

AKA IN THE SIDE A



**VIRTUAL
CONCLAVE**

**SEPTEMBER &
AUGUST 2020**

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Brothers,

I don't think there is a person in the world that can give us the slightest predication of what the short term future holds. The lack of foresight can cause fear. Will our current reality of a pandemic subside in the near future? Will colleges that chose to open this fall remain open? Will Fraternity men figure out how to be a Fraternity when they can't be in person with each other? Will new men want an experience, like the one AKL offers, despite the changes our organization (and every other Fraternity) has been forced to make?

My hope is yes to these questions. I believe that there is a significant loss in development for students not on campus. It is my hope they will continue to open and remain open when prudent. Knowing that won't always be the reality I hope our members can demonstrate that Fraternity has a value outside of social events and the other face to face activities which are restricted due to the pandemic. I hope men starting their experiences on campus see AKL's value and want to be in AKL. These hopes can be realities if we don't let fear dominate our expectations.

The concept of "you can accomplish anything you set your mind to" isn't simply a nifty phrase. It is a reality that is already being proven on some of our campuses as we start the fall semester. As I write this our return numbers are where we expected them to be. Recruitment is going well for the chapter's putting the effort into it. Even chapters that are completely virtual this semester are recruiting successfully. This "can do" attitude is what we will need in the near future to make sure AKL continues to flourish.

I wish our undergraduates a great start to the fall academic semester. Know that the National Fraternity has your back and will support you in whatever ways we can.



Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. D. Slivinski".

Jeremy Slivinski,
Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda, Executive Director



WHO WE ARE

InsideAKL is a monthly, educational publication by the Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda, for undergraduates and alumni. Brothers and friends are encouraged to submit news, articles and photographs of chapter events, philanthropy and service projects, as well as other notable achievements. Correspondence can be submitted using the link below.

[Online Event/Article Submission Form](#)

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Statistics

Active Chapters & Colonies: 30+

Undergraduates: 1,000+

Alumni: 26,000+

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National Conclave 2020

Sponsored by Zoom, Powered by Brotherhood

Pivot: the word of 2020. When the summer months of 2020 changed from finalizing and executing an in-person National Conclave to redesigning a never done by AKL before virtual model, all brothers involved had to be quick to adapt.

The first AKL Virtual Conclave would not have been the success it was without the work and dedication from the National Executive Council. This year, Brother and National President Richard Cruz, Kappa '64, led the online meeting and gave a passionate opening speech. This year, Rich passed the torch, transitioning to one of AKL's beloved Past National Presidents.

InsideAKL sat down with Rich to look back at his time as National President since his installation at the 2018 National Conclave and looking forward to the future of our fraternity.

Since you took office as National President in 2018 much has changed. What are your thoughts on the changes and challenges that

AKL faces as we move forward?

"First of all, thank you for the opportunity to comment. This is a time of dramatic transformation for our fraternity. AKL is now faced with changes and challenges that are unprecedented in our 106 year history. The Covid-19 pandemic, the economic downturn as a result of the pandemic, and the social unrest associated with the Black Lives Matter movement have greatly affected the way AKL will do business as it moves forward."

"Now that colleges and universities are beginning to welcome students to campus, the college environment has greatly changed. Some schools are going to all virtual learning and some are going to a hybrid of both virtual and in-person classes. What we don't know yet, is what will be the status of our chapters. Will our undergraduate brothers be returning to school? If a school is all virtual, will they remain at home or transfer to another school? Will the schools allow fraternities to open, and if they do, will there be limits



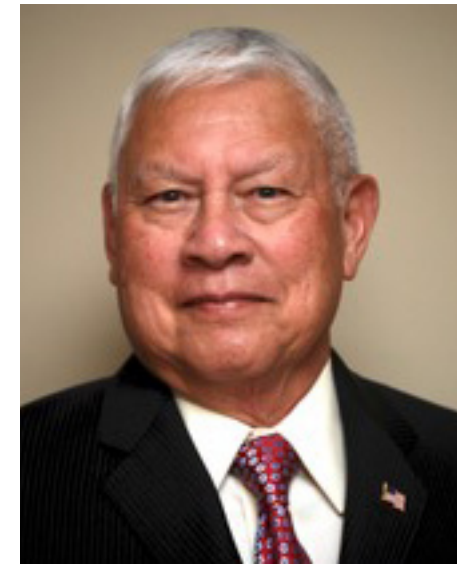
(Right) Past National President COL Richard Thomas Cruz, USA(Ret.)

on the number of undergraduates?"

