

Multicultural Greek Council

The Multicultural Greek Council Washington State University Pullman, Washington February 28, 2025

A Statement From the Multicultural Greek Community at Washington State University In Response to the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights Dear Colleague Letter

To Whom It May Concern,

On Behalf of the entire Multicultural Greek Community, we publish this statement with deep concern about the implications of the recent guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, and the potential impact and challenges it places, specifically for Culturally Based Fraternal Organizations (CBFOs). We believe that the guidance that has been provided by Acting Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights Craig Trainor fails to recognize the unique challenges faced by students from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, especially for those in CBFOs.

Our Community values diversity as a cornerstone of educational excellence. Being a community that is culturally-based and culturally-influenced, while being non-exclusive is the very backbone of our community experience. The ability to have diverse perspectives enriches the learning environment, fosters innovation, and prepares our members for success throughout life. Policies that support diversity and equity are essential to create an inclusive campus culture. The guidance under the Dear Colleague Letter could negatively impact CBFOs on campuses across the country, which rely on a diverse student body to fulfill their missions of promoting cultural awareness, advocacy, and support. Our organizations play a critical rolein fostering a sense of belonging and community for students from all backgrounds, regardless of race, creed, or orgin.

We urge the Department of Education to reconsider its guidance and to engage in meaningful dialogue with stakeholders from diverse communities. It is imperative that policies reflect a commitment to equity and inclusion, ensuring that ALL students have the opportunity to succeed and contribute to our global community. Diversity is not the cause of decisiveness, but rather an opportunity to develop and maintain a multi-cultural experience, and in our space, an opportunity to advance the goals and ideals of our respective organizations, promote superior scholarship as basic to intellectural achievement, and maintaining high societal standards for each of our members.

We, the Multicultural Gree Community at Washington State University stand united in our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and will continue to advocate for policies that support these values, and our community. We maintain that the purpose of the Multicultural Greek Council at Washington State University is to cultivate the growth of each member organization by serving as a unifying body for recognized culturally based fraternities and sororities, while striving to improve community life through service and education.

In this time of darkness and uncertainity, it is vital that we as a Multicultural Community continue to strive for greatness and excellence in our respective organizations, as we maintain the commitment to ideals of service, friendship, scholarship, and leadership for each of our members.

United, We Illuminate the World.

Signed,

The Multicultural Greek Council Alpha Nu Multicultural Sorority, Inc. - Alpha Chapter Chi Sigma Alpha National Sorority, Inc. - Beta Chapter Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, Inc. - Delta Chapter Gamma lota Omicron Fraternity, Inc. - Alpha Chapter Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. - Kappa Pi Chapter Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, Inc. - Rho Chapter La Hermandad De Oquichtli Macuilli Tonatiuh - Cipactli Familia Lambda Phi Epsilon International Fraternity, Inc. - Beta Delta Chapter Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc. - Zeta Sigma Chapter Omega Delta Phi Fraternity, Inc. - Upsilon Chapter Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Inc. - Omicron Delta Chapter Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority, Inc. - Alpha Epsilon Chapter The Lovely Sisterhood of Chi Delta Sigma Sorority, Inc. - Alpha Chapter