

# Hazing

Hazing is defined as any action taken or situation created, either intentionally or unintentionally, on or off campus, to produce physical discomfort, embarrassment, ridicule, or possible physical harm or injury as a requirement for belonging to the group.

## University Policy Against Hazing:

The University has a zero tolerance policy regarding hazing. Should the organization be found in violation as a result of an Organizational Review, it will lead to the loss of University recognition and organization status. In accordance with existing institutional policy, individual members of the organization may be required to appear before a University Judicial Board and may be found in violation of the University Behavioral Standards and Policies.

## Notifications and/or Agreement Pertaining to Organizations and Athletic Teams

All organizations regardless of official recognition are required to abide by the anti-hazing policy. Athletic teams (including intramural teams) are also bound by this policy. *All organization officers, including athletic team captains are required to read and sign the anti-hazing policy as an acknowledgement that they have read and agree to abide by the anti-hazing policy.*

Likewise, all pledges, intake candidates, new and current members will be required to sign in acknowledgment that they have read and agree to abide by the Anti-Hazing Policy. The policy including signature lines will be approved by SORC.

## Preventive Measures Regarding Hazing:

Education: The Office of Student Development and Leadership and the Director of Athletics will assist in the provision of educational programs for organizations and athletic teams.

Primary responsibility for the implementation of educational programs rests within the Office of Student Development and Leadership, the Director of Athletics and the Director of Mission and First Year Experience. Examples of educational programs include but are not limited to Student Governing Board informational sessions, orientation of new and returning students, team meetings and organization meetings.

## Role of Moderator:

Moderators are expected to read the anti-hazing policy and sign as an acknowledgment that they agree to assist in the enforcement of this policy.

## Enforcement:

The following entities are charged with enforcement of the anti-hazing policy:

Organization Review Board (*Student Organization Manual*)

University Judicial System (*Student Handbook*)

*Hazing situations include but are not limited to the following:*

- Paddling in any form;
- Tattooing, branding or any form of mutilation;
- Creation of excessive fatigue;
- Physical or psychological shock;

- Consumption of food, beverage, or any other substance, except in the course of regular meals;
- Morally degrading games or humiliating activities;
- Late-night work sessions which might interfere with academic performance;
- Alcohol consumption as part of any ritual;
- Forced binge consumption of alcohol; and
- Any activity, which violates local, state and/or federal law or breaks the rules of appropriate student conduct as set forth in the University's *Student Handbook*.
- Forcing students to buy things for them including food/use meal plan to feed others.

### Use of Canes and Paddles

The Dean of Student Services or designate must approve the use of canes/sticks/paddles at University functions. Organizations seeking approval should submit a written request to SORC at least two weeks prior to the event. If approval is granted, the following applies:

1. The use of canes, sticks or paddles in a negative or threatening manner will result in a judicial referral, an organizational review or action up to and including police involvement. Involved organizations may be disciplined in accordance with procedures outlined in this manual.
2. Canes to be used at a fraternity or sorority function should be kept in a place designated by SORC until needed.

Should the Office of Student Services become aware of hazing by any organization, that organization jeopardizes its status as a recognized organization of Lewis University. Individuals directly responsible for the hazing jeopardize their status as students of Lewis University. Any situation of this nature should be reported to the Office of Student Services.

## *Kidnapping*

Kidnapping is prohibited and there is zero tolerance for this activity. Kidnapping is potentially dangerous and falls under the heading of hazing. Therefore, kidnapping is prohibited.

I have read the expectations of a student who is part of any organization at Lewis University. I understand the responsibilities associated with being a member of any organization at Lewis University and agree to abide by all of the above expectations.

Name of the Student \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_