"With the downturn in the economy, can students and their families be able to afford to return to school?"

"And, we don't know the impact yet of the social changes that are happening in our country. The Black Lives Matter movement, will, rightly or wrongly, look at fraternities as bastions of entitled men with little or no diversity. Even though, I feel that AKL is truly a diverse organization, we will be lumped in with the fraternity system as a whole."

"In light of all of this, we'll have challenges to keep our current chapters viable. We'll have challenges to have successful recruiting efforts. We'll have challenges with our expansion efforts. And we'll have



changes at National Headquarters level to support our undergraduates and chapters at the local level."

As you reflect on your term what do you feel you were able to accomplish?

"Anything that I accomplished during my term in office is a direct result of the input and support of the National Executive Council (NEC) and the National Headquarters staff. This was a team effort and any credit for accomplishments should include them as well."

"The COVID-19 pandemic severely degraded our efforts in this area."

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NATIONAL CONCLAVE CONTINUED

Facing the prospect of a new financial norm as a result of shortfall in membership, closing of campuses, and increased fees required at the national level, AKL has done some cost cutting. And in light of this, Jeremy Slivinski and his staff have continued to provide the highest level of support to all concerned."

"With the elimination of pledging, we've established an online learning program experience that is robust and educational. It is gratifying to know that our 'no-pledging' decision is working. We also opted not to raise the dues and fees. There are some penalties and incentives associated with the dues and fees, but overall the dues and fees remain the same."

"I had the honor to recharter three chapters: Mu Chapter at the Ohio State University; Gamma Gamma Chapter at Rutgers University; and Alpha Omicron Chapter at the University of Colorado. Along with the rechartering of these chapters, I had the privilege to conduct Ritual ceremonies which

initiated new brothers from these universities into AKL. It was truly a memorable experience."

"There were good days and bad days, but we have persevered, and are better for it. I truly wish I could have accomplished more during my term in office, however, AKL is still a strong viable organization. And I believe it will continue to be so as we move forward."

As we transition to Steve Hladik becoming our National President, what advice do you have for him?

"First, I want to congratulate National President Steve Hladik. I'm very grateful to be able to turn over the reigns of leadership to a new president to meet the challenges of the future."

"I don't really have a lot of advice for him. He is a strong leader who will look at all aspects of AKL management from financial to expansions and everything in between. I'm optimistic that under his leadership, AKL will be headed in the right direction."



If you would, please share with us what "Affiliation Kindled for Life" means to you.

"We at AKL are men whose common goals are reflected in our Five Ideals. Our mission now and always has been to develop brothers who are guided by these Ideals and a lifelong commitment to AKL."

"My AKL experience is an integral part of who I am; and has given me fond memories and strong friendships. My membership in AKL is one of those intangibles that gave me the skills and credentials and set me on a path of success. My closest friends are my AKL brothers from Kappa Chapter. But I also have formed friendships with AKL's from around the country as a result of my membership with

the NEC. It is truly gratifying that the friendship and brotherhood that I experienced as a member of AKL is both strong and true."

"Please allow me to thank a few of my AKL brothers. I am very grateful to the following members of the NEC for their support and counsel: Steve Hladik, Geoff Burger, Eric Breese, John Linthicum, Andrew Heaton, Dan Maloney, Hamilton Galloway, Mason Brocksmith, Justin Banks, Past President Don Enstrom, Past President Pat Allen, and Jeremy Slivinski."

"I would also like to thank Pas President Kevin Camden and Past President Bryant Gatrell. All the AKL pas presidents offered timely and helpful advice when called upon."

Continued on next page...

NATIONAL CONCLAVE CONTINUED

"In addition to Jeremy, I would like to thank National Headquarters staff members Jeff Szumanski, Guy Davis, and Trey Nunnally for their support."

