**Greek Centennial Project** Celebrating 100 Years through the Archives: 1915-2015 E. Fish, H. Heath, M. Willer





Photo 1: Personal photo. Photo 2 & 3: Courtesy Harriet's Collection, Special Collections & Archives Research Center, Oregon State University Libraries, Box 8.



## The Project

Compiling the history of Greek life at OSU 1915-2015
Creating an archival subject guide for further researchers.
Looking to the future: oral histories, web displays, and preservation of Greek documents.



Courtesy Harriet's Collection, Special Collections & Archives Research Center, Oregon State University Libraries, Box 9



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## Themes

Civil Rights
Treatment & Education of Women
Local & National Relations
Philanthropy & Community



Courtesy Virgil Choate Collection, Special Collections & Archives Research Center, Oregon State University Libraries, Box 1



Courtesy News and Communication Services Photographs, Special Collections & Archives Research Center, Oregon State University Libraries.

## What have we found?

Documents regarding Civil Rights and minority students

Petitions and stories about Nationalization A change overtime in the treatment of women



Courtesy Panhellenic Council Records, Special Collections & Archives Research Center, Oregon State University Libraries, Box 1

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Associated Students and the Interfraternity Council of Oregon State University have long worked for the removal of restrictive membership clauses both in living organizations and in student honor societies.

Statements urging the removal of restrictive clauses have been adopted by various student groups since 1947, when the "White Caucasian" clause of Blue Key National Honor Fraternity was removed.

In the same vein, the Interfraternity Council of Oregon State University (then Oregon State College) in the immediate post-World War II days went on record in opposition to restrictive clauses for fraternity membership and adopted requirements to work for their removal through the national conventions of its fraternities.

A survey of all student living organizations was conducted in 1953 to determine what restrictive membership clauses, if any, were in effect. At that time, of 30 fraternities, 17 had no such restrictions and 13 did. A similar survey conducted in 1960 showed that of a total of 31 fraternities, 26 had no restrictive clauses whatsoever and only 5 did. Seven years had shown a great improvement.

The Interfraternity Council in its January 27, 1960, meeting reasserted the stand it had taken in the 1940's by adopting a motion urging those local chapters with restrictive membership clauses to work towards their elimination through their respective national conventions.

By January 1, 1963, the deadline for the elimination of restrictive clauses based on race, color, or creed, all but two of the 33 fraternities had indicated to the University that there were no restrictions based on race, color, or creed in their constitutions, charters, or ritual. The two fraternities retaining such restrictions granted unqualified waivers to their OSU chapters exempting them from national membership requirements. Thus, at the present date the University has been assured that all of the 33 fraternities are free from national interference to pledge and initiate without restrictions based on race, color, or creed.

Because of its previous stands calling for elimination of restrictive clauses and because of assurances given to the University that the chapters of the 33 fraternities represented on the Oregon State University campus are free to select without regard to race, color, or creed, the Interfraternity Council endorses the present stand of the OSU chapter of Sigma Chi in its desire to initiate those who have met institutional requirements for fraternity membarship.

> THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL OF OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

Dated at: Corvallis, Oregon November 16, 1966

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