

Trust

Facilitator Guide

Program Information	
Content Area(s)	Beta lore, establishing deep relationships
Core Value (s)	Trust
Length of Program	120 minutes
Recommended time to hold program	Third full meeting of program
Recommended Facilitators	Recommended advisors that would be good sources of support are brotherhood/VP advisor, education, and chapter counselor.

Logistics		
Room Set-Up	Classroom OR Circle of chairs	
Audio Visual Needed	Laptop, A/V, Screen, Projector	
Collateral Materials	Participant Handouts	None
	Video	YES
Supplies Needed	Deck of cards	

Session Notes
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. In the section on conformity, make sure to distinguish conformity from unity. They might get the impression being on the same page is a bad thing, which is not at all true. However, they can be true to individual beliefs but also be unified in efforts.2. Relate this session to vulnerability from last week. Make sure to hit on that they can be themselves around each other, they can do that outside of Beta as well and not conform to campus norms.

Facilitator Reminders
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. If you feel uncomfortable with any of the activities, consult with an advisor or your leadership consultant for tips on how to best facilitate them

Session Outline

5 mins	Announcements
	This is an opportunity for you to make any pertinent announcements for the week.

5 mins	Review of Post Work
	<p><i>This will vary based on the local program.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quick review of last meeting • What questions or thoughts do you have from the readings? • Who knows what it “being a brother’s keeper” means from Chapter 1? How does this relate back to Beta’s values?

10 mins	LORE: Beta Spirit
CUSTOM	<p><i>Facilitator Note: This could be an opportunity to infuse some local history about your chapter or another piece of Beta lore that you like.</i></p>
	<p><i>Have new members/pledges read “The Beta Spirit.” The purpose of reading this is to gain an understanding of Beta Theta Pi’s culture. Over the years, the fraternity may have changed its’ language, practices and even structure of chapters, but the internal spirit that makes a Beta a Beta is consistent.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are your initial reactions to the reading? • What words or phrases stick out to you? Why? • What do you think he means by, “future will copy fair our past”? • How does ‘The Beta Spirit’ relate to what we are doing here? <p>THE BETA SPIRIT</p> <p>From The Handbook of Beta Theta Pi 1906:</p> <p>Men are not apt, in this age, to give public expression to their feelings, and it is, therefore, difficult to find many public utterances concerning the fraternity, and none are known to us that have been given expression, other than the frank, outspoken opinion of the speaker at the moment. In the quoted extracts which follow there are expression of opinion from men in all walks in life, but chiefly from those whose prominence gives their tittered expressions weight.</p>

	<p>We find nowhere any statement of the value of the fraternity made for the sake of influencing opinion. Our record does not need it. At the convention of 1890 Willis O. Robb, long an ardent worker for the fraternity felicitously phrased its deeper meaning as follows:</p> <p>Brethren of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity, the fraternal relation that is to some of us so dear a present joy, to others so hallowed a memory, is to all of us something more than we are wont to think it. It consists not in forms or rites, in organization, or hodings of laws; these are mere machinery. Nor does its chief glory lie even in the several friendships it produces and shelters, dear as these are, unrivalled as they must always be in freshness and in youthful ardor. Behind and beneath both these aspects lies its more essential character, its capacity of culture. Its richest gifts are not friends, but the desire, the power and the habit of making friends. These constitute the real "fraternity spirit."</p> <p>The same speaker, fifteen years afterward when he had broadened his experience expressed his riper judgment in the following happy phrase:</p> <p>Again, the Beta is distinguishable and distinguished from all other kinds of fraternity men whatsoever by just a little warmer and stronger, just a little tenderer and more enduring fraternity feeling than any of them can attain to. For it was always so. I do not in the least know how it happened, nor why it persisted after it happened, but a long time ago there came into Beta Theta Pi a fraternity spirit that was, and is, and apparently will continue to be, unique. We know it, who are inside, and they see and record it who are outside the Beta pale. Whether young or old, in college or out, from the small school or the great university, we are conscious of a heritage of genuine fraternalism that has not been vouchsafed in like measure — I say it deliberately — to any other of the great college fraternities. And we cannot doubt that in this, as in other respects, our "future will copy fair our past." and that in the world of fifty years from now, as in that of years ago, — as in that that lies around us to-day — the first mark of a Beta will be his Beta spirit.</p>
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15 mins	Individuals within a Group
	<p>We're going to spend today talking about Beta's third core value of Trust.</p> <p>It is said, that in order to lead, one must first learn to follow. If we were to draw a parallel between that idea of leadership and trust, we would arrive at the idea that in order to trust</p>