"Finally, I would like to thank all the members of AKL, both undergraduates and alumni for allowing me to serve as president. It has been an honor and a privilege."

Thank you Rich for those inspiring words. Also at the 2020 National Conclave, NEC Director Stephen Hladik, Tau '86, was installed as National President of Alpha Kappa Lambda. InsideAKL spoke with Steve about his time as a member and what he is looking forward to.

What person or event during your time as an undergraduate at Penn State made an impression on you that still resonates today?

"There are many people and events during my undergraduate days that still resonate today. I had the good

fortune to meet alumnus brothers like: Charles Broscius, who ended up serving as Secretary of Agriculture in Pennsylvania; John Reilly, who served as President Judge of Clearfield County and wrote a letter of recommendation for my first job in the Attorney General's Office; and Ed Wilson who has spent decades actively supporting our chapter. These individuals are just a sample of the lengthy list of brothers who taught me the enduring worth of our Five Ideals."

"The one individual who stands out the most is Henry Moon who epitomized "affiliation kindled for life." In quiet service to his fraternity for decades, Henry imparted generations of young men with the values of going the extra mile and helping your brothers without being asked."

"Henry wanted to truly get to know every brother that joined the chapter. He meticulously kept an index card file of every person initiated, and he would ask every new member about their hometown, their parents, their



(Left) National President Stephen Hladik at the 2014 National Conclave & Centennial Celebration.

course of study and what they wanted to do in life. Henry's favorite weekend of the year was Homecoming where he would get the chance to revisit with long-since graduated brothers. Henry had an amazing gift in that he would see an alumnus, instantly recall the words he had written on an index card years before, and then proceed to talk to that alum about his hometown, how his course of study worked out and how the brother was doing on the goals he had articulated years before.

"Nothing gave Henry more satisfaction than seeing the success of brothers as they moved into the real world. Our national award that is presented to an outstanding chapter advisor is so aptly named after Henry."

What was your career path after

graduating from Pennsylvania State University been like?

"I went straight from Penn State to law school upon graduation. Penn State did not have a law school at the time, so I went to a Widener University in Harrisburg. After I graduated, I was appointed a Deputy Attorney General, and worked for the Commonwealth for 6 years, rising to the level of Senior Deputy Attorney General and serving as the attorney in charge of the Harrisburg Office of the Bureau of Consumer Protection. I went into private practice and have been with my current firm for 17 years. I specialize in mortgage and banking law, representing lenders, investors and mortgage servicers."

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Tell us about your family.

"My wife Barbara and I met in law school and we have three children, two of whom are currently at Penn State and one who is at the University of Michigan. I have been involved with the National Fraternity since 1995, so I owe my family an extraordinary amount of thanks for being willing to let me spend so much time over the years at meetings all over the country."

When and where was the first AKL Conclave you attended and what were your impressions?

"My first conclave was in 1987 in Washington, D.C. after my sophomore year. It was truly one of the best events of my collegiate experience. Through getting to know brothers from all over the country, it widely broadened my horizons and I saw how much we all had in common. To make that weekend even better, at the Saturday night banquet, the honoree of one the most prestigious national awards was Henry Moon of our chapter. That experience

created the desire to go back to our chapter and start employing all the things I had learned and to increase my leadership roles. It also sparked the desire to always remain involved after graduating."

2020 Conclave was held in an online format, as we go forward in very different times what is your vision for AKL?

"I have been to every Conclave since 1995, and having a conclave online was certainly a different experience. It was a different experience, but a good one, nonetheless. I was so impressed with the turnout we had, and it was great to see some faces I had not seen in several years."

"The events of 2020, and the growth of virtual meetings and gatherings has an impact on the fraternal experience. My vision for AKL would be that we use these trying times to examine the future of what it means to be a fraternity member and how to make it better. I truly hope that all

of our current undergraduates have the same opportunities to connect with the outstanding alumni that our fraternity boasts. I hope that all of our undergraduates gain the same lifelong benefits of brotherhood that I have been fortunate to witness."

"There's no doubt that these are difficult times, but our fraternity has always endured through hard times. Our fraternity has been a national leader over the years on numerous issues, and now more than ever it is time for us to lead."

