

Dear UCLA Community,

Thank you to those who voiced their concerns regarding the recent Phi Kappa Psi sexual assault allegations. Through the widespread willingness to present individual perspectives on and impacts of the events, IFC can take input to better govern its members and create a safer community for all. We are extremely grateful for all of your efforts.

This statement is in regards to the handling of sexual assault allegations against members of the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity; specifically on why the IFC did not engage in judicial proceedings with Phi Kappa Psi, and why, after reevaluating the situation, we have decided to begin judicial proceedings with Phi Kappa Psi.

When the Interfraternity Executive Council was informed on the sexual assault allegations against members of Phi Kappa Psi towards the beginning of the Winter Quarter, we were simultaneously notified that the fraternity's executive team had already placed the chapter on social probation with the intention of thoroughly educating its members on topics of consent and sexual violence. We were confident that their initial reaction was prompt and thorough, leading us to not engage in judicial proceedings with the chapter, believing that positive change, if initiated internally rather than externally, would more effectively drive cultural adjustment and instill the knowledge surrounding these topics in chapter members.

However, our initial conclusions were soon challenged as a series of events unfolded that did not align with the plan Phi Kappa Psi originally presented to re-educate their members on topics surrounding sexual assault. While Phi Kappa Psi has followed through with hosting a presentation facilitated by their executive team and a workshop in partnership with the Title IX office, this was not done in the original timeframe.

After the chapter decided to lift the social probation, we advised its leadership to refrain from hosting in-house events until further education was provided to members, as well as to focus on increasing awareness of issues surrounding sexual assault by partnering with other organizations/resource centers to facilitate more discussions within the chapter and beyond. We believe the fraternity has not followed through with their commitment to properly educate their members and stimulate the right conversations within the general chapter membership.

True cultural change starts with chapter leadership sending the right messages and making the right choices, and we now believe in light of Phi Kappa Psi's actions, it is imperative that IFC take action through the judicial process to ensure that such cultural change is properly driven within the chapter.

We appreciate the concerns raised by students of our greater community on these matters and would like to assure you all that IFC is committed to creating a community that is inclusive and respectful towards everyone.

IFC must uphold its bylaws by following the judicial procedure outlined therein to ensure that member chapters are fairly tried. Considering the urgency of this matter, processing this case is our top priority and the appropriate sanctions will be applied momentarily.

In light of these concerns, Phi Psi has decided to cancel all in-house events for the remainder of the Spring Quarter.

If you have any further concerns regarding the matter, please direct your attention to our anonymous tipping feature on our website or reach out to me at president@ifcucla.com.

Sincerely,
Joshua Kaplan
President
UCLA Interfraternity Council