

One of their eight goals is to promote "Inclusivity and Growing Diversity." This committee "shows a future commitment of the Greek system," Chung says, "to increase awareness of these issues."

As for the present, Chung believes that racism and elitism

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slipped out of the Greek system many years ago, but minority groups feel excluded because they have not been actively approached to join a historically white organization. "I think the onus lies on the Greek system to actively recruit people from

*"Wahoo-wah! Wahoo-wah!"
chants from the porch.*

different backgrounds. They are welcome, we just need to extend our hands. Hopefully the community will accept that."

The lack of response shown towards events such as the MOSAIC panel and even *Main Street's* questions makes one wonder if anyone, in reality, is going to "extend their hands" to the community.

In preparation for MOSAIC's "Race and the Greek System"

panel/discussion, Karen Tani '02, a MOSAIC executive member, sent an e-mail to the individual programming chairs of all the Greek houses concerning the event. She followed up with another email to the house presidents, and to the house accounts themselves. Tani wrote in her first message, "We are looking for Greek-affiliated students that have strong opinions on or relating to this topic to participate on a panel." There was little response from the Greek community. Most of the panelists were already friends of MOSAIC executives, and became involved through personal connections. One house did request more information, but none offered to help plan, coordinate, or contribute. The absence of some houses was so

obvious that one impassioned student went home that night and sent an e-mail to these houses, scolding them for their apparent apathy towards an issue that should be of concern to their organization.

The apathy is all the more troubling in its coupling with ignorance. One white, affiliated girl in a video interview conducted by MOSAIC stated, "We're not actively excluding

anyone, so I don't see what the problem is." Overt exclusion is illegal and easy to pin down. The greater problem is that numerous Greek houses have insidious traditions that keep that feeling of sameness in their houses. "Wahoo-wah! Wahoo-wah" chants from the porch. Indians on the back of the jackets. Ghetto party. Luau party. Indifference to conversation and education. Some would argue that none of the above were ever intended to offend — that's not the point. They DO offend, they do make others feel small, unwelcome and without a home. When we begin to understand that we DON'T understand where everyone comes from, that the world is bigger and more diverse than we might know, a feeling of home will begin to trickle back into Hanover. Until then, the voices of diversity and pluralism will find the concrete walls of Greek house basements too thick, and the comfort of sameness too overwhelmingly secure, to be heard.

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