
  - Provides professionals with the information they need to confidently make and justify decisions

- Benchmarking
  - Calibrate performance against self-selected peers, Carnegie Class, and the National Standard

- Evidence of Impact
  - Provides evidence of the contribution your organization makes to the educational mission of the institution
Overview of 2009/2010 Data

- 16 institutions, 9462 participants
  - Institution type: 6 private, 10 public
  - Academic focus: 3 liberal arts, 6 masters, 7 research
- 45% fraternity, 55% sorority
- 80% joined as freshmen, 14% as sophomores
- 68% served in a chapter leadership position
- 71% reported a cum. GPA of 3.0 or higher
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Fraternity/Sorority Programming

How satisfied are you with programs provided by your chapter regarding:

- Quality of programs
- Variety of programs
- Alumni activities
- Educational experiences
- Community service programs
- Athletic activities
- Social activities

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Alumni activities is the lowest rated item. Further analysis revealed students who are more satisfied with the alumni/ae programming provided by their chapter are more likely to anticipate being involved post-graduation.

*Fraternity/Sorority Programming*

- **Alumni activities** was the lowest performing question.
- Institutions should consider engaging undergraduate members as alumni/ae
- How can we educate members on effective ways to engage alumni/ae?
Fraternity/Sorority Programming

- Respondents were satisfied with social and athletic activities.
- Are we marketing these benefits to potential members?
- Do we use this information to prove the value of F/S Life?

Are we selling/marketing these as benefits?
Highest rated measure for fraternity respondents; 2nd highest for sorority respondents
Create another slide, cite external literature, Can we use this information to validate the value of F/S Life?

Note: Social response items are rated higher than the academic response items
What is the purpose of F/S Life?
Interpersonal Competence

Is it acceptable for fraternal organizations to be stronger in developing social competencies compared to academic competencies?

No real answer. Depends on institution, organizational mission/values, personal beliefs.
Leadership Skills

To what degree has your fraternity/sorority experience enhanced your ability to:

- Publicize activities
- Run meetings
- Organize events
- Manage finances
- Assume positions of responsibility

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How can we use this data to justify leadership programming?
Leadership Skills

- How do we engage non-chapter officers?
- How do we provide leadership opportunities for members who do not serve in formal leadership positions?
- How can we use this data to justify leadership programming?
The F/S experience isn’t as good in developing writing skills
Personal Development Skills

- **Written Communication Skills** and **Establish an Effective Study Schedule** are two of the lowest performing questions.
- Programming pertaining to professional writing and developing study skills may be beneficial.
Participants who were at least moderately satisfied were 3 times more likely to anticipate being involved post-graduation.
Participants who were at least moderately satisfied were 3 times more likely to anticipate being involved post-graduation (members reported anticipating post-graduation involvement, yet institutions have difficulties finding alumni/ae advisors – how are we losing them?)
Additional Scales

- Academic success (M=5.54, SD=1.29)
- Critical thinking (M=5.62, SD=1.34)
- Commitment to service (M=5.68, SD=1.04)
- Social skills (M=6.05, SD=.97)
Forthcoming Research

Explored differences by
- Leadership experience
- Sexual orientation
- Living arrangement

The research studies and the summary report are available at http://works.bepress.com/lldlong
AFA/EBI User’s Session

Please join us for the AFA/EBI Users’ Group on Saturday, December 4, 8:30-9:30 MT, in the Ahwatukee Room (2nd Floor).

In this session, you will learn about new reporting options and hear how institutions are using the AFA/EBI Assessment. Time will also be dedicated to answering your questions and receiving feedback for enhancements.
Additional Information

For more information on conducting this or other assessments, please visit the EBI website:

www.WebEBI.com

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Questions?

Available at: http://works.bepress.com/ldlong