How to Find the Right Group for You!

Being a member of a student organization enriches your years at Cal State East Bay in many ways. Student organizations give you opportunities to explore new interests, develop skills, enhance your academic program, and have an impact on the University community. With over 80 organizations on campus, you may wonder how to find the best group for you.

WHAT’S IMPORTANT TO ME?
Ask yourself some of these questions:

• What am I looking for in an organization?
• Do I primarily want fellowship and to make new friends?
• Do I want to work on something I believe in?
• Do I want to explore something new?
• Should I be in a group that relates to my major or career choice?
• Do I want a real break from my academics?
• Shall I continue an interest from high school?
• Do I want to be of service to the campus or community?
• Do I want to help make things happen?
• How much time do I have for an organization?
• Are there financial considerations?

WHAT KIND OF GROUPS ARE THERE?
There are many organizations in each of the following categories:

- Academic
- Cultural
- Recreational
- Religious
- Special Interest
- Greek

SO NOW HOW DO I TAKE THE PLUNGE?
First of all, remember that most organizations are far more interested about recruiting you than you may be about joining them. They really do want new members and are eager to answer your questions and explain their activities and purposes.

Most groups have general meetings at the throughout the quarter. These are open to any interested student. You’re under no obligation to join if you attend; it’s simply a chance to get more information. It you miss a general meeting or find out about a group during the year, call a contact person and ask when the is the next meeting. If meeting times and programs are posted, you can always assume you’re welcome.

Of course, some organizations, such as honoraries, fraternities and sororities, have selected memberships, so be sure to find out the particulars in those cases.

Once you’ve joined an organization, don’t just sit back and wait for something to happen. Introduce yourself to people, ask questions, express ideas, and be sure to volunteer your time and energy. You won’t feel like a real member of a group until you’re a contributing member.