



The University of Vermont

Policy V. 2.17.4

Responsible Official: Provost and
Senior Vice President

Effective Date: May 15, 2017

Group and Organization Recognition

Policy Statement

The University of Vermont, through the University and University Officer's Manual recognizes official governance and advisory groups including but not limited to: the Faculty Senate, the Student Government Association, the Staff Council, the Graduate Student Senate and the University Council. The University recognizes other student, faculty and staff groups and organizations in accordance with procedures and criteria set forth in this Policy and other governance documents.

Reason for the Policy

This Policy fills the need for a uniform set of criteria and guidelines by which campus groups and organizations will be formally recognized. This Policy also sets forth the privileges of recognition.

Applicability of the Policy

This policy applies to all University of Vermont faculty, staff, and students.

Policy Elaboration

Groups and organizations may be officially recognized by the University under the criteria and procedures described below.

A. CRITERIA FOR RECOGNITION

1. Student Organizations

a. Student Organizations

Except as provided in Section A.1.b, A.1.c, A.1.d, and A.1.e below, student organizations are recognized by the Student Government Association (SGA) in accordance with the criteria outlined in the SGA Constitution and Bylaws.

b. Academic Honorary Societies

Academic honorary societies are recognized by the Provost on the basis of educational merit and such other criteria as the Provost reasonably may devise.

c. Student Fraternities and Sororities

Local chapters of fraternities and sororities are recognized by the Interfraternity Council (IFC) or Panhellenic Council (Panhel) as outlined in their Constitution and Bylaws.

d. Graduate Student Organizations

Graduate Student Organizations are recognized by the Graduate Student Senate (GSS) in accordance with its Constitution and Bylaws.

e. Larner College of Medicine Student Interest Groups

Larner College of Medicine (LCOM) Student Interest Groups are recognized by the LCOM Student Council in accordance with its Constitution and application procedures.

2. Faculty and Staff Groups and Organizations

Except as otherwise provided in this statement, a group or organization is recognized by the Provost when the group or organization is comprised almost exclusively of UVM faculty and staff, does not have a legal identity distinct from the University and is determined to enhance the educational, cultural, social, health, or recreational opportunities of the University community members in a manner that also benefits the University in view of its mission, purposes, and goals.

B. PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR INITIAL AND CONTINUING RECOGNITION

To apply for recognition, a group or organization must submit to the appropriate University official or body as designated above, in writing, its name; a statement of purpose and operations consistent with applicable criteria and requirements (and copy of its charter or similar document, if existing); a list of officers; and a list of current membership or membership eligibility if not included in its charter. The designated officer or body will respond to the application, in writing, within thirty days of its receipt. Appeal of an adverse decision may be taken to the President; the decision on appeal shall be final.

Officially recognized groups and organizations must operate in conformance with their charters, similar governance documents, or statements of purpose as provided upon application in the absence of a charter or similar document. They must promptly advise the office of the official from whom recognition is obtained of changes in groups or organization officers and material changes in their purpose or operations. Group or organization officers are responsible for assuring compliance with general University policies and procedures and for fulfilling the

reasonable administrative requests of appropriate University officials. All student organizations must identify in writing to the Provost or Director of Student Life a UVM faculty member, staff person, or graduate student as an advisor. Academic honorary societies must designate a currently active UVM faculty member as advisor, or a current faculty member and professional staff member as co-advisors.

Failure to comply with general University policies or procedures or the provisions of this statement may result in the suspension or revocation of recognition by the officer or body from whom recognition is obtained, or by the Director of Student Life for all student organizations.

C. PRIVILEGES OF RECOGNITION

Officially recognized groups and organizations may:

- use the name of The University of Vermont and other indicia of association, subject also to the approval of the University Licensing Program
- use University buildings and grounds without a rental charge. Charges will only be assessed for the cost of services (event labor, custodial, trucking, security, and similar expenses) provided in support of an event
- use University mail services on an unstamped basis, subject to the requirements of the U.S. Postal Service and the UVM Manager of Mail Services
- obtain a voicemail account, on a fee basis
- obtain an e-mail account, subject to the requirements of Enterprise Technology Services
- establish an agency account with the University to accept revenues and pay expenses of the group or organization, subject to requirements associated with such accounts; *accounts may not elsewhere be established using the name "University of Vermont" or similar characterization*

Officially recognized groups and organizations may *not* authorize or allow other parties to use any privileges of recognition, and may *not* make space reservations on behalf of external groups or individuals.

Definitions

None

Procedures

See Policy Elaboration

Forms

None

Contacts

Questions related to the daily operational interpretation of this policy should be directed to the following appropriate individuals:

Provost (for Honorary Societies or faculty and staff groups)
(802) 656-4400

Director of Student Life (for fraternities, sororities, and SGA groups)
(802) 656-2060

Dean of the Graduate College (for GSS and postdoctoral groups)
(802) 656-3160

Associate Dean for Students, Office of Medical Student Education
Larner College of Medicine (for LCOM student groups)
(802) 656-0722

The Provost and Senior Vice President is the official responsible for the interpretation and administration of this policy.

Related Documents/Policies

Facilities and Grounds Use Policy

<http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/facil/facsched.pdf>

University Name, Symbols, Letterhead, and other Proprietary Indicia of Affiliation Policy

http://www.uvm.edu/policies/general_html/letterhead.pdf

Use of Campus Mail & Letterboxes Policy

http://www.uvm.edu/policies/general_html/campusmail.pdf

Effective Date

Approved by the President May 16, 2017