The passing of Maxwell Gruver was tragic and unexpected. As of that day, there were no warning signals indicating a fellow Tiger’s life was at risk. Since there were no signs, we could not be sure that our policies and structures were working adequately across all Greek organizations, prompting the University to stop all of the activities pending a thorough review.

As of today, the LSU Police investigation and the Code of Conduct inquiries are in progress. LSU Student Affairs officials have met with IFC fraternity chapter new members on Sunday; with the IFC, PHC and NPHC leadership on Monday; and, the chapters on Tuesday and Wednesday to re-educate them about LSU policies on hazing and alcohol. National Greek leaders also supplemented the educational process while reinforcing the University’s message. Between guidance from police and the re-educational efforts to date, the President has agreed to reinstate limited activities at the conclusion of this week of reflection for Maxwell Gruver.

Starting this Sunday, September 24, we will re-institute participation in University-sponsored and University-monitored events, as well as chapter activities that serve a philanthropic or broader service mission. Some alumni activities will be approved based on acceptance of conditions. Below is guidance of permissible activities and LSU Greek Life can review individual requests by e-mailing greeks@lsu.edu. New Member activities are still suspended as are most social activities. Additional activities will likely be approved in the coming weeks, though there is no prescribed timeline for approvals of other activities.

The next steps in the process will require the active participation of the Greek community, and will have to include a broader conversation with the University community about what we all want the relationship between the two to look like going forward. For some organizations, this will be a chance to exercise best practices, help their colleagues enter a new era, and demonstrate their commitment to the larger University community. For other organizations, it may be a wake-up call about high-risk behaviors. It is important to understand that there will be no return to ‘normal’. There will be a movement to a new understanding of how the Greek system will operate. We aren’t just thinking about changing rules; we are thinking about changing cultures.

Greek Life Activities

The following Greek Life-related activities may resume this Sunday: philanthropy, community service events, fundraisers, blood drives, intramurals events, and meal service at the houses including new members with house meal plans.

The following activities will be granted with the approval of Greek Life: risk management education workshops (to include hazing, alcohol, drugs and sexual misconduct re-education), and chapter judicial meetings as needed.

All University sponsored Homecoming activities will continue as planned, including: University-sponsored Homecoming events, the banner competition, food drive and field games. Also approved are Greek Board of Director’s Homecoming event to include Lawn Decorations; chapter specific
parent/family/alumni events at chapter houses previously planned. Events with alcohol must have been submitted via Tigerlink, received prior approval, and security measures approved by LSU PD 10 days prior to the event (Sept. 15, 2017). Special exception requests should be submitted to respective council advisor for consideration.

Tailgating activities for September 23 remain suspended, but will be allowed to resume on September 30. There will be new Student Organization Tailgate Procedures issued, per University Safety and Security Committee, which will include:

- Registered space on the Parade Ground adhering to all rules and regulations established by the University, which will include: registration through a lottery on Tigerlink, no common source alcohol, no tent larger than 10’x10’, and no furniture. Set-up of space may not begin until 8 a.m. on game day. Tents and trash must be cleared one hour before the game.
- Registered events on Tigerlink at chapter houses which also must adhere to all applicable rules and regulations established by the University.

The other events/activities are still suspended by LSU until further notice. Suspended activities for new members include: retreats (inclusive of Sisterhood/Brotherhood retreats), meetings, service project participation, or other gatherings, study hours/groups, pinning or initiation ceremonies, self-organized new member activities, Greek Board of Directors events, Greek Leadership Institute events, council or chapter meetings (Delegates, Executive Boards, Committees), chapter events (including, but not limited to, game day banners, study hours and groups, on-call/designated driver programs, organized chapter clean-ups, bus trips, exchanges, GRUBs, semi formals, formals, dance/step practices, Founders day, participation in alumni events, and any on/off campus programs and socials; or assessment workshops unless the topic is hazing, alcohol, drug or sexual misconduct).

The Office of Greek Life should be consulted before proceeding with any event or activity if there are any questions or if any clarification is needed.