**Anti-Hazing Policy**

*Please note that this anti-hazing policy encompasses ALL student organizations. All Auburn University sanctioned student organizations and groups are expected to adhere to this policy. This policy was adopted in April 1989 and amended in February 2003.*

1. **The Alabama State Hazing Statute**

   In the State of Alabama, hazing is a crime and individuals committing acts of hazing can be found guilty of a Class C misdemeanor. Hazing may also create civil liability. Additionally, an individual or organization participating in hazing or knowingly permitting hazing forfeits entitlement to public funds, scholarships, awards, and grants. A misdemeanor on a permanent record can prevent an individual from practicing law, obtaining a professional license, or gaining employment. The Code of Alabama (1975), Section 16-1-23, defines hazing as: *Any willful action taken or situation created, whether on or off any school, college, university, or other educational premises, which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of any student, or any willful act on or off any school, college, university, or other educational premises by any person alone or acting with others in striking, beating, bruising, or maiming; or seriously offering, threatening, or attempting to strike, beat, bruise, or maim, or to do or seriously offer, threaten or attempt to do any physical violence to any student of any such educational institution or any assault upon any such student made for the purpose of committing any of the acts, or producing any of the results to such student defined in this section. No person shall knowingly permit, encourage, aid, or assist any person in committing the offense of hazing, or willfully acquiesce in the commission of such an offense, or fail to report promptly his knowledge or any reasonable information within his knowledge of the presence and practice of hazing in this state to the chief executive officer of the appropriate school, college, university, or other educational institution in the state. Any act of omission or commission shall be deemed as hazing under the provisions of this section.*

2. **Auburn’s Definition of Hazing**

   Auburn University incorporates Alabama’s Hazing Statute in its Anti-Hazing Policy and further defines hazing as follows: *Hazing is any action taken or situation created intentionally or unintentionally whether on or off campus to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities and situations may include but are not limited to:*
   
   2.1. Paddling in any form;
   
   2.2. Creations of excessive fatigue;
   
   2.3. Physical and psychological shocks;
   
   2.4. Quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts that require, expect, or lead to the theft or destruction of property;
2.5. Road trips or any other such activities carried on or off campus;

2.6. Wearing, publicly or privately, apparel which is conspicuous and would not normally be worn by the new or prospective members or be considered in good taste by a reasonable person;

2.7. Engaging in public stunts and buffoonery;

2.8. Morally degrading or humiliating games activities; and

2.9. Any other activities which are not consistent with organizational laws, ritual, or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution. Actions forced, required, or implied to be required, which violate federal, state or local law, are considered hazing. The implied express consent of any person toward whom an act of hazing is directed shall not be a defense in any action brought under this policy.

3. All Student Organizations

It is important to remember that all of Auburn’s organizations, including but not limited to athletic groups, honoraries, Student Activity Projects, and special interest clubs are subject to this policy. Hazing shall include, but not be limited to, forcing, requiring, or expecting new members, associate members, prospective members, or initiated members of University organizations to participate in any of the following actions or activities:

3.1.1. Drinking alcohol or any other substance;

3.2. Using any drug, narcotic, or controlled substance;

3.3. Eating foods that a reasonable person would not eat;

3.4. Branding, tattooing, piercing, or other bodily alteration;

3.5. Permitting less than eight (8) continuous uninterrupted hours of sleep per night;

3.6. Nudity at any time;

3.7. Conducting activities which do not allow adequate time for study;

3.8. Subjecting a person or group of people to verbal harassment;

3.9. The use of demeaning names;

3.10. Misleading new members, associate members, or prospective members in an effort to convince them that they will not attain full membership status, or that they will be hurt during an initiation ceremony or any other activity that would cause extreme mental stress;
3.11. Carrying any items (shields, paddles, bricks, etc.) that serve no constructive purpose or that are designed to punish or embarrass the carrier;

3.12. Compelling a person or group to remain at a certain place or transporting a person or group anywhere without their consent (road trips, kidnaps, etc.);

3.13. “Trashing,” intentionally, any area for the purpose of annoying others or for having others clean the “trashed” area;

3.14. Disallowing new members, associate members, or prospective members to talk for an extended period of time;

3.15. Having new members, associate members, or prospective members perform personal chores or errands;

3.16. Blindfolding and parading individuals in public areas, blindfolding and transporting in a motor vehicle, or privately conducting blindfolding activities that serve no constructive purpose;

3.17. Exposure to the elements;

3.18. Conducting “interrogations” or any other no constructive questioning;

3.19. House duties not shared by all members of the organization;

3.20. Putting new members, associate members, or prospective members in a room that is uncomfortable (examples include but are not limited to: uncomfortable temperature, noise, too small);

3.21. New members, associate members, or prospective members expected to do anything exclusively for the fun or entertainment of the members; and

3.22. Forcing new members, associate members, or prospective members to make monetary payments or incur extra expenses not included in general membership.

4. Reporting Violations

Relevant information regarding individuals allegedly violating these policies will be sent directly to the Vice President for Student Affairs Office who will make referrals to the appropriate disciplining body or bodies.

To question the validity of a planned activity, please call the Dean of Student Office at (334) 844-4600. To report any violations of this policy, please call the Auburn’s Hazing Hotline at (334) 844-4564, contact Auburn’s Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs at (334) 844-1304, or submit a report online at http://www.auburn.edu/stophazing.