

Unrecognized....

Unsanctioned....

Unaffiliated....

=EQUALS=

Unbelievable Risk to YOU!!!

### Avoiding Trouble....

Frostburg State University encourages all students to become actively engaged with organizations on campus. Becoming involved with campus organizations can provide a rewarding and enriching experience that can significantly enhance your opportunities to create incredible memories as a Bobcat. However, becoming involved with an unrecognized group can prove to be detrimental to your academic success and place you at risk of experiencing many other difficulties along the way. Students who become involved with unrecognized groups are much less likely to graduate and are much more likely to be placed on academic probation or be dismissed from the university. Students are also more likely to become victims of hazing incidents, be encouraged to participate in dangerous high-risk drinking practices, and experience more serious legal difficulties. Here are some questions you should ask to determine if a group is unrecognized:

- Who is the FSU faculty/staff advisor?
- What happens to the money I pay to be a member?
- Is this group recognized by the university?
- What does the group expect out of me?
- How will the activities of this group positively benefit my education?

**Groups at FSU:** There are over 100 student organizations that are registered at Frostburg State University. They include academic clubs, honorary societies, religious groups, community service groups, publications, intramural and club sports, and groups with special interests. There are also major campus organizations such as the Student Government Association, Residence Hall Association, University Programming Council, BURG Peer Education Network, and Black Student Alliance to name a few. All registered groups have a faculty or staff member as the group's advisor and can be found on the university website:

[http://involvement.frostburg.edu/student\\_activities/studentorganizations.html](http://involvement.frostburg.edu/student_activities/studentorganizations.html)

**Investigate:** Be aware of recruitment tactics that are deceitful, manipulative, and coercive. Some groups may at first take a great deal of personal interest in you. It is natural to feel flattered by such attention. These same groups may be very misleading about the time that will be required of you. There is no reason for a group to encourage you to limit your contact with other friends and family members. There is no reason for a group to expect you to engage in behavior that threatens your health, safety, or academic success. Thoroughly investigate the groups that are asking you to commit your time, money, and energy before becoming involved.

**Greek Life:** Only those organizations with national affiliation are recognized by the University as social/service Greek-letter fraternities and sororities. FSU chapters of these groups have demonstrated the values of service, scholarship, and leadership that their national organizations represent. Be on guard for local groups who *masquerade* as fraternities and sororities. Even though they may have adopted Greek letters, they are NOT the real deal. Some of these groups persistent even though they may have previously been expelled from the campus for serious policy violations. You can see the complete list of FSU fraternities and sororities on the university website:

<http://involvement.frostburg.edu/greek/frats.html>