

Getting Started

Best Practices for Chapter Integration

- ★ Inform and educate pledges of current chapter discussions and practices so they may contribute to the conversation
- ★ Engage pledges in chapter discussion and activity
- ★ Coach pledges through operations
- ★ Reference the Pledge Education Program content in chapter activity

Early integration of pledges into the chapter experience is a key component to the Pledge Education Program. Being a part of regular chapter business meetings and events, pledges will acclimate to and become part of the chapter's culture and operations faster. Additionally, this provides more opportunity for pledges to connect and collaborate with brothers throughout the Pledge Education Program. Understanding how the chapter operates "in real time" will provide pledges a perspective early and contribute more effectively immediately following Initiation.

Suggested ways the chapter can integrate pledges into chapter meetings:

- VPPE review the chapter meeting agenda with pledges prior to the start of the chapter meeting
- Chapter assigns seating during the meetings so each pledge is surrounded by brothers to help them understand what's happening during the meeting.
 - Seating can be strictly assigned so pledges have brothers to the left, right, in front of, and behind them.
 - Seating can be assigned by name, first or last
 - Seating can be assigned by birthdate
 - Seating can be randomly drawn and placed prior to the meeting
 - Seating can be assigned by sequentially having brothers who had been initiated during the previous semesters (such as seat 1 [initiated 4 terms prior], seat 2 [initiated 3 terms prior], seat 3 [initiated 2 terms prior], seat 4 [initiated last term], seat 5 [pledge])
- Chapter can utilize 5-10 minutes of chapter time the first 1-2 meetings to host an introductory activity (such as "human bingo," rock, paper scissors tournament, or name aerobics).
 - Common Thread:
 - How to Play: Divide participants into smaller groups. Each group has a set time to find three things they have in common (beyond the obvious, like being in the fraternity). After the time is up, each group shares their findings with the larger group.
 - "If You Could..." Questions: (See suggestions below)
 - How to Play: Ask participants a series of questions that start with "If you could..." (e.g., "If you could have any superpower, what would it be?" or "If you could have dinner with anyone, living or dead, who would it be?").
 - "Find Someone Who..." Bingo:
 - Materials: Prepare Bingo cards with statements like "Find someone who has traveled to another country," "Find someone who speaks multiple languages," or "Find someone who loves the same type of music as you."
 - "Would You Rather..." Questions: (See suggestions below)
 - How to Play: The VPPE poses a "Would You Rather..." question, such as "Would you rather travel to the past or the future?" or "Would you rather have the ability to fly or be invisible?"
 - Chapters should avoid ice breakers such as "two truths and a lie" or "interesting/fun facts." These activities may cause anxiety trying to identify personal experiences "to impress" within a group a pledge has not developed a comfort level with yet. Additionally, activities such as these could cause anxiety if others guess incorrectly.
- Officers spend an extra minute (or two) to explain their positions and provide additional information regarding their report during chapter meetings.

- Identify elements of an officer report or upcoming event that may directly connect to the content of the Pledge Education Program.
- Appropriate small social gatherings that include both brothers and pledges:
 - Mingling before or after chapter meetings and events
 - Study groups
 - Meal and “coffee” gatherings
 - Game nights
 - Attending campus events
 - Other casual opportunities for engagement

If You Could Questions:

Fun and Lighthearted:

- If you could be any animal, what would you be and why?
- If you could have any fictional character as your best friend, who would it be?
- If you could instantly master any skill or talent, what would it be?
- If you could travel anywhere in the world right now, where would you go?
- If you could invent anything, what would it be?
- If you could eat only one food for the rest of your life, what would it be?
- If you could have any job in the world, regardless of qualifications, what would it be?
- If you could switch lives with anyone for a day, who would it be?
- If you could go back in time and change one thing, what would it be?
- If you could have a conversation with your pet, what would you ask them?

Thought-provoking and Personal:

- If you could have any question answered, what would it be?
- If you could give one piece of advice to your younger self, what would it be?
- If you could change one thing about the world, what would it be?
- If you could have any three wishes granted, what would they be?
- If you could meet any historical figure, who would it be and what would you ask them?
- If you could relive any moment in your life, what would it be?
- If you could have any dream come true, what would it be?
- If you could learn any language instantly, what would it be?
- If you could have any superpower, what would it be and how would you use it?
- If you could spend a day with anyone, living or dead, who would it be?

Related to Fraternity/Brotherhood:

- If you could change one thing about the fraternity, what would it be?
- If you could have any famous person join the fraternity, who would it be?
- If you could go on a brotherhood retreat anywhere in the world, where would you go?
- If you could have dinner with any fraternity alumni, who would it be?
- If you could develop one soft skill through your involvement with the fraternity or chapter, what would it be?
- If you could write a tagline for the fraternity or chapter, what would it be?
- If you could ask a question to any of our founding members, what would it be?
- If you could focus your efforts on one of our core values, which would it be?

Would You Rather Questions:

Fun & Silly

- Would you rather have to sing everything you say or rhyme everything you say?
- Would you rather eat only pizza for the rest of your life or never eat pizza again?
- Would you rather be able to talk to animals or understand any language?
- Would you rather have super strength or super speed?
- Would you rather always have to tell the truth or always have to lie?
- Would you rather be a famous singer or a famous actor?
- Would you rather live in a world where it's always summer or always winter?
- Would you rather be able to teleport or time travel?
- Would you rather be able to read minds or control the weather?
- Would you rather be stuck on a deserted island with your worst enemy or all alone?

Thought-Provoking

- Would you rather be incredibly intelligent but unhappy or happy but not very smart?
- Would you rather be able to see into the future or change the past?
- Would you rather live a long but ordinary life or a short but extraordinary one?
- Would you rather be rich and famous but lonely or have close friends and family but be poor?
- Would you rather have the power to heal anyone or the power to bring anyone back from the dead?
- Would you rather know how you're going to die or when you're going to die?
- Would you rather be able to fly or breathe underwater?
- Would you rather give up social media or TV for the rest of your life?
- Would you rather never be able to use the internet again or never be able to leave your hometown?
- Would you rather have a photographic memory or be able to forget anything you want?

Fraternity/Brotherhood Themed

- Would you rather be the chapter president or the social chair?
- Would you rather have a famous alumni visit your chapter or have your chapter featured on a national TV show?
- Would you rather have to wear your fraternity letters every day for a year or never be able to wear them again?
- Would you rather be known as the funniest brother or the most respected brother?
- Would you rather go on a road trip with your fraternity brothers or have a big backyard BBQ?
- Would you rather go on a chapter camping trip or a stay in a five star hotel?
- Would you rather have a fraternity-wide talent show or a sports tournament?
- Would you rather be remembered for your academic achievements in the fraternity or your contributions to service?