



October 30, 2025

Dear Selection Committee,

It is with great pride that I provide this letter of recommendation in support of Old Dominion University's Interfraternity Council for the Outstanding IFC Award and our IFC President for the Outstanding IFC President Award. As Chief of Staff and Assistant Vice President for Student Life, and as an alumnus of this fraternity community, I have witnessed firsthand the remarkable transformation and unprecedented achievements of our IFC over the past twelve months.

Exceptional Leadership

Under the direction of IFC President Michael Scholz, the council has undergone a comprehensive revitalization that has strengthened every aspect of its operations. As someone who has personally witnessed his leadership growth and advocacy for the community, his vision and execution have been nothing short of extraordinary. He has demonstrated the kind of transformational leadership that inspires peers, earns the respect of administrators across campus, and creates lasting positive change throughout our campus community.

Under his leadership, the IFC has modernized its infrastructure by updating bylaws to align with NIC Standard Operating Procedures, establishing the first functional judicial board since before COVID-19, and implementing robust financial controls including timely NIC dues payment and comprehensive budgeting with checks and balances. These foundational improvements have created sustainable mechanisms that will benefit the fraternity community for years to come.

Equally significant has been the council's focus on building belonging and safety within the fraternity community. Through initiatives such as the semi-annual New Member Showcase and Welcome Event, new members are introduced to resources, values education, and the broader fraternity community in ways that foster early engagement and leadership development. The reestablished judicial board not only promotes accountability and fairness across chapters but also reinforces a culture of responsibility and care. The council has actively raised awareness about the dangers of unrecognized organizations, directing students toward safer, supported fraternity experiences. In addition, targeted support for smaller chapters has helped them grow and increase their campus engagement. I can say with confidence that the council's commitment to belonging and safety reflects the most meaningful and sustainable progress our fraternity community has seen in years.

Community Growth and Impact

Student and Campus Life
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Perhaps most impressively, ODU IFC has revolutionized recruitment in ways never achieved at ODU. By investing significantly in marketing expertise, including bringing in a professional consultant to train officers, the council developed sophisticated social media strategies and recruitment campaigns that yielded historic results. Multiple chapters experienced their largest recruitment classes ever recorded at ODU and new community traditions have been established, such as IFC Olympics. Student engagement at ODU is at an all-time high and ODU IFC is certainly a key driver in that increased engagement.

The breadth and depth of community impact initiatives this year have been remarkable:

- **Philanthropy:** Raised \$2,000 for Appalachian State IFC to support Hurricane Helene relief efforts, demonstrating that our commitment to service extends beyond immediate crisis response to sustained long-term support. These efforts were recognized with an on-field presentation in front of 18,000 spectators during a football game with representation from both IFCs.
- **Campus Engagement:** Active participation in university-wide initiatives including Residence Life move-in, Moving Monarchs for Healthy Hearts Heart Walk, and Monarchs Give Back (university's annual community service project and food drive for children), demonstrating integration with the broader campus mission.
- **Campus Partnership and Programming:** Throughout the year, the IFC has been an exemplary campus partner, supporting Fraternity and Sorority Life community-wide events including Greek Week, Greeks on the Quad, FSL Night basketball support, Leadership Summit, FSL Kickoff, Panhellenic Bid Day and critical hazing prevention and substance misuse training. I have been exceptionally proud to witness IFC student leaders bring back what they have learned from institutes and workshops back to campus.
- **Fostering New Campus Traditions:** Events like Roger's Basketball Tournament showcase the council's creativity in building community through inclusive, engaging programming. These initiatives, combined with traditional support mechanisms, create a dynamic community culture that honors fraternity values while embracing innovation.

As someone who has served in student affairs for many years and who experienced fraternity life as a member of this campus community, I can state unequivocally that what our IFC President and council have accomplished this year is exceptional. They have fundamentally elevated what it means to be part of the fraternity experience at Old Dominion University. As a driving force for positive change, IFC leadership has advanced the value of the fraternal experience through recruitment, safety, critical campus issues, and serving as a positive and influential driver of student engagement at ODU.

I give my highest recommendation for both the Outstanding IFC Award and the Outstanding IFC President Award. These recognitions would honor truly deserving recipients whose work exemplifies the very best of fraternal values and interfraternal cooperation. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,



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Chief of Staff and Assistant Vice President for Student and Campus Life
Old Dominion University