

## **Hazing Policy**

The State of Georgia has enacted legislation making hazing a criminal offense. Shorter University's policy on hazing reflects those laws. Organizational activities, including pledge and initiations, should be done in good taste and in a manner consistent with the Christian philosophy of the University. The University supports only those activities that are constructive, educational, inspirational, and that contribute to the intellectual and personal development of students. The University upholds the position of hazing adopted by the Association of Fraternity Advisors (AFA).

Shorter defines hazing as any activity or situation intentionally or unintentionally created, with or without consent, whether on or off campus, which endangers the mental or physical health of the participants; produces physical discomfort; subjects the individual to embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule; causes excessive fatigue or physical or psychological shocks in the individual; involves quests, treasure/scavenger hunts, stunts, morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; involves late or early work sessions; or any activity which is not consistent with the laws, rituals, and/or other policies of the organization or the regulations and policies of the University.

Any individual member or members of the organization participating in hazing activities will forfeit the organization's campus privileges, including its right to exist as an organization. Failure to report hazing is in effect giving tacit approval of it. Hazing activities may include one or more of the following but are not limited to:

- a. Actions that recklessly or intentionally endanger the physical and mental health or safety of students;
- b. Consumption of any food, drink, drug, or other substance;
- c. Participation in physical activities, such as calisthenics, exercises, or so-called games;
- d. Exposure to weather;
- e. Fatigue resulting from sleep deprivation, physical activities through late night or early morning programs, physical activities, or exercises;
- f. Assignment of activities that would be illegal or unlawful, or might be morally offensive to the individual;
- g. Physical brutality, including paddling; striking with fists, open hands, or objects; and branding;
- h. Kidnapping, transportation or stranding of individuals (Road Trips);
- i. Verbal abuse, including "Line-ups" and berating of individuals;
- j. Conduct that could adversely affect the dignity of the individual, including wearing of apparel that is conspicuous or extraordinary, carrying items such as paddles, canes, etc., and the performance of public stunts and activities;
- k. Tasks of servitude, including errands and clean-up activities for active members, alumni, or any other Shorter student;
- l. Denial of sufficient time to study;
- m. Nudity or lewd behavior;
- n. Late or early activities which interfere with academic activities or requirements;
- o. Any activity not consistent with the policies and mission of the University.