



DLC Workshop – Southeast District
President Michael Bradford-Calhoun

I have heard it all

As Southeast District President, I have heard it all.

“chapter brothers are fighting” “we have a bad president” “the new people don’t care”, “I don’t know how to tell them something”, “I’m going inactive because of how I was treated”, “somebody was removed for petty reasons” and sometimes it makes me question how serious we take our brotherhood.

So the question I want to ask each of you is

“Am I a brother?”

The background is a solid light blue color. In the center, there is a very faint, large, light-colored globe. In the bottom-left corner, the corner of a modern building with glass windows and stone-like panels is visible.

Part I

BROTHER TO BROTHER

Are you that in your feelings?

Often times, the issues that we encounter as human beings do not come from what is said but from what is not said and who we say it to. Can you be transparent with every person in your chapter about issues that arise and keep your cool?

Brothers must be TRANSPARENT

"I think the currency of leadership is transparency. You've got to be truthful. I don't think you should be vulnerable every day, but there are moments where you've got to share your soul and conscience with people and show them who you are, and not be afraid of it." – Howard Schultz, CEO of Starbucks

Scenario

- *New initiates of the Omega Rho Chapter have continuously had an issue with a brother. The brother, who is in an executive position, shows up late, leaves early, but has such a strong personality to the point that He typically goes unchecked. Newer brothers who do not have a personal tie to him do not like this behavior but are afraid to approach him directly. They have spoken with their chapter president but He is the brother's best friend and has accepted him as is. The newer brothers have begun discussing expulsion proceedings in secret because they don't feel comfortable confronting the issues of the chapter in the business meeting setting. The chapter sponsor will not deal with the situation because he considers the matter childish and distracting from the goals of the chapter. In this situation, what would you do if you were a brother in this chapter? Would you approach the brother and have an honest conversation and hold them accountable or would you hide it in order to not stir the pot? Are they truly being brotherly? Why?*

Accountability

Accountability is not the process of just telling someone their wrong, it's about helping them get back to right.



Part II

BROTHER TO BAND

How does your band program view you?

- Band Directors Perspective
 - Do you ask your band director every day “how can we help”?
- Non-Brothers Perspective
 - Regular band members can give you a different perspective about you chapter

Think about this

Why is it that we host more programs the closer it gets to membership candidate season (Rush Week, Interest Meetings, etc.) than we do all year long? And then those programs have nothing to do with Musicianship, Leadership, or Service.



Part III

BROTHER TO MEMBERSHIP

Let's Dig DEEP

Culture

Background

Race

Do people have to fit a certain “image” to be in your chapter?

Think about it?

Take a good look at your chapter, are you selecting the people devoted to your band program and are willing to serve? Or are you taking in the people that are your friends and/or the people who butter you up and talk a good game? Do they have to think or look like you in order to be members?

Part IV

CHAPTER BROTHER TO CHAPTER TO BROTHER

Y'ALL WE ARE ALL A BUNCH OF BAND GEEKS

- Can you fellowship with a chapter with a different make up then your own?
- HBCU vs PWI
- Private vs Public

Don't Imitate, Emulate

- Understand the cultural differences between brothers
- Respect it and Learn from it
- Ex. The "K" formation

So where do we go from here?

- *Reevaluate* – Sometimes the hardest thing to do, but think about the decisions that your chapter makes for intake, service, etc. Have we done our best to brotherly
- *Reinforce Accountability* – Don't let your brother fall and not restore them; Get out of the habit of letting people go
- *Connect* – Start reaching out to chapters in your states and local areas; reconnect brothers. Look for those brothers who went inactive because of how they were treated. You may be missing out on something
- *Maintain Purpose* – never forget why you decided to become a brother.

Contact: sedpresident@kkpsi.org for full transcript of workshop

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