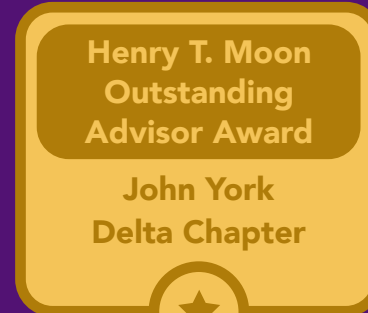
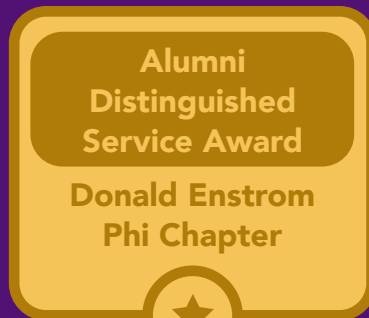
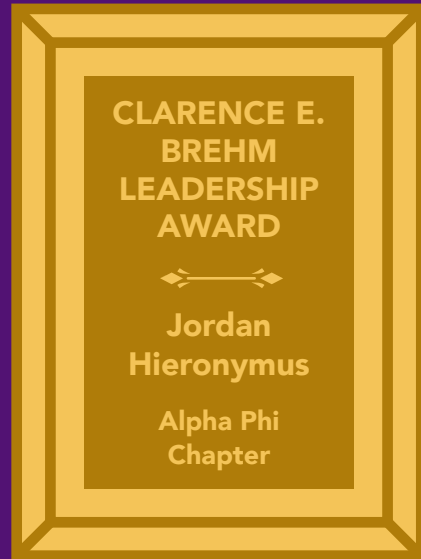
What do you hope to accomplish during your time as National President?

"There are many goals to accomplish. In this difficult environment we need to be innovative in our ability to recruit. We need to ask the difficult question of what it means to be a fraternity member in 2020. We must meet our undergraduate needs to enhance their membership experience and assist them in remaining active members

for life. We need to strategically plan for the future, on issues of recruitment, financial planning, growth, and re-engagement with our alumni. I am truly humbled by the honor of being elected to serve as National President. To stand in the same shoes as Gail Cleland is daunting, but, at the same time, uplifting. I am confident that we can work together and make membership at our chapters a premier collegiate experience and provide a means to enable our members to grow in leadership roles that will better enable them to succeed in the future."

Thank you Steve for sharing your fraternity experience and vision for AKL! Thank you also to all the brothers who attended the 2020 Conclave and made this virtual meeting successful! We look forward to seeing you all in Williamsburg VA for the 2022 & 2024 National Conclaves!

AKA NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS



In Memory of...

Omega Chapter Listing 2020

Brothers and friends, we are assembled to remember those once among us who have received their calling from on high and passed into the eternal Omega Chapter of the Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda.

This is at once a time of sorrow at the loss we have all sustained, and the celebration of the many happy memories we will hold dear forever. The following is the initiation year and name of those who have joined the Omega Chapter since Conclave 2018.

Alpha

Homer M. Fuller, 1932
Donald Edward Koue, 1953
Clark F. Kayler, 1957
Matthew Aaron Truong, 2017

Beta

James S. Ricklefs, 1934
Joseph Hardin Coulombe, 1948
James Robert Wilson, 1956

Gamma

Robert Stuart, 1941
John R. Lindquist, 1942
Dean A. Robb, 1943
Ralph E. Kelly, 1943
Donald Earl Wise, 1944
Floyd W. Windal, 1949

Gamma

John E. Kessler, 1960
James William Davis, 1966
John William Day, 1976
Rogelio Enrique Arredondo, 1999

Delta

Robert J. Evans, 1949
Glen E. Davis, 1950
Lyle Morris Jenkins, 1950
William A. Roberts, 1952
Robert Gene Haigh, 1954
Carl Bernard Kinell, 1959

