Panel debates hazing policies

The panel included Steve Adamczyk, from the UA Attorneys Office, Carol Thompson, senior associate dean of students, and several members of the greek community and honorary. Nearly 100 people attended the panel discussion. At face value, having pledges take tests on a fraternity’s history, forcing them to clean the fraternity house, or take part in scavenger hunts, all of which are common initiation activities, are not inherently harmful, said various members of the panel.

Many of Farmer’s fraternity brothers remembered him as someone who stuck by his friends and helped them out if they had a problem.

“One of the things that we’ve always tried to do is teach our guys that they have to be there for one another,” said Joe Frenkle, a political science junior. The panel maintained that the university defines hazing as “any intentional, knowing or reckless act committed by a student, whether individually or in concert with other persons, against another student.” The act must also be committed in connection with an initiation into an organization affiliated with the university and there must be a substantial risk of physical injury, mental harm, or personal degradation, according to UA policy and procedure.

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The panel maintained that student health and safety should be everyone's primary concern and that all forms of dangerous or violent behavior directed at students should be addressed.

Viscardi voiced his concern that some organizations are being unfairly accused of hazing.

Last year, the Chain Gang was put on probation by the dean of students, after members

Fraternity remembers lost brother

The Delta Tau Delta fraternity held a memorial service last night for one of its members killed when a porch above him collapsed at a Chicago party last June.

Sam Farmer, 21, was remembered as someone who brought joy to those around him and lived life to the fullest. Farmer was a sophomore who had returned home after taking a precession class.

“I have a lot of great memories about Sam. It's hard to think about, but when I do I have those memories,” said Josh Michael, a communications junior. “Sam touched a lot of people.”

Members gathered in the main hall of the fraternity house and took turns talking about Farmer, sharing stories and sentiments about what he meant to them. They each blow out a small candle when they were finished speaking.

“For those that didn’t know him, no words can describe him. For those that knew him, no words are needed,” said Delta Tau Delta President Jamie MacGeorge.

The accident that killed Farmer also killed 11 others and injured more than 57 more. Partiers were gathered on the porch where the keg was located when the structure above them collapsed, crushing them.

Many of Farmer’s fraternity brothers remembered him as someone who loved to make people laugh.

“I can’t think of Sam without thinking about the Elvis costume he wore to every date dash,” said Steve Holick, a political science junior. Jeff Pavlak, a friend of Farmer’s who came to the UA from the same Chicago high school, described Farmer as someone who stuck by his friends and helped them out if they had a problem.

“He went out of his way for me as a See MEMORIAL/7