

Send to: Lisa McCoy, Coordinator of Greek Life, lmccoy@richmond.edu
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Subject: CSI Must Answer to Students

[Re: my last email, I apologize for a miscommunication on my end. I now understand that there is not a meeting happening between CSI + PanHel this Wednesday as I had been previously informed. The following message still reflects my concerns about transparency and inclusion in future conversations about Greek life.] (<- **include only if you sent the original email about the Wed meeting from last night.**)

Dear Ms. McCoy,

I am reaching out as a concerned [student/alum/parent] to **call for open and democratic student involvement in future CSI meetings with leaders of NPC and IFC, as well as the need for on-going public discussions between students and administration.** The [@abolishrichmondgreeklife](#) instagram account has provided a platform for marginalized student voices and detailed **more than** experiences of racism, homophobia, sexual violence, and more, as a result of UR Greek life. Given these developments, **I believe an open forum held within two weeks of today would** show good faith that the Center for Student Involvement (CSI) intends to serve the entire UR community--which includes those harmed by Greek life.

I am deeply disappointed by **the lack of response to and recognition of dozens of emails from concerned students and alumni** requesting an open meeting between CSI and the InterFraternity Council (IFC) on Monday. Based on the latest [post on the @urinvolved](#) page, it appears that CSI does understand that **the very question of 'how fraternities/sororities are going to operate in the fall of 2020' is the conversation that the 1680 followers of @abolishrichmondgreeklife are demanding to be a part of.** Creating open spaces where all students can engage with CSI is critical in a moment where BIPOC voices are calling for an end to oppressive systems. These conversations are also urgent given the large number of current/former Greek-affiliated women who have shared their experiences of sexual harassment/sexual assault/r*pe. I am calling the university to take action to support these women--especially given [the uncertainties of Title IX policies in the fall.](#)

Continuing to discuss 'what Greek Life will look like this fall' in closed meetings reinforces students' distrust of Greek life overall and of CSI's perceived preferential treatment towards them. **Many posts on @abolishrichmond have centered around the lack of transparency and accountability in Greek-affiliated affairs.** The instagram account's story showed student reactions of frustration, anger, and disillusionment following CSI's dismissal of our calls to open

up the meeting on Monday. CSI cannot continue to control the conversation. **All students, regardless of Greek affiliation, need to be included.** Several posts on the @abolishrichmondgreeklife account have addressed serious issues with the recruitment process itself. Many community members also want to be involved in discussing how Greek organizations intend to address public safety issues that will affect all of campus. And some continue to question if we should even have rush this semester at all.

CSI, administration, students, and alumni must come together in an open forum. This forum must also be followed by on-going and public conversations. There can no longer be closed-door meetings between CSI and NPC/IFC leaders. The popularity of the @abolishrichmondgreeklife account (and its [growing petition](#)) demonstrates significant student criticism of/opposition to these organizations on campus. **I am calling on you and your department to listen to and respect the voices of the students whom you were hired to represent.** Any Greek-affiliate decisions moving forward should be made with democratic student input and discussion. **CSI owes this to the student community.**

Thank you for your time. I look forward to the opportunity to engage with you in the future.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Class, if applicable]