## **Shippensburg University Policy on Hazing**

Updated August 18, 2006

Shippensburg University prohibits hazing in **all forms**. When it is determined that hazing has occurred, sanctions and stipulations may include, but are not limited to, those outlined within the Shippensburg University Student Code of Conduct. Alleged violations of the hazing policy, as defined below, will result in the University initiating disciplinary and/or legal action against the organization and/or all involved students. Each campus organization is responsible for informing all members and all guests, including alumni members, of the hazing policy.

The Shippensburg University Anti-Hazing Policy is as follows and was written to comply with the Pennsylvania Anti-Hazing Law, Act 175 (December 1986), taking effect January 1994 as revised.

All individuals in the organization are responsible for the adherence and enforcement of the hazing policy and law. Hazing is defined as an action or situation, taking place on or off campus, that:

- 1.) Recklessly, intentionally, or unintentionally endangers the physical health, mental health, safety, or dignity of a person.
- 2.) Creates risk of injury, or causes discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule, willfully destroys or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation or admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition of continued membership in any organization that operates under the sanction of, or that is recognized by, Shippensburg University or is comprised predominantly of Shippensburg University students.

The term hazing shall include, but is not limited to, any act of a physical violence such as:

- 1.) Whipping, paddling, or forced branding
- 2.) Calisthenics or other exercises
- 3.) Exposure to the elements, prolonged or not, including excessive heat or cold
- 4.) Forced consumption of food, alcohol, drugs, or other substances
- 5.) Requiring individuals to stay together in a private or public facility during hours not allowed in associating time
- 6.) Forced physical activity adversely affecting the physical health, mental health, dignity, or safety of the individual

The term hazing shall include any activity that would involve, but is not limited to, subjecting an individual to extreme mental stress including:

- 1.) Any form of fatigue or sleep deprivation
- 2.) Late night sessions that interfere with scholastic activities or normal sleep patterns
- 3.) Line-ups for the purpose of testing or verbal abuse in any manner
- 4.) Forced exclusion from social contact
- 5.) Forced conduct which could result in embarrassment, including but not limited to, uniformity in attire or physical appearance
- 6.) Personal servitude
- 7.) Forced activity that could adversely affect the mental health, physical health, safety, or dignity of a person

The term hazing shall include any activity of a non-educational or "silly" nature that is inconsistent with academic achievement or the purpose, ritual, or policy of the organization and would subject an individual to embarrassment, stress, or fear, including but not limited to:

- 1.) Scavenger hunts, treasure hunts, or quests
- 2.) Requiring or expecting the completion of "busy work" tasks/projects in a short amount of time and/or outside of the accepted association/affiliation time frame
- Requirement or expectation of being in a specified place when not in class (other than those activities pre-approved by the Office of the Dean of Students/Director of Fraternity & Sorority Life)
- 4.) Mandatory memorization (unless sanctioned)
- 5.) Blindfolding (unless as part of a sanctioned ceremony)
- 6.) Random or rapid fire quizzing on organizational/member information
- 7.) Morally degrading or humiliating games and activities including pranks or prank wars
- 8.) Mandatory, formal member interviews (unless sanctioned)
- Any activity that is inconsistent with organization principles or policies and the regulations and policies of Shippensburg University or Pennsylvania Law.

Any activity as defined above, which is directly or indirectly a requirement for affiliation with or initiation into any organization comprised predominantly of Shippensburg University students constitutes hazing and is a violation of Shippensburg University policy.

For additional information on the Shippensburg University Hazing Policy, please contact the Office of the Dean of Students or the Director of Fraternity & Sorority Life at 717.477.1279.