

Activities and Student Development

Student Activities and College Union
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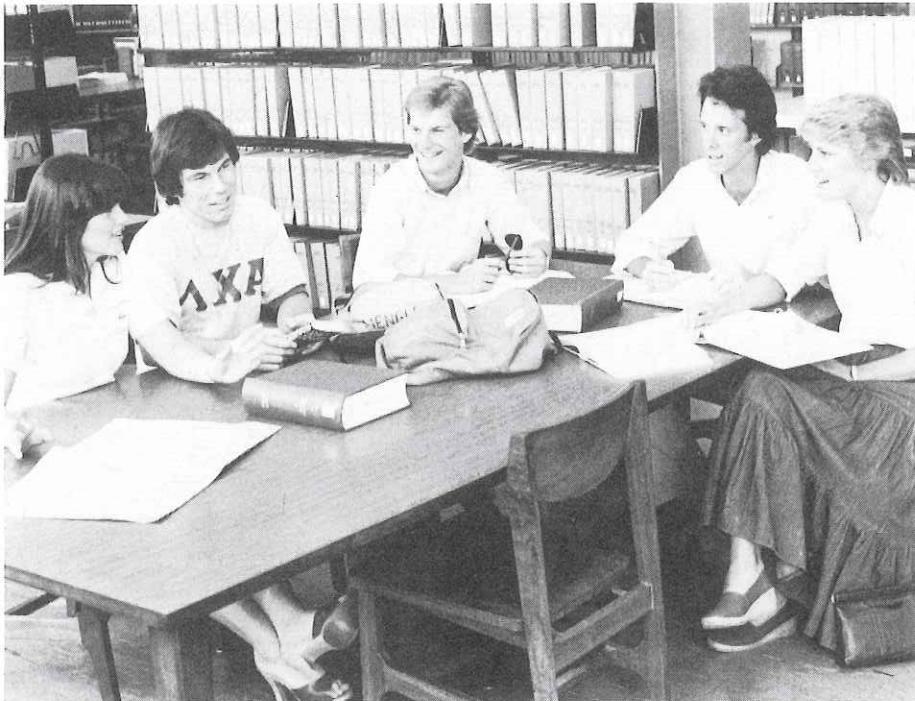
When you enroll at Fresno, you are entering a community comprising over 18,000 students, faculty, and staff. The campus community offers diverse programs which will add to your collegiate experience. The student life aspect of your college years can be as important as the academic. Your involvement outside the classrooms will help you meet people, make friends, learn to work with others, develop leadership skills, assume responsibility, and help you achieve the most from your college education.

Student Activities Office

The Student Activities Office, which is combined with the College Union Office, is located in the center of campus in the College Union building. This is the primary office providing information on student groups and major student programs. Staff members work closely with many program areas and offer assistance in a variety of ways. General information is also provided regarding use of campus facilities, including the Activities Plaza (Free Speech Area), issuance of permits to sell/distribute, general program advising, and the annual commencement ceremony. Several major program areas are described further in this section.

Student Organizations

There are approximately 150 recognized student organizations on the campus. Each student organization has an adviser from the faculty or staff who assists the groups with their programs. The organizations' programs, planning, and financial aspects are under the control of the student members and its' officers. There is a wide variety of student organizations, ranging from academically related to recreation and sports groups. Becoming involved with student organizations offers excellent opportunities to socialize and work towards a common goal.



Vintage Days

The annual spring celebration on campus is called Vintage Days and spans a period of several days. Vintage Days is coordinated by a student steering committee, with assistance from staff. The planning and production of the various Vintage Days events is done by the student committees with assistance from various university departments. Attendance during Vintage Days is estimated to be over 50,000 people from the campus and community. Your involvement with Vintage Days will enable you to gain insights and practical experience in working with your peers, faculty, and community leaders; you will be responsible for program planning, development, and execution; as a supervisor of a committee and event, you will apply managerial and personal skills; you will also assume responsibility for budgetary allocations and control. Typical steering committee positions consist of a director, and chairmen for Publicity, Craft Faire, Special Events, Ceremonies, Casino Night, Competitive Events, Boom Town Carnival, and Air Guitar.

Applications for coordinator and committee positions are available during the second and third week of the fall semester, with planning beginning in October.

Fraternities and Sororities

Fraternities and sororities have existed nationally for over 200 years and for over 50 years in Fresno. Once you are a member of a fraternity or sorority, you are a member for life. Membership in a fraternity or sorority places you in a network of friends and associates throughout the country. Each group has its own traditions and each stresses friendship, helping, and belonging.

There are thirteen fraternities and six sororities at Fresno. All of the sororities and most of the fraternities have houses close to the university. Housing is available to members on a limited basis. Each group plans or participates in events throughout the year for alumni, charitable organizations, the university,