Resolution 11.35: Community Initiatives to Reform and Regulate Greek Life at Wesleyan University

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Affirming the WSA’s role as the representative student legislative and deliberative body of Wesleyan University,

*Recognizing* that Greek organizations and Greek spaces at Wesleyan have a significant impact on student life,

*Recognizing* that housing for Wesleyan’s female Greek institution has been denied,

*Pointing* to the recent concerns of student safety at Greek houses on campus and the widespread issue of sexual assault,

*Acknowledging* that changes need to be made to Greek spaces and organizations in order to appropriately address issues of sexual assault,

*Desiring* to re-direct the social influence possessed by Greek life towards the eradication of sexual assault on campus,

*Acknowledging* that while there exists a great diversity of opinions on this issue, there is a general consensus that changes must be made to the current Greek organizations and their relationship with Wesleyan University,

*Recognizing* the significant experience that single-sex Greek organizations, specifically fraternities and sororities, provide for men and women on Wesleyan’s campus,

*Expressing* the concern that housed Greek organizations are currently underprepared and under-equipment to respond to crises occurring on their premises, including but not limited to incidents of sexual assault,

*Recognizing* that addressing issues of safety within Greek spaces are different than issues of safety in other social spaces,

*Recognizing* the lack of a comprehensive and sufficient regulatory structure for housed Greek organizations,

*Aspiring* to make Greek houses on campus more safe, welcoming, and accepting spaces on campus.
Therefore, be it resolved that the Wesleyan Student Assembly:

1. **Urges** the administration to develop an institutionalized, working relationship with Greek life on campus in order to create and enforce comprehensive standards governing Greek life in the Wesleyan community as well as to maintain constant dialogue between the Greek organizations and the administration by:
   a. Developing an Office of Greek Life to oversee and institutionalize Greek life at Wesleyan:
      i. Which calls upon the Wesleyan administration to establish and hire a Quarter-Time Position Greek Life Coordinator by the start of Fall 2014 to serve as a liaison between Greek organizations and the administration, as well as to assist in the careful and safe facilitation of the changes in this resolution,
      ii. Which encourages this office to strengthen the relationship between Greek organizations and the Wesleyan community through organizing and coordinating events and programming, such as a daytime event at the beginning of each fall semester for the Wesleyan community to meet the members of each organization and tour Greek spaces,
      iii. Which encourages this office to be used to the benefit of both Greek organizations and the administration to produce further reforms, such as through adopting best-practices from other universities and incorporating policy recommendations from organizations concerned with sexual assault issues,
      iv. Which works in partnership with the Office of Residential Life in regulating and overseeing housed Greek organizations,
      v. Which works in partnership with the Title IX Office and SART in order to facilitate the changes in this resolution and develop further reforms;
   b. Collecting the rosters of all Greek organizations in order to oversee and regulate adherence to all Greek Life Safety Standards;
   c. Producing and maintaining a Greek life page on the Wesleyan website in order to provide resources and information to incoming and current students about Greek life on campus;
   d. Placing the IGC under the auspices of the Office of Greek Life, in order to facilitate communication between the administration and the Greek organizations.

2. **Proposes** the development of Greek Life Safety Standards by the Office of Greek Life that all Greek organizations must follow, including but not limited to:
   a. Sexual Assault Prevention Standards, including but not limited to:
      i. Requiring all current and incoming Greek members to go through Bystander Intervention Training and Consent Training,
      ii. Requiring all incoming Greek leadership (Executive Boards) to go through additional:
         1. Bystander Intervention Training,
         2. Consent Training,
         3. Risk Management training to be developed by the Office of Greek Life in conjunction with Office of Student Affairs, SART, and other relevant campus organizations,
ii. Requiring at least one educational consent themed event to be held each semester by the collective Greek community, which will be attended by no less than 50% of Greek members;
b. Risk Management Standards:
   i. Requiring all incoming Social chairs and Risk Management chairs to go through:
      1. The aforementioned Risk Management training,
      2. Comprehensive Substance Abuse programming, to be developed by the Office of Greek Life in conjunction with the Office of Student Affairs, the Peer Health Advocates, and other relevant campus organizations,
      3. Social Host Training
   ii. Requiring each organization to, at each social event, have at least two members who are sober, are full members of the organization, and are easily identifiable at a designated location;
   iii. Requiring each organization to, at each social event, have at least two members who are sober, are full members of the organization, and will patrol the space to deter and prevent aggressive behaviors in addition to the two sober members mentioned in the previous clause,
   iv. Recommending that each organization also have co-ed point persons at the aforementioned designated location,
   v. Recommending that each organization require all full and partial members to introduce themselves to all unfamiliar social event guests they interact with, thereby helping to remove the anonymity of the space;
c. Academic Standards, including but not limited to requiring minimum academic standards in order to be active members of Greek life;
d. Housing Standards, including but not limited to:
   i. Requiring all members who live within the house to:
      1. Go through comprehensive housing and hosting training developed specifically for housed Greek organizations,
      2. Have signs identifying the name(s) of the residents in each room,
   ii. Requires that the Office of Greek life work with the respective Greek organizations to:
      1. Actively host social events sponsored by non-Greek student groups,
      2. Actively host educational events for the entire Wesleyan community
      3. Develop an online, easy process for requesting access to Greek spaces.

3. **Urges** the administration to hold Greek organizations accountable to the Greek Life Safety Standards through the creation of a Greek Life Judicial Board:
   a. Which is composed of one representative from each IGC member organization, specifically trained for their positions in a manner that mirrors the SJB process, and overseen by the Office of Greek Life,
   b. Which supplements the Student Judicial Board, leveling specific punishments upon Greek organizations in response to actions taken within or by the organization (i.e. party violations), as well as failure to meet the Greek Life Safety Standards,
   c. Which imposes new sanctions upon Greek organizations, including but not limited to probation, suspension from hosting events, suspension of pledge process, dismissal from the
IGC, forced leadership changes, and suspension of program housing status with the Office of Residential Life,

d. Which would impose a zero tolerance policy on issues of sexual assault, hazing and other aggressive actions,

4. Requests the creation of a Task Force to research further reforms for the Greek community:
   a. Which shall be composed of the WSA President, the President and Provost of Wesleyan University, faculty leadership, WSA leadership, Greek leadership, and other student leaders, such as activists on the issue of sexual assault;
   b. Which shall develop a list of recommendations as to the structure and mission of the Office of Greek Life, IGC and the Greek Life Judicial Board, as well as the composition and implementation of the Greek Life Safety Standards and Greek Life Judicial Sanctions, to be presented to the administration, the WSA, the IGC and the general student body;

5. Expects that housed Greek organizations incorporate the findings of the aforementioned Task Force and the Office of Public Safety and its officers to enforce standards of security, safety and University policy in a manner that is consistent and uniform among all signatories to the Greek Organization Standards Agreement;

6. Resolves to remain (very) actively seized of the matter.