	<p>others, we must first learn to trust ourselves. Trust is integral to any relationship – whether it be with friends, family, colleagues, etc. Why do you think we would start out talking about Trust as opposed to Mutual Assistance or Intellectual Growth?</p> <p>Can I get someone to define trust in the context of Beta in their own words?</p> <p><i>Share definition after responses: Betas develop absolute faith and confidence in one another by being true to themselves and to others.</i></p> <p>We're going to start out tonight looking at this concept of trust from a different perspective: being an individual within a group.</p>
VIDEO	<p>We are starting with a video that illuminates the idea behind how Betas value diversity and understand the importance of individuals having different characteristics.</p> <p><i>Facilitator play video: http://www.wimp.com/six-strangers-chat-in-a-dark-room-when-the-lights-turn-on-they-cant-believe-their-eyes/</i></p> <p>What are your initial reactions to that clip?</p> <p>In the video, we see total strangers make judgements about each other based on their preconceived notions of appearance and how certain people should look. In fraternities, we see people trying to conform to the popular idea of a 'fratstar' with the clothing they wear, language they use, etc.</p> <p>How does this video inform us in regards to appearances and importance of retaining individuality within our fraternity?</p> <p>Many people answer the questions, "Who do you want to be?" with the simple answer of "myself." And that's exactly who we want you to be too; the best version of YOU that you can possibly be. Fraternities were not intended to make you into someone you do not wish to be; they are here to strengthen who you already are and give you brothers who will push you to become that person.</p> <p>What do you think about that? How does this tie into the idea of trust?</p> <p>In order to be true to ourselves, we must trust ourselves. When we trust in ourselves, we bring a whole new perspective to the table which naturally makes our brotherhood stronger. Together, collectively, we make up Beta and the more and more you look at the picture you realize that they are made up of individual moments and experiences. You can think of that as the individual members. We are all connected in that we serve different functions and needs in an organization.</p>

	In order for us not to conform and encourage everyone to be themselves we need to be willing to ask ourselves and our brothers to be honest and to, more importantly, be ourselves. Truly ourselves. Sound good?
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25 mins	All the Cards in the Deck
	<p>This next activity is called “All the Cards in the Deck.” I want you all to take a card and pass it along in the next person. There is no value associated with different cards in this activity so you cannot have a “better card” than someone else. Also, no need to keep your card secret, as that is not a part of the activity as well.</p> <p><i>Facilitator will pass around a standard 52-card deck to the group and have them select a card at random.</i></p> <p>Alright, now that all the cards are passed out, I want you to get in a group with all the people who share your same number (kings with kings, eights with eights, etc.) <i>If you have less than 52, combine groups to give everyone 4-5 people.</i></p> <p>Now that we have our groups, we’re going to share several things with our partners. I’ll ask you a couple questions in this current group, and then we will rotate:</p> <p><i>*Facilitator can prepare by putting these questions up on screen or on a white/chalk board.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was your house like growing up? (Number/type of rooms, specific smells, individuals that came and went, etc.) • What did you do growing up that got you in trouble? • What was a school day like for you when you were younger? (Getting ready in the morning, who was in your classes, what did you learn – like/dislike, what was after school like) <p><i>At the halfway point, have them switch groups. Tell the men to organize themselves into four/five card “straights”. IE: Ace-four of diamonds, five-nine of diamonds, ten-king of diamonds.</i></p> <p>We’re going to take a minute to get up and switch groups! At this point, I need you all to create a ‘straight’ with the corresponding cards. The groups will be ace through four, five through nine, and ten through King, all of the same suits. Then we can jump into the rest of our questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What did you want to do when you when you were younger? • When do you feel that you became an adult?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe a typical family dinner. (What kind of foods, who was there, who did the cooking, what did you all talk about?) <p>Awesome, thanks for sharing! Let's get a few volunteers to relay out about the following thoughts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What was something that was said that represented you as well? What was something that was different from your experience? Was there anything said that surprised you? <p>As we discussed the video clip earlier, we come from diverse backgrounds and experiences. There is no stereotypical member of Beta Theta Pi, as there is a wide-variety of attributes that make us who we are. Just how there are 52-cards in a deck, there are (insert number) of us that make up this chapter. The deck would be deemed useless when missing a card, and we are not as effective if we are missing a member or opinion in the room. Beta is a place to celebrate those differences and not try to hide your identity behind who you think you are expected to be. Just as we talked about being vulnerable with each other and comfortable with who we are last week, this is another opportunity for us to truly be ourselves.</p>
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10 mins	<p>LORE: John Hanna Gray</p>
	<p><i>The purpose of this lore story is to convey the high level of brotherhood and trust the chapter had in one another in order to act in the way that they did. Ask the questions below and facilitate in a way to lead them to that outcome. Also highlight the fact that his father had such trust in the men for their character that without knowing them, he still wanted to be a part of the group.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have new members read the story of John Hanna Gray out loud in a 'popcorn style.' (One person reads a few sentences – a paragraph, then someone else starts, etc.) What are your initial reactions to the reading? What words or phrases stick out to you? Why? How does the story of John Hanna Gray relate to the core value of trust? <p>THE STORY OF JOHN HANNA GRAY</p> <p>Hanover College is a modest private school near Madison, Indiana. From a quiet promontory the campus overlooks the Ohio River and beyond to Kentucky. Founded in 1853, Iota Chapter existed sub rosa, like most fraternities at the time. Membership in Beta Theta Pi was cause for expulsion from college.</p> <p>On June 12, 1856, John Hanna Gray, <i>Hanover 1856</i>, then a sophomore, died and was buried in the college campus cemetery. The Betas erected a marble monument at his grave. To</p>

