Interfraternity Council Statement on Viral Email

The Interfraternity Council (IFC) vehemently condemns the offensiveness of the recent viral email that has made victims of all women, individuals, and chapters in USC’s greek community. USC’s IFC and Panhellenic Council (PHC) have teamed up to develop this educational response to clear up any misconceptions about the greek community that resulted in the rapid spread of misinformation through social media. In conjunction with the USC Division of Student Affairs, IFC and PHC would like to provide the following information:

- This email did not originate at USC.
- The individual who initially forwarded it to Kappa Sigma at USC is not a registered member of the USC greek community.
- The e-mail is in direct contradiction to the views of IFC and PHC, and the IFC and PHC chapters condemn the racism, sexism, and other bigoted content of the e-mail.
- IFC and PHC have and will continue to take an active stance against the individual opinions of the email.

We hope to be the leaders for other greek communities nationwide in taking an active role in educating our members about zero tolerance regarding the offensive content of this email. For those reasons:

- IFC and PHC have created a Gentlemen’s Pledge that reaffirms the values held by fraternity men here at USC, signed by each president of IFC to be upheld in each individual chapter. The Pledge emphasizes respect for women and all individuals and emphasizes the importance of upholding gentlemanly values among the members in our chapters.
- The “Pledge to be a Gentleman” is the first of a series of actions that IFC and PHC will undertake in the coming weeks to re-evaluate the priorities of the Row and define a vision for current, as well as future, greeks.
- IFC and PHC will increase their participation in programming with the university to take a stand against sexual violence, inviting dialogue with the Women’s Student Assembly and the Center for Women and Men to promote understanding in our community.
- IFC has had a long lasting relationship with USC’s MenCare, which “is a peer-education and leadership-development program focused on preventing sexual violence and fostering healthy ideas of masculinity,” and will continue to develop this relationship with MenCare leadership development programming each semester.
- IFC will designate a representative to the MenCare Executive Board Meetings, ensuring a constant flow of information and on-going education.