

March 13, 2020

Fraternity and Sorority Operations

Happy Friday. Thank you to those who have been asking questions and seeking clarification on what your chapters and colonies can and cannot do. Following SGA's lead, I have been evaluating everything and seeking guidance as appropriate. Please keep in mind that things change quickly and we want to make sure that we are not putting anyone at risk. Follow the recommendations of the CDC – wash your hands frequently, cough into your elbow, stay home if you are sick and embrace the new normal of “social distancing.”

Below are the guidelines that will be in place until further notice:

Be sure to read all the following information thoroughly to the end.

- Greek Presidents Council meeting on Tuesday, March 31 has been canceled.
- New member education/orientation sessions may continue but only if held virtually, via Skype or some other electronic method (similar to distance learning) and if this has been approved by the National organization (or Board of Directors for Nu Sigma Chi)
 - Proof of approval needs to be provided to Sandra.wohlleber@cortland.edu, Associate Director for Campus Activities and Greek Affairs
- Initiation of new members
 - College supports any chapter/colony wishing to do this before Spring Break
 - SDT and Nu Sig completed initiation last evening, don't think others will
 - Last date that this would be possible is Friday, March 13, 2020 as campus buildings will be locked for the weekend
 - College does not intend to extend its initiation deadline of April 9, 2020
 - Chapters/colonies are welcome to hold initiation off campus if that is possible and if it can be done following National, New York State, and CDC guidelines
 - Social distancing is a key component – at least 6 feet between people
 - Chapters/colonies are welcome to hold initiation virtually if allowed by their National (again, proof would need to be provided)
 - Chapters are welcome to wait until classes resume in the Fall and hold initiation then
- Presidential one-on-one meetings are canceled for the week of March 23 – 27 as students should be on an extended two-week Spring Break.
 - Presidents are required to electronically send me a completed President's Report
 - Impacted chapters/colonies are: Alpha Phi Omega, Nu Sigma Chi, Theta Chi, Sigma Delta Tau, Mu Sigma Upsilon, Kappa Alpha Psi, Lambda Upsilon Lambda, Sigma Iota Alpha, Omega Phi Beta, Sigma Lambda Upsilon, and Alpha Phi Delta
 - I would also require one from Phi Iota Alpha due to our inability to re-schedule the missed meeting from this past week
- Presidential one-on-one meetings for the weeks of March 30 - April 3 and April 6 - 10 can resume if presidents have returned to campus, to Cortland
 - Presidents are expected to communicate their plans with me once known
 - Option does exist to hold these meetings via telephone (I don't how to skype yet)
 - Impacted chapters/colonies are: All 18
- Presidential one-on-one meetings are intended to resume beginning on April 13th

- Chapter meetings that involve less than 100 people and are scheduled to take place on campus after March 30th may continue as planned. Follow your National guidelines and recommendations as many are requiring chapters to meet virtually.
 - If your meeting would involve between 50 and 99 people please consider holding virtual meetings instead
 - For all meetings, make sure that people are spacing themselves out around the room.
- Chapter meetings that involve more than 100 people and are scheduled to take place on campus after March 30th may not continue as planned. Again, follow your National guidelines and recommendations as many are requiring chapters to meet virtually.
 - Our rooms are not set up to allow the appropriate social distancing that would ensure everyone's well-being.
- Greek Multicultural, Interfraternity, and Panhellenic Council meetings
 - Cancelled for the week of March 23 – 27
 - Optional for the weeks of March 30 – April 3 and April 6 – 10
 - You should talk about this via your respective group chats and let the council advisor(s) know what is decided
 - Anticipated to resume beginning the week of April 13th with this being subject to change
- All campus events, including Greek events, are cancelled until after April 13, 2020. I will work with groups to reschedule events if so desired. No events will be allowed to have more than 100 attendees or have any off-campus attendees for the remainder of the semester. This means no alumnae or members of chapters from other schools can be present. If the situation improves, this may change but plan for current restrictions to continue until the end of the semester. The following types of Greek events fall under this category:
 - All new member presentations
 - All informationals
 - All scheduled workshops, programs, events
 - A listing of impacted items will be generated by chapter/colony and distributed next week.
- Spring Bliss is included as an event that cannot happen when scheduled even though it is taking place off campus. Why? It was scheduled to take place on March 29th and students may not yet have returned to Cortland. More importantly due to the health risk of the guest who typically attend this event – both the young and the grandparents.
- Previously scheduled large off-campus fundraisers – Strongly suggested that chapters contact the venues with whom they are contracted. The final decision on whether or not to hold the event is up to each chapter. Again, please keep in mind the well-being of all expected to be in attendance and follow the guidelines provided by your National. Events impacted are:
 - Delta Phi Epsilon's 65 Roses on April 4, 2020 at Greek Peak
 - Alpha Phi's Red Dress Gala on April 18, 2020 at the Sky Armory in Syracuse
 - Sigma Delta Tau's Dine to Donate on April 25, 2020 at Greek Peak
- Fundraising options
 - Dining-to-donate fundraisers may take place if approved by the College
 - Virtual/electronic/on-line fundraisers may take place if approved by the College

I know you have put a lot of work into pulling together your chapter events and activities. None of us expected a pandemic. We are truly sorry that your well-laid plans have been interrupted. Thank you all for your patience and cooperation during this stressful process; please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.