



THE UNIVERSITY of  
**MISSISSIPPI**  
DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Chapter Presidents, Advisors, and Housing Corporation Directors/Presidents  
at The University of Mississippi

From: Dr. Brandi Hephner LaBanc, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs *bhl*  
Dr. Melinda J. Sutton, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs & Dean of Students *mjs*

Re: Fraternity and Sorority Facility Renovation and Construction Projects

Date: August 20, 2014

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Greetings! With the beginning of the 2014-2015 academic year only days away, we need to share important information regarding fraternity and sorority facility renovation and construction projects.

As you are aware, The University of Mississippi is experiencing unprecedented growth in our general student population; this growth has impacted a number of your organizations as well. While we all enjoy the increased interest and attention given to our University, in many ways it creates a considerable burden on available campus space. The University is actively working to provide adequate housing for students who choose to live on campus (including upper class sorority members), and fraternities and sororities are working to meet the needs of their enlarged memberships through their facilities as well. However, there is a finite amount of space on campus, particularly in the campus core, and we find ourselves in the difficult position of determining how best to accommodate this growth while balancing the needs of the larger University and its student community.

Considering the current state of campus growth, The University of Mississippi is placing a moratorium on fraternity and sorority chapter house construction and renovation until the University can develop a comprehensive plan for fraternity and sorority facility growth. This moratorium applies to external construction and renovation; improvements to interiors are acceptable. The University will also honor those agreements with groups whose projects have been previously approved.

In the interest of developing a comprehensive and well thought-out plan that will accommodate the growing needs of our current organizations represented at The University of Mississippi and the potential of additional organizations on campus, we need time to carefully consider how best to support our fraternities and sororities and their facilities on our ever-growing campus. Our current discussions include the development of a Greek Village, and our goal is to provide an update regarding this plan early in the spring 2015 semester. In addition to developing a Greek Village, we also plan to provide renovation and expansion guidelines and a clear process whereby organizations can request improvements and to lease land from the University.

Please know that University leadership did not come to this decision easily and that much thought and time has gone into the decision regarding the moratorium. In an effort to be fair to all groups, we felt this approach was most effective. The University is committed to the support and growth of fraternities and sororities on our campus, and we will continue to keep your needs and interests at the forefront of our discussions regarding the development of a plan moving forward. If you have any questions, please email Dr. Sutton at [mjsutton@olemiss.edu](mailto:mjsutton@olemiss.edu). Our goal is to keep the lines of communication open and to be available to feedback or constructive input.