

Greek Vocabulary

Active - an undergraduate student who has been initiated into lifelong membership of a Greek Organization

AGLO - The Association of Greek Letter Organizations is composed of the four Greek umbrella organizations; Interfraternity Council, Multicultural Greek Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and Panhellenic Association; it serves as the main programming and regulatory Greek body

Alumna/alumnae - A graduated member of a women's Greek Letter organization, plural is alumnae while alumnus is a graduated member of a men's Greek Letter organization, plural is alumni.

Associate/New Member -A person who has gone through the recruitment process and is in the process of becoming an initiated member of the organization.

Badge -A symbolic pin worn by initiated members of Greek organizations.

Bid -A formal invitation to become a member of a Greek Letter organization.

Chapter -The local campus group of an Inter/national Greek Letter organization.

Colony -A newly-organized sorority or fraternity working towards an official charter from their national organization.

Continuous Open Recruiting (COR) - The process the Panhellenic Association uses to give bids outside of formal recruitment. They can only COR if they have spaces available after recruitment.

Dry Recruitment -Refers to the period before and during the recruitment process where the serving and/or presence of any alcoholic beverages at a recruitment event is considered illegal; all recruitment events at UM are dry.

Dues - Fees paid to a Greek organization for membership, they are often paid per semester.

Formal Recruitment - The major recruitment process employed by the Panhellenic Association; occurs at the beginning of the spring semester.

Founders - The founding members of a Greek Letter organization.

Fraternity -A term used for men's Greek organizations; several women's Greek organizations are identified as fraternities in the official names, while others are considered women's fraternities.

Hazing - The University of Miami has an absolute prohibition on hazing. The University's strict definition may be found in the Policies section of our website.

IFC - The Interfraternity Council at UM has thirteen member fraternities with seven elected officers and thirteen appointed coordinators to represent the fraternity community and work together to govern and strengthen it.

Informal recruitment - An open recruitment period where bids may be extended and accepted at any time. This practice differs between councils.

Informational - Opportunity for interested students to gather more information about MGC and NPHC fraternities and sororities.

Initiation - The formal ritual ceremony when an individual is accepted as a full member.

Intake - The process used by MGC and NPHC organizations to accept new members.

Legacy -When a parent, grandparent, or older sibling is in a Greek organization and you join the same one (it could be at different schools) this is called a legacy.

Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) -This council is composed of two fraternities and two sororities of various cultural heritages.

New member period -The time from Bid Day until initiation.

National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) -26 international sororities belong to this groups which guides policies, practices, and educational programs for collegiate sorority women.

National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) -Nationally, the governing body for the nine historically African-American fraternities and sororities. On UM's campus, it is the governing body and mutual meeting body of our seven historically African-American fraternities and sororities.

North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) - a large inter/national governing body for its 66 member fraternities. The NIC provides many educational programs and materials to members.

Panhellenic Association (PH)- Coordinating body for the eight National Panhellenic Conference sororities on campus.

Panhellenic building - Building that provides suites for meetings on campus for the Panhellenic Association, Multicultural Greek Council, and National Pan-Hellenic Council groups, as well as various Interfraternity Council groups.

Philanthropy - A cause for which a particular organization may raise money or volunteer time.

Potential new member -Someone who could potentially be a new member of a Greek organization.

Recruitment -The formal period during which Greek organizations are actively seeking new members. However, in many councils, it is ongoing.

Rho Gamma -Recruitment guide that helps women during the Panhellenic Association's formal recruitment.

Ritual -That which is revealed during initiation; the secret meaning that binds an organization.

Sorority -A Greek organization comprised solely of women.