March 12, 2020

Greetings from Fraternity and Sorority Life,

As you know, in an effort to minimize the health and safety risks related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, FAU has recently moved to remote academic instruction until at least March 30th and has instructed students to not return to campus for at least two weeks following Spring Break. Our office has evaluated how this decision impacts our department, governing councils, chapters and individual members, and has decided to take the following immediate steps:

The following Fraternity & Sorority Life Signature Programs have been cancelled, postponed or remain tentative:

- **SOAE Presentations** (scheduled for March 16 - 19): cancelled - applications will be continue to be reviewed by the judges and award winners will be based on the quality of written materials that were submitted
- **SOAE Awards Reception** (April 8): tentative - a decision will be made on or before March 30th
- **Greek Week** (scheduled for March 24 - April 1): effectively canceled; in the spirit of social distancing and discouraging continuation of non-essential gatherings, this was the most appropriate decision that could be made about Greek Week at this time. The Greek Week Executive Board may still host some virtual components of or alternatives to originally scheduled programming. Alternatively, if in-person classes resume after March 30th, the Greek Week Executive Board may look at restructuring and/or rescheduling some events for mid to late April if possible.
  - The JC Penny Suit Up event and Festival of Nations has been canceled, and the flag football tournament, Greek Games, Service Day, Education Night, and Greeks Got Talent are all canceled (or may be rescheduled).
  - If there is more information to share about possible Greek Week activity, even virtually, it will be communicated to you from Alexis.
- **Presidents Roundtable** (April 6): tentative - a decision will be made on or before March 30th

Our governing councils are taking the following measures regarding their meetings and operations:

- **General Meetings**: At the council’s discretion, general meetings may be held virtually or by paper agenda until at least March 30th so that essential business can be conducted. Officers and chapter delegates are asked to continually check e-mail and make arrangements to participate virtually if and when needed so that general operations can be maintained.
- **Executive Board Meetings**: At the council’s discretion, executive board meetings may be held virtually or by paper agenda until at least March 30th. Officers are asked to continually check e-mail and make arrangements to participate virtually if and when needed so that general operations can be maintained.
- **Programs**: Any programs planned through March 30th have been canceled (except for the Sunshine State Classic Step Show scheduled for March 28th) or postponed. Programs planned for after March 30th remain tentative.
- **Sunshine State Classic Step Show** (scheduled for March 28): tentative - a decision will be made on or before March 23rd to either continue with the event, postpone to a later date, or cancel entirely.
In regards to individual chapters,

- **Chapter and Executive Board Meetings**: Face-to-face meetings (on or off-campus) are canceled through March 30th. At the chapter’s discretion, meetings may be held virtually or by paper agenda in the meantime. Meetings scheduled for after March 30th remain tentative.
  - Chapter leadership should confer with their advisor and/or national office on what is essential vs. non-essential in order to determine how to proceed.
  - Chapter leadership should provide instruction to members on making arrangements to participate virtually if needed.

- **New Member Education and Initiations**: While any face-to-face meetings (one or off-campus) are canceled through March 30th, chapters who wish to continue new member education and/or conduct initiation should first consult with their advisor and/or national office about how to proceed to determine if anything can be conducted online or if rituals can be delayed or minimally attended, being cognizant of the fact that some members may choose to go home and how that might impact programming. We will work with all organizations should delays need to occur.
  - Chapters must communicate with Fraternity & Sorority Life staff if they are continuing with New Member Education and/or conducting initiation ceremonies (which must be held off-campus) on or before March 30th, and should limit the number of members attending wherever possible. Additionally, they are encouraged to prepare their members now about what to expect and have contingency plans regarding hygiene, attendance and deadlines. Should a chapter choose to host any in-person gathering, they must adhere to the guidelines provided by FAU (https://www.fau.edu/coronavirus/), particularly in regards to members that have recently traveled, and employ general/common preparatory measures provided by the CDC (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html).

- **New Member Presentations**: Presentations planned prior to March 30th will be canceled and/or postponed. Presentations scheduled for after March 30th remain tentative.
  - Chapters should confer with their respective national office about their options and what each might mean for the members, being cognizant of the fact that some members may choose to go home and how that might impact programming.

- **Programs and Events** (hosted by the chapter but open to non-members, such as weeks, philanthropy events, educational programs, social/formals, etc.): Programs and events (on or off-campus) scheduled for prior to March 30th are canceled. Anything scheduled for after March 30th remains tentative but chapters are encouraged to look at their upcoming programs and events and create contingency plans. Consider expected attendance numbers and determine if the program or event is essential or non-essential and decide whether to conduct virtually if possible, what could be postponed and what could be canceled.

The University is not closed. University offices remain open and staff will be available to support chapter leaders and members with questions and concerns that may arise. Please contact us by phone or email and do not come to the office unless instructed. As the situation evolves, please continuously monitor your email for updates. We appreciate your understanding, flexibility and cooperation as we navigate how to continue operating, even minimally, during this time.

Thank you, Fraternity & Sorority Life
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