



## COVID-19 Update

Brothers, Advisors, and Volunteers –

Since we last messaged you on March 11, we have seen an increase in the number of campuses who have moved to online class formats, extended spring break, or taken other measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. As of writing this, 100% of Sigma Pi chapters and colonies are affected by these disruptions in campus life.

First, we continue to implore all members to adhere to [necessary precautions identified by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) and to maintain regular contact with your educational institution as it relates to any precautionary measures or policies they are considering. Of equal importance is staying apprised of your local government for any additional measures they may be putting in place.

During this time, I find myself reflecting on the topic of disruption. Disruption is a constant in business and life, and how we handle it will define us as humans and leaders. Currently, as we are all aware, we are in a global disruption of an unprecedented nature. This is creating panic and fear, and is impacting the way of life we have grown accustomed to. However, business and life are still moving, but in a different manner, which in many cases is virtual.

From a leadership position, it is important to use this time to assess the situation, develop an appropriate plan and take the necessary action now, to not just focus on today, but to prepare for the future, when this is behind us. As an example, here at the Executive Office, we too have had to rethink our business model to overcome this disruption:

- We have moved all of our employees to working remotel
- During this time, staff will be available for phone and/or virtual consultation and will be available to provide advice on moving your new member program online
- We have suspended all non-essential business travel until April 4th, and will reassess this as more information becomes available
- Currently, we have postponed the opening of Convocation registration until April 1

Third, we should each remember our Mission “to inspire, promote and support the lifelong development of our brothers.” This is a trying time for everyone, and staying focused as leaders is imperative. At Sigma Pi, we do not tolerate profiling against those who are perceived to carry COVID-19. As stated before, we should embrace this global pandemic as an opportunity to foster community and compassion to those around us.

Lastly, 170 new members still need to complete the required pledge steps. They cannot be submitted on an initiation report until these have been completed. Members who are not properly reported are not covered under the Sigma Pi insurance program including the Membership Accidental Protection Program. It is imperative that these members are properly reported as soon as possible to ensure coverage.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to our Executive Office staff. Be safe, wash your hands, and follow the guidelines set forth by the CDC to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Fraternally,

Jonathan M. Frost (UMSL '99)  
Executive Director/CEO

[To Stay Up To Date With Further Information Visit Here](#)

## Additional Information

### COVID-19 Information

Please review the landing page regarding the COVID-19 pandemic from the Executive Office and review helpful resources online at [sigmapi.org/covid19](https://sigmapi.org/covid19).

### Virtual Graduation Ceremony

The final semester of a man's college year is to be one to spend celebrating, taking a lighter course load, and thinking about where he has come from, and where his future will take him. Due to COVID-19, hundreds of our brothers will not have this experience in the manner as thousands before him has. This year, rather than enjoying the last vestige of the college social experience, he has to practice social distancing. To this end, we encourage you to hold a virtual version of the Graduation Ceremony found in The Manual of Ceremonies. To set up a time with the Chairman of Ritual Committee or one of the committee members, please message [ritual@sigmapi.org](mailto:ritual@sigmapi.org).

### Master of Ritual

Have you considered signing up for the Master of Ritual Program. This program exists to enlighten our Brotherhood with a heightened understanding and appreciation for the secrets and mysteries to which every Sigma Pi holds sacred. To get started today, please visit the [Master of Ritual page](#) on our website.

### NIC Webinar

The North American Interfraternity Conference will be hosting a webinar on Monday, March 23 and Tuesday, March 24 for IFC and Colony officers on successfully navigating remote community operations and supporting your team and the fraternity community. Registration is now available online by [clicking here](#).

### CharityHowTo Webinar

CharityHowTo is hosting free webinars on the topic: Coronavirus Pandemic and What You Need to Know About Postponing and Cancelling Events. Our office suggests you connect with local counsel to void any contracts signed by your colony in order to collect a refund of any monies or resources spent. More information can be found by [clicking here](#).

### Frequently Asked Questions

With the ever changing atmosphere, please reference the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section on the website landing page to answer all your questions on how to continue chapter operations, as well as an outline of housing corporation practices that can aid you during this difficult time.

Need to update your membership contact information? [Click here](#) and fill out the simple form.

Please be aware that if you choose to click the Opt Out button below, you are opting out of receiving all similar communications from the Fraternity on any topic.

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