	<p>the surprise of the college, the monument contained a facsimile of the chapter seal and a motto in Greek, which disclosed Beta's existence at Hanover.</p> <p>The action so angered some students that they attempted to desecrate the monument. The Betas formed teams and guarded the monument around the clock for an entire month. Three times the monument was knocked over; and three times, re-erected. Ultimately, the Beta tombstone was kept intact, and this man-size pylon still graces the Hanover cemetery today.</p> <p>When Gray's father, Daniel L. Gray, a Presbyterian clergyman, arrived from Mississippi, he was so touched by the Betas' respect for his son that he, too, wished to belong to Beta Theta Pi. As a result, he was initiated by the Betas, number 21 on the Hanover roll, joining his son, John Hanna Gray, number 13.</p>
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30/100	Knee to Knee
CUSTOM	<p><i>Facilitator Note: This activity can be swapped out for something different, but it should still rely on vulnerability and sharing stories beyond surface-level things. However, Knee to Knee has been done by countless chapters and is an incredibly effective and powerful activity!</i></p> <p><i>Another alternative could be something where one person at a time answers a few questions about their life/childhood/whatever you choose. The questions can be increasingly more complex, but the important thing to hit is debriefing the activity. We want them to realize how much more they have to learn about their brothers. An example of this is 'Personal Histories' located at www.agilecafe.org/vulnerability-shame</i></p>
	<p><i>Set up two rows of chairs facing each other, so that participants will be "knee to knee."</i></p> <p><i>The facilitator needs to set the tone from the very beginning:</i></p> <p>Now we are going to shift the focus to developing our brotherhood and the personal ties we share with each other. Remember that to have a strong brotherhood, we need to continue to build relationships by telling stories. In this next activity, I ask that you each approach the questions with reflection so your brothers in this room can continue to learn your own personal story. I'm going to ask that everyone here commit himself to being honest and vulnerable.</p> <p><i>Now the facilitator shares his answers to the following questions. It is vital that this part be tailored to their personal stories. Equally important is that they remain authentic with the new members/pledges when sharing their Beta story.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General personal insecurities and fears • Fears in joining Beta or other organization • What makes you happy in life

	<p><i>Now the facilitator should walk around the room, asking the following questions. After 3-5 minutes, direct one line to move down so that they are “knee to knee” with someone new, and ask the next question.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were your fears about joining Beta? • What are your fears in life? • What is one thing you love about your life right now? • What is something you want to change about your life right now? • What makes you the happiest? <p><i>*Keep an eye on time. If the new members/pledges are enjoying the activity and want to keep going, feel free to add a couple questions of your own.</i></p>
	<p>Discussion:</p> <p><i>This is a full group discussion.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did anything surprise you? • What did you learn about yourself through the activity? • What did you learn about your new brothers through the activity? • Has what you learned affected how you can relate and communicate to others? And how does that make you feel? • Any closing thoughts?

15 mins	Song Practice
	<p><i>Teach the following songs (others can be added):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gemma Nostra • Parting Song

5 mins	Post Work (will vary based on chapter)
	<p>Your Post Work for tonight’s meeting will be emailed to you later this evening. Please take some time to consider the important questions we ask of you in this post work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of the Stars <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 4 – Idea Becomes a Concept for the Ages, 1850-1900 ○ Chapter 5 – The Glory Years 1900-1950 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How are the stories of John Hanna Gray and Joel Allan Battle similar? What precedent have these supreme acts of brotherhood set for all future Betas? ▪ What examples of true “Beta Spirit” have you seen manifested in the members of your chapter? ▪ In what ways was Beta Theta Pi a good steward for community service in 1900-1950 ○ Chapter 8 – Evolution of a Structure for the Ages