HAZING POLICY

Hazing in educational institutions is prohibited by both state law (49-7-123) and by the Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conducts, (Procedures and Regulations Regarding Intake Activities), Student Handbook, page 37, item #7. Individuals and/or organizations engaging in hazing could be subject to fines and charged with criminal offenses. Additionally, the law does not affect or in any way restrict the right of the College to enforce its own rules against hazing.

Definitions and Commonly Asked Questions:

Hazing - The term “hazing” is broadly defined by statute to mean any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, occurring on or off the campus of an educational institution, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in an organization. Hazing includes, but is not limited to:

1. Any type of physical brutality, such as whipping, beating, striking, branding, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activity;
2. Any type of physical activity, such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, calisthenics, or other activity that subject the student to unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student;
3. Any activity involving the consumption of a food, liquid, alcoholic beverage, liquor, drug or other substance that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student;
4. Any activity that intimidates or threatens the student with ostracism, that subjects the student to extreme mental stress, shame or humiliation, that adversely affects the mental health or dignity of the student or discourages the student from entering or remaining registered in an educational institution, or that may reasonably be expected to cause a student to leave the organization or the institution rather than submit to acts described in this subdivision; and
5. Any activity that induces, causes, or requires the student to perform a duty or task that involves a violation of the Code and Tennessee State Law. The fact that a person consented to or acquiesced in a hazing activity is not a defense to prosecution.

Hazing

Hazing is defined as any action taken or situation that causes or results in abusive physical contact or mental harassment designed to produce excessive mental or physical discomfort or embarrassment to any Lane College student, on or off campus, during the Intake process of Greek-letter or any other campus organization.

Lane College prohibits hazing in any form. The scope includes, but is not limited to, activities that are planned or unplanned, on- or off-campus, and sponsored by fraternities, sororities, and
all other student organizations and groups recognized by the College. Examples of hazing include any form of paddling; physical or psychological shocks; morally degrading or humiliating activities or games; post-midnight work sessions; calisthenics; enforced silence; forced consumption of alcoholic beverages; required butler/maid services; shaved heads; forced carrying of bricks or other items; forced consumption of food; and any other activities which are not consistent with the regulations and policies of Lane College.

The College feels that joining an organization should promote the educational goals of both the College and the organization. Therefore, it believes that hazing is against the law and is detrimental to the success of fraternities, sororities, and other groups, and especially to those persons who are victims of such action.

Therefore, the College’s policy on hazing will be enforced, and violators will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

**PENALTY: DISCIPLINARY SUSPENSION OF INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS; EXPULSION; IN CASE OF CONVICTION OF HAZING.**

Hazing with or without the consent of a student is prohibited by the College, and a violation of that prohibition renders both the person inflicting the hazing and the person submitting to the hazing subject to discipline.

Initiations or activities by organizations may include no feature that is dangerous, harmful, or degrading to the student and a violation of this prohibition renders both the organization and participating individuals subject to discipline.