

Fraternity & Sorority Chapter Advisors and Headquarters Staff:

As you may be aware, a number of Oregon State University and University of Oregon college students in the past have participated in trips to Shasta-Trinity National Forest in northern California during the month of May. Over the last year, the University of Oregon and Oregon State University have been working on a collaborative approach to address the behavior that occurred at Lake Shasta in spring 2016. Unfortunately, in recent history each of our institutions have experienced the death of students and severe injury as well as other dangerous and disruptive behavior associated with travel to Lake Shasta.

It is important that you are aware of the efforts to discourage students from participating in high-risk behavior and understand the potential serious consequences of a visit to Lake Shasta. We want to acknowledge that many of our students have made the decision to travel to Lake Shasta, California, in the coming weeks. While that is their decision to make as an individual, we want to stress that their decision to attend is not condoned by their chapter, their inter/national organization, or by UO/OSU. It's important to be clear that this trip is not endorsed by, sponsored by or affiliated with UO or OSU nor are students attending on behalf of their chapter or on behalf of UO or OSU, however, students may in certain instances be held accountable individually and organizationally pursuant to the UO and OSU Student Conduct Codes and local laws.

Both campuses are offering educational programs that will contain vital information to keeping themselves and fellow students safe during variety of high-risk scenarios where the sun, boats and water are involved as we enter the summer months. We hope that individuals make the decision to attend this program and educate themselves with skills and information that will help them, should the need arise. In addition, we encourage each of you to have open and honest dialogues with any student(s) who plan to attend out of town spring events about the risks of alcohol consumption and water safety.

Please know that both of our offices are a resource for students, advisors, and headquarters staff.

Interfraternally,
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