

CASE STUDY



Are You Engaged?

Reconnecting, Rebuilding, and Raising More: How GivaGrant Empowers Local Greek Chapters

RESULTS

100% VOLUNTEER
DONATION
RATE

\$500_K IN JUST
TWO YEARS

When the Cal Poly, Phi-Sigma Zeta Housing Corporation set out to improve how they administered scholarships, grants, and awards they weren't expecting the wave of alumni engagement that would ensue. What began as a simple mission to administer and manage undergraduate scholarships more efficiently, ended up evolving into GivaGrant, an innovative scholarships, grants, and awards platform that drives volunteer engagement and is built for all Greek organizations.

GivaGrant isn't just helping to administer and manage scholarships more efficiently, it creates an intimate connection between alumni volunteers and the undergraduates who apply for scholarships. Alumni read heart-felt applications and essays about the current undergraduate fraternal experience, realizing that while there are differences between generations the importance of and love for the fraternal experience is no different than them. GivaGrant is the vehicle to engage alumni without a huge commitment. Once the alumnus has engaged to



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to read and score applications, they feel connected and are making a meaningful impact on lives and careers. When the Chapter has alumni events or runs fundraisers, those alumni participate and contribute.

The Challenge: One Volunteer, An Outdated System

Just a few years ago, the scholarship process at Cal Poly's Phi-Sigma Zeta Chapter was manual and dependent on one dedicated alumni advisor to read and score. It was time-consuming, hard to scale, and they lacked a system to bring more Alumni into the fold.

That's when they decided to build a better system.

The Shift: From 1 Advisor to 23

By streamlining the process and developing this as a cloud-based application, GivaGrant made it incredibly easy for alumni to get involved, login from anywhere, and collaborate with other alumni. Just a few initial invites to review and score applications turned into a team of 24 alumni advisors, all eager to re-engage and support the next generation of undergrads.

Today, Phi-Sigma Zeta House Corporation runs **three application cycles per year** across **six programs**, all through GivaGrant and the outcomes speak for themselves.

The Ripple Effect: Why GivaGrant Works at the Chapter Level

1. Alumni Reconnect in Meaningful Ways

With GivaGrant, Alumni are getting first-hand insights into the current climate and culture of undergraduate fraternal experience. Reading through applications gives alumni a front-row seat to the passion, ambition, and challenges today's brothers are facing. It's not just reviewing its relating.

With built-in collaboration tools, reviewers can highlight stories that resonate, comment in real time, and feel genuinely connected to the process and people.

And it's powerful: Cal Poly saw a 100% volunteer donation rate from their alumni reviewers, resulting in over \$500K in just two years.

2. Identifying Opportunities for Chapter Improvement

Having more engaged alumni coming together, reading applications, and collaborating comes broader perspective. Phi Sigma Zeta conducts 10-minute interviews with each applicant with a focus on Q/A. One common question from alumni is "where do you see areas for chapter improvement?"

Interviews create opportunities to identify potential issues before they become serious problems. This added visibility helps chapters make better decisions, course correct if needed, and stay aligned with their core values.

3. Fundraising Gets Easier (and More Effective)

When alumni are emotionally connected, they're more like to give, and give generously. GivaGrant builds that connection authentically. Instead of a cold fundraising ask, alumni are already participating, already seeing the impact, and are already invested.



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For many, this becomes the first step in re-engaging with the chapter often leading to bigger gifts, deeper engagement, and new leadership roles, or long-term advisory involvement emerging organically.

GivaGrant: Built for Greeks, Proven by Greeks

What makes GivaGrant different is simple: it was created by Greek leaders who understand the challenges Greek organizations and their local chapters face. Whether you're managing one scholarship or ten, the platform helps reduce admin time, engage more alumni volunteers, and create a process that's easier and more rewarding for everyone involved.

Full Circle Impact: Reconnect. Reflect. Reinvest.

GivaGrant is more than just scholarship software. It's a way to bring alumni back in, deepen connections with undergrads, and help chapters build for the future.

Because when alumni take the time to read the stories of today's members, something meaningful happens:

They remember why it mattered so much to them and why it still does.



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