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Martin: Questions, Opportunities, and Ideas: Eleven Years of Research in

QUESTIONS, OPPORTUNITIES, AND IDEAS: ELEVEN YEARS OF RESEARCH IN *ORACLE*

GEORGIANNA L. MARTIN, *ORACLE* EDITOR

It is hard to believe that *Oracle* is finishing its 11th year! Although many in the field probably don't remember a time when AFA did not have a research journal, for some of us, 11 years in publication is quite a milestone considering the hard work, energy, and resources that have gone into creating and sustaining *Oracle*. Publishing a journal is no easy feat, particularly with limited financial and human resources. Yet, year after year mostly volunteers (e.g., the Editorial Team) paired with one full-time professional staff member (formerly at the Association national office, now with Synergos) work to make this publication happen. And of course, *Oracle* wouldn't be possible without the authors who submit their research for peer review! We close year 11 of *Oracle* with another good issue of original research and with a call for your continued support of *Oracle*. In particular, I encourage you to submit your research for scholarly peer review! Sometimes I hear from professionals who are nervous about submitting their research or who do not know where to begin to turn their thesis or dissertation into a publishable article. To that I say, we're here to help! One amazing thing about *Oracle*, is that 11 years into our existence, we remain a journal that is committed to helping new and emerging authors navigate the publication process. If you have a project you've completed and you'd like to see it published, but don't know where to begin, we can connect with you a member of our Editorial Team to work with you as a research partner to prepare your manuscript for submission. Please contact me to learn more if this sounds interesting to you! We remain particularly interested in submissions that shed light on the fraternity/sorority experiences of students of color and LGBTQ members as these student populations remain underrepresented in the research on fraternities and sororities.

This issue of *Oracle* also brings with it a new column that we hope to make a permanent feature of the journal. In this issue, you will find an inaugural book review. Adding a book review column to *Oracle* is another way we hope to make research accessible to our readers. If you are interested in writing a book review for *Oracle*, I encourage you to contact me to express your interest. We are especially interested in book reviews that highlight texts presenting original research (e.g., our inaugural book review is of the book titled *Paying for the Party*; this book is an overview of a qualitative research project exploring college students, party culture, and social class), however other book reviews will be considered as space and interest allow.

In this issue, you will find four original research articles and one book review. First, Gentry McCreary, Nathaniel Bray, and Stephen Thoma's article titled *Bad Apples or Bad Barrels? Moral Disengagement, Social Influence, and the Perpetuation of Hazing in the College Fraternity* leads the issue. They consider moral disengagement by exploring internal processes as well as environmental contexts. This quantitative article is methodologically rigorous and offers a new way to consider hazing research in the fraternity context. Next, Kristin Walker and Pamela Havice's article titled *Student Affairs Practitioners' Perceptions of the Career Development of Sorority Members* is a qualitative study that explores perceptions of sorority members' career development. Practitioners are often under studied in higher education and student affairs and this article offers an interesting glimpse into practitioners' perceptions of sorority women; these findings may be particularly important to share with undergraduate collegiate women. The third piece of original research in this issue is Shawn Dowiak's article titled *An Analysis of the Leadership, Student, and Moral Development of NIC Fraternity Men Controlling for Sexuality and Institution*

Size. This articles explores leadership, moral, and student development gains for NIC fraternity men adding to the body of literature exploring the “value added” component of fraternal organizations. A real strength of this article is its use of data from the Multi-Institutional Study of Leadership (MSL). The fourth research article in this issue is *Perceptions of New Member Academic Engagement: A Mixed Methods Case Study* by Mark J. Hartley and Charles G. Eberly. Their study explored campus constituents’ perceptions of academic engagement (e.g., faculty perceptions, unaffiliated students’ perceptions) by fraternity new members. A real strength of this piece is its use of both quantitative and qualitative research tools to approach their research questions. Finally, closing this issue is Matthew Vetter’s book review of the book *Paying for the Party: How College Maintains Inequality*. In his review, Vetter highlights the unintended influence and pervasiveness of the “party culture” described by authors Armstrong and Hamilton and the role that fraternities and sororities played in this culture. Overall, this issue offers questions for consideration, opportunities to challenge, and ideas for future improvement. Happy reading!