Zeta

David James Winkworth, 1933
Leslie L. Spengler, 1965

Eta

Dale Laverne Preedy, 1958
Scott Lee Schmidtman, 1972

Theta

Willard Daniel Klinger, 1954

Iota

Karl R. Kramer, 1950
James Allan Curran, 1957
Allen L. Wiechert, 1957

Kappa

Joseph Karl Voelz, 1946
Harry Glen Morrison, 1951
Earl Edward Troeger, 1951
Angelo A. Vitello, 1951
Robert Keith Wolfe, 1952
Ronald Paul DeWalt, 1952
David Austin Halterman, 1956
Donald Dean Washburn, 1964
Roy Howard Joslin, 1970

Lambda

Henry Edgar Grafke, 1953
Marlyn K. Burch, 1956
Robert F. Winter, 1956
Harold Victor Sare, 1957
Richard L. Cooper, 1958
John Edson McKee, 1960
Charles Henry Kessler, 1968

Mu

Gilbert Ellis Raines, 1951

Pi

Robert Edmund Eatock, 1955
Donald Ross Kelly, 1959
Russel D. Wells, 1960
Gary Lawrence Johns, 1968
Daniel Paul Friedrichs, 1973
Robert Charles Kayser, 1989

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Omicron

Marvin Enos Taylor, 1955
Henry R. Corson, 1956
Louis Howard Dearing, 1956
Dale L. Johnson, 1977

Rho

Willard C. Smith, 1970
David Richard Enyart, 1973

Sigma

Gary Wayne Weaver, 1961

Tau

Robert N. Waterstradt, 1957
Michael Dale Connelly, 1959
David Wesley Norton, 1963
Charles D. Smith, 1965
Richard W. Hess, 1966
Aubrey Nease, 1966
Daryl James Kahl, 1972
Matthew Wilson Stanley, 1998
Ian Joseph Stancato, 2004
Peter Vincent Kutyla, 2017

Upsilon

Milton D. Sommers, 1966
Joseph Fritsch, 1968

Phi

Edward Allen Ball, 1958
Eugene Y. Shoji, 1962

Chi

Thomas L. Sivak, 1963

Psi

Stanley E. Jewell, 1970
Daniel Jay Christensen, 1982

Alpha Alpha

Gerald Lee Robertson, 1970

Alpha Beta

William C. Porter, 1963

Alpha Gamma

Robert John Van Veghel, 1973

Alpha Delta

Devon Francis Knoll, 1962
Verlyn J. Leiker, 1962
J. Dale Peier, 1964
Yoshikazu Fukasawa, 1970
Robin Schuerman, 1970
Rodney Gail Wilkening, 1972
Robert C. Wall, 1977

Alpha Iota

James B. Wyburn, 1968

Alpha Kappa

John A. Steger, 1967
Alan William Walerstein, 1967

Alpha Lambda

Michael Patrick Gubbins, 1993

Alpha Nu

Stanley F. Schug, 1969

Alpha Omicron

Carl Wayne Dalrymple, 1967

Alpha Upsilon

Michael Alan Jackson, 1973

Alpha Phi

Gregory Russel Hurn, 1994

Beta Delta

Robert W. Nowakowski, 1986

Beta Theta

Earl Ellis Stewart, 1972

Beta Phi

Joe Louis Fuller Jr., 2006

Gamma Beta

Reed Joshua MacMahon, 2005
Matthew Robert Leone, 2009

Gamma Gamma

Edward Lewis Dow, 2006

Gamma Epsilon

Raheem Anthony Bhatti, 2000

Gamma Zeta

Garrett Davis Lawson, 2001

Gamma Iota

Nathan William Denryter, 2005

The fraternal tie that binds is a lasting bond; yet, a place once filled among us is now empty; a voice once known to us is now silent; the form we grew to know, and welcome will no longer be seen by us in this life.

Yet, these Brothers are alive in the hearts and the memories of us all and will ever be held dear in the "halls of Alpha Kappa Lambda." It is fitting that reflect upon the transience of life and remember those who have come and gone before us.

For though we can no longer grasp their hands in friendship nor look them in the eye, they are seen and heard with the eyes and ears of faith... the faith that someday we will meet again.



(Left) Alpha Zeta Chapter at Northwest Missouri State University assist with freshman dorm move-in

(Below) Delta Chapter at the University of Kansas add face masks to pin attire in a new normal of formal chapter meeting.



