

The National Asian Pacific Islander American Panhellenic Association - NAPA Statement of Position on Campus Recognition

The National Asian Pacific Islander American Panhellenic Association, recognizing the importance of recognition or other endorsement which provides all rights and privileges bestowed to students and student organizations by host institutions, and further recognizing the importance of accepting all fraternal chapters into membership in local councils as student fraternal organizations, with all rights and privileges, applauds those institutions and councils which provide such recognition and membership on a free and open basis.

- The Association recognizes the obligation of colleges and universities to create a positive student life atmosphere. Furthermore, the Association recognizes that the overwhelming majority of institutions of higher education believe that fraternities/sororities are integral components in the creation of a positive student life atmosphere.
- The Association believes that the best way to create a positive student life atmosphere is through the recognition that all persons have the right to freely associate with each other and with organizations on such terms and conditions as they may choose in the exercise of their judgment.
- The Association further believes that this position is grounded in the historic American freedom of association and speech guaranteed by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, and reaffirmed in exemptions from Title IX by the Educational Amendments of 1972 as it applies to fraternal organizations.
- The Association further believes that it is unfair and biased for an institution to express that they can only have so many like historical cultural groups on a campus. This would seem to violate the principals of being inclusive and creating diversity on a college campus.
- The Association acknowledges that colleges and universities have the right to establish fair and reasonable rules and regulations, applicable to all student organizations to receive and maintain recognition. The Association believes that colleges and universities do not have the right to infringe on any organization's right to recruit members at any time or on students' rights to associate with an organization, if so selected by the organization - or to establish any other standards or regulations, which go beyond those applicable to all students and student organizations.
- The Association will be supportive of the expansion of NAPA member organizations onto colleges and universities, provided that the member organization attempting to expand meets the requirements set forth by the university administration and follows procedures set forth by the university.

The National Asian Pacific Islander American Panhellenic Association, therefore, states its support for the rights of students to assemble into or to associate with fraternal and other student organizations, free from restriction in that decision by anyone, and to that end the Association fully supports the notion that all rights and privileges should be granted to such students and their organizations as provided by the host institution and the local councils