



To: All Volunteers, Past National Presidents and Chapter Presidents
From: National Council

Today, National Council, with much sadness, announces that Convention 2021 will be canceled. This decision was not reached lightly or without assessment of the impact on our organization. While we had come to the realization that an in-person event was not possible for 2021, we had hoped we could conduct the essential business of the Convention body virtually.

After consultation with our legal counsel regarding the provisions of our Constitution and Bylaws as well as the laws of the state of New York, where we are incorporated, it became apparent that the right decision was cancellation. While the current emergency orders for New York allow for virtual business and voting, there is no guarantee those orders will remain in effect through June, and our documents allow for nominations from the floor which would present an obstacle in a virtual setting.

With this knowledge, and pursuant to Article VI, Section 2 of our Constitution, National Council voted unanimously to cancel the 2021 convention.

The Convention body will reconvene in 2023 at the Guest House at Graceland in Memphis, Tennessee, as had been planned for this summer. The option of 2022 for Convention was fraught with many unknowns with regards to both operational issues and health and safety concerns. We believe that it is in the organization's best interest to "stay the course" and make plans for 2023.

In accordance with Article III, Section 3 of our Bylaws, "The elected officers shall assume their duties immediately after the close of the Convention at which they have been elected and shall serve until the next Convention and until their successors shall have been elected." Therefore, all Council members' terms will be extended until the conclusion of Convention in June 2023.

While this summer will definitely look different than anticipated, we will be offering robust virtual programming for both our collegians and alumnae. Additionally, as was done last summer, awards will be presented. We will also be charging our Bylaws Revision Committee with ensuring our documents are amended to make virtual business sessions a possibility if needed in the future. Please watch for more information on all of this.

We thank everyone for their dedication and hard work over the last year of unprecedented operations. Thanks to our PHInomental volunteers and staff, Alpha Epsilon Phi has weathered this storm better than we could have anticipated and know we will continue to do so. We are sure you may have many questions, if we do not cover those on the attached FAQs, do not hesitate to reach out and ask.