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Proposal: Independent Student Organization Name Change Proposal

Due to the enforcement of an existing guideline, Independent Student Organizations, which comprise 87% of The University of Pittsburgh's registered organizations, will be barred from re-registering unless they comply with this guideline. For the last 5 years, many student organizations have believed that they were in compliance with the University's guidelines, due to a lack of enforcement. Considering the fact that this guideline will affect 393 of Pitt's 639 student organizations, the University of Pittsburgh's Student Government Board proposes the following as potential solutions to the issue facing 62% of the University's student organizations.

Solutions

Solution 1: Exempting organizations who's year-of-origin pre-dates the SORC guideline.

Through our research, the year of origin for this guideline is 2012. For organizations founded before the year 2012, we recommend that this rule should not affect their naming or recognition by the Student Organizational Resource Center. The inclusion of this grandfather clause must be included in the language of the reimplemented SORC guideline.

Solution 2: No Name Change

As our optimal solution to this issue, we propose that the University of Pittsburgh follow the model of Boston College, The University of Notre Dame, and the University of Miami. The aforementioned models create the following guidelines:

- The utilization of the Student Organization Resource Center to
 - Approve names and marketing materials meant to "co-brand" their organization with the University of Pittsburgh
 - Organizations may use the University's name in the organization's title so long as University sponsorship is not implied or stated.
 - "Pitt/Panther _____ club"
 - By designating themselves as a club, council, organization, etc., Independent Student Organizations designate themselves as independent of the University.
 - Approve all marketing materials with limited usage permission granted to student organizations. Student organizations must comply with all present



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and future University guidelines and graphic standards as well as any applicable licensing contracts.

Solution 3: Name Change Solution

If the University is unwilling to allow student organizations to maintain the names that they currently have, the following is recommended.

- Merchandise
 - Independent Student Organizations must be allowed to sell their existing merchandise until there is a need to repurchase said materials as long as the Organization's documented name is in compliance with the guideline.
 - All new materials must be in compliance with the changed guideline
 - Provide organizations with all necessary financial assistance to make compliance with the guideline financially feasible