(Above) Beta Tau Chapter at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville practice social distancing on a brotherhood hike.

(Left) Alpha Phi Chapter at the University of Idaho welcomes AKL's newest members! Alethia Kai Logos, gentlemen.



Beta Tau Chapter Brothers at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville took the "Our Cougar Commitment: Community Health and Safety Pledge" and committed to protecting the health and safety of their community members.

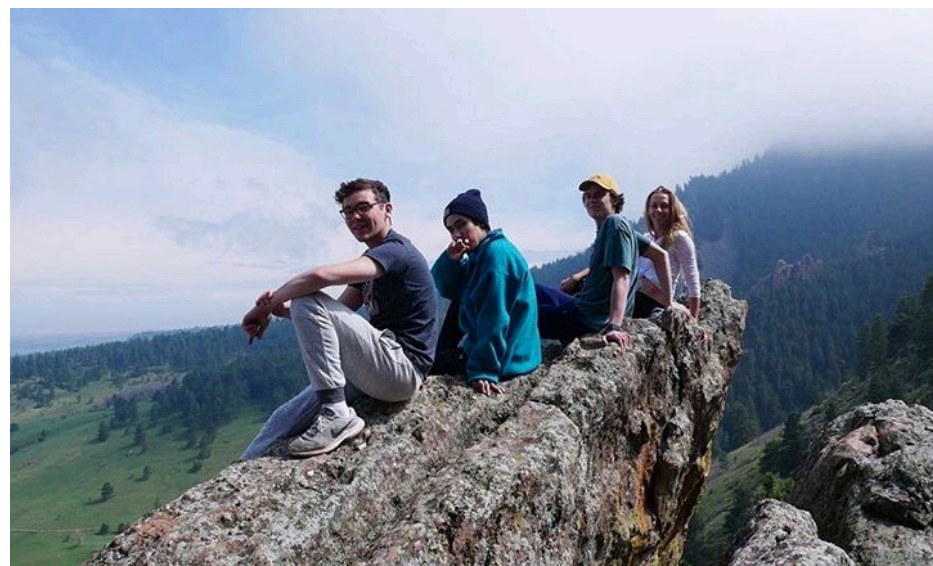
Chapter President Trevor Corey (top left) said "The pledge to myself and the rest of the chapter really just means stepping up as leaders in the campus community. We're making adjustments and trying to take all of the right precautions while following the state's new guidelines in order to continue with recruitment and Greek life as a whole. At the end of the day it comes down to protecting ourselves as well as our community."

Alternative Events

Be Safe. Be Smart. Be Men of Character.

As upcoming chapter events change and adapt to fit today's social climate, we all will need to use a little creativity for chapter operations. Below is a list of alternative events, what new events has your chapter implemented?

- Update Governing Documents: Constitution, Bylaws, Judicial Board Policies
- Update Member Emergency Contacts
- Establish Local/Parent/Alumni Newsletter
- Alumni Outreach/Interviews
- Collect, Organize, Archive Chapter Photos and History
- Updated/Refreshed Social Media Pages (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)
- Schedule/Plan/Create graphics, chapter updates
- Virtual "These Hands Don't Hurt"
- Complete Online Continuous Education
- Develop local online Continuous Education Programs
- SWOT/SOAR Goal Setting
- Plan Social Media Recruitment (posts including "Why AKL?" Five Ideals, motto, history, etc.)
- House Work Day (if applicable, with proper PPE)
- Update Chair/Officer Descriptions, and fill vacant chairs
- Create New Chapter Budget/Forecasting Models
- Create a video highlighting your campus and AKL. These can be useful to show incoming freshman and people interested in joining
- Populate important dates and deadlines in a calendar



Alpha Omicron Chapter at CU Boulder on a brotherhood hike. Take advantage of the nice weather and bring brotherhood outdoors!

