

## **Future Housing for UCM Fraternities**

I want to provide our UCM fraternities an update regarding the University's position about the future of university provided new Fraternity Housing.

In the Fall of 2016, the University completed a Feasibility Study for potential new University owned fraternity housing. This study reviewed the interest from current fraternity men and advisors in UCM owned new housing, the possible financial obligations to the University, potential sites for new fraternity housing, and the different types of fraternity housing. This information was shared with university leaders and the UCM Board of Governors.

From this study the consultants determined that chapter members would not be willing to pay a large difference for this housing compared to residence hall rates, the size of the houses should not exceed 24 beds (some should be smaller), and the best location would be at the site of the existing complex. This study also found that the University would have to substantially subsidize new fraternity housing from the residence hall revenues of other students. The new fraternity housing options were not financially deemed to be self-supporting.

Although UCM is financially stable, there is not sufficient excess funding to commit to a project the scale of new fraternity housing. UCM is not considering building new fraternity housing currently or in the immediate future. We remain committed to consider all options and opportunities, and we want to give you a realistic understanding of the current situation.

The University for many years has verbally supported fraternity organizations to pursue off campus fraternity housing, as long as the property is a suitable living environment and designed intentionally for a multiple person dwelling. The University in conjunction with each National Office will recognize only one official fraternity property as the chapter's living unit. This recognition pertains to both on or off campus properties.

President Best would like for you to know that he intends to host a meeting to include your chapter advisor or Alumni Representative, during Homecoming (the date will likely be October 12 and the time soon to be determined). The purpose will be to discuss more definitively what is feasible at this time. Although President Best was not a participant in the meeting and conversations a few years ago with UCM's former president, he does want to ensure we maintain open communication and have an opportunity to discuss possible solutions.

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for Student Auxiliaries  
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