

Fraternity and Sorority Students Shift Community Standards

On January 11th and 12th fraternity and sorority chapter and council leaders met at a small camp facility in Tampa for the annual Olympian Summit. The Summit is an opportunity for new chapter and council leaders to become acclimated to the responsibilities of their position, review the policies and procedures of the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life (OFSL), as well as articulate what they intend to accomplish while holding their respective position. To the surprise of the OFSL staff, the student leaders had something else in mind at this year's Summit.

As the facilitators delivered the curriculum the students began taking control of the agenda, painting a much bigger picture of what the Greek community at the University of South Florida would look like moving forward. Removing *themselves* from their comfort zone, the students began setting standards and shifting patterns of behavior in the Greek community that will exemplify what a model USF student should exhibit. As the conversations continued, the students made a commitment to hold each other accountable for the actions of the members within their organizations and councils.

Collaboration became the word of the day as new relationships were formed and the desire to learn and educate each other about the unique attributes of respective organizations has become the new trend of the fraternity and sorority community. The Summit left Fraternity and Sorority Life staff stunned as the conversations continued beyond the conclusion of the weekend. The feeling of determination within the students is a force to be reckoned with as they seek to recruit a higher number of the highest quality individuals, increase the amount of hours of service within the greater Tampa Bay community, and raise the amount of dollars donated to charitable organizations each year. It is an understatement to say that it is indeed an exciting time to be Greek at the University of South Florida!