- Build relationships with other student organizations, not just Greek Life
- Video Game Name Sharing
- Starting a discord server with brothers or starting a twitch stream so you can watch other brothers play video games
- Movie/TV Watch Party
- Social Media Challenge (exercise, TV shows, books, Why AKL?) "Tag three friends"
- Adopt-A-School: Have members read a children's book and post to YouTube
- At-Home Cooking Competition
- Attend Free Webinars
- Lead virtual discussion/forum on a campus/social issue
- Outdoor socially distanced activities- Bike Riding, Frisbee golf, Cornhole, outdoor exercise, etc.
- Alumni/Parents Zoom Hangout
- Fraternity (Greek) Feud Zoom game show contest
- Collaborate on making music playlists Spotify allows you to make playlists with other people

Covid-19 Planning

Hosting Events During Covid-19

Whether your university is returning to full face-to-face classes or switching to a hybrid or online model, the question remains how will events outside class be held safely? Our insurance partners at Holmes Murphy developed this resource to assist chapters with the changes associated with hosting events. "Events" is a broad term used to include meetings, recruitment/intake, events with alcohol, new member activities, etc. The full article can be found [here](#).

Organizations can help protect members, guests and employees and slow the spread of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). As such, fraternities and sororities can determine, in collaboration with state and local health officials, institutions of higher education and the national/international organization whether and how to implement these considerations while adjusting to meet the unique needs and circumstances of their university and local community. Implementation should be guided by what is feasible, practical, acceptable, and tailored to the needs of each organization.

Before Hosting Events

Be aware of state or local regulatory agency policies related to group gatherings to determine which type of event can be held.

Be aware of university guidelines or policies related to group gatherings to determine if events can be held and which type of events (meetings, socials, philanthropy events, etc.)

Designate an officer to be responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns. All members should know who this person is and how to contact them. Officer should be aware of state and local rules and guidelines, university guidelines and policies and national/international organization rules or guidelines.



Events & Gatherings

- Pursue virtual group events and meetings when possible.
- If hosting an in-person event, limit group size to the extent possible and practice social distancing.
- Consider hosting the event outside.
- Maintain a guest list for any events when outside guests attend.
- Encourage or require attendees to wear masks. Consider providing masks for attendees.
- Ensure soap and hand sanitizer are readily available.
- Consider taking the temperature of attendees before they enter.

Cleaning and Disinfection

- Develop a schedule for increased routine cleaning and disinfection, especially for frequently touched surfaces and communal spaces.
- Ensure safe and correct use and storage of cleaners and disinfectants, including storing products securely. Use products that meet EPA disinfection criteria

Modified Layouts

- Space seating at least 6 feet apart when feasible or host smaller events in larger rooms
- Install physical barriers, such as sneeze guards and partitions, particularly in areas where it is difficult for individuals to remain at least 6 feet apart.
- Provide physical guides, such as tape on floors or sidewalks and signs on walls to ensure that individuals remain at least 6 feet apart.

Communal Spaces

- Close shared spaces such as dining halls, game rooms, exercise rooms, and lounges if possible; otherwise, stagger use and restrict the number of people allowed in at one time to ensure everyone can stay at least 6 feet apart, and clean and disinfect between use.
- Add physical barriers, such as plastic screens, between bathroom sinks and between beds especially when they cannot be at least 6 feet apart.



ALPHA KAPPA LAMBDA



EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda Experience has never been more important than it is today. On college campuses, in small towns, and big cities alike, society needs men committed to the Five Ideals of AKL: Judeo-Christian Principles, Leadership, Scholarship, Loyalty, and Self-Support.

The same issues which affect the world also affect Alpha Kappa Lambda. Our organization can help shape the future leaders of society by providing programming, scholarships, and guidance to our members.

We must bring ideals and values to the leaders we will depend on to make the world a better place – but we need your help!

[Click Here to Donate to the AKL Education Foundation](#)



When you give to the Alpha Kappa Lambda Education Foundation you help educate and empower young men who are committed to making a difference in their communities by learning, embracing and exemplifying AKL character.

All gifts to the Alpha Kappa Lambda Education Foundation are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Create Academic Success



Expand and endow our academic scholarship program. We cannot teach and provide young men with the AKL experience if they can't afford to attend college.

Develop Our Chapters



Instill our values and fortify and strengthen the young men in every chapter across the United States.

Flexibility for the Future



To adjust to whatever challenge may come our way, we must be nimble enough to react to the needs of today's generation and tomorrow's.