



## College Panhellenic Operations During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) hosted a series of Google Hangouts March 23-27, 2020, where more than 230 participants brought their ideas and best practices to share with the broader Panhellenic community during this unprecedented time of disruption due to COVID-19. The following is a summary of the ideas, plans and programming options shared by College Panhellenics from across the country during this period. The information has been categorized by the College Panhellenic's purpose bullet points listed in the NPC Manual of Information, 24th Edition.

### **Promote the growth of individual chapters and the sorority community.**

- Assess your College Panhellenic budget, upcoming expenses and current financial situation to determine if prorated dues returned to chapters would be appropriate. If the Panhellenic decides to keep funds due to upcoming costs and expenditures, identify how you can be transparent about funds and the budget to chapters.
- Host recruitment chair roundtables virtually (Zoom, Google Hangouts) to answer some "How will we?" questions.
- Encourage chapters to direct specific, internal questions regarding recruitment and recruitment preparation to their inter/national organization as applicable.
- Utilize Facebook Live and Instagram Q&A to reach prospective students.
- Leverage Facebook parent pages from your college/university to share accurate information and gain exposure.
- Work with your campus admissions office to see how you can get messaging about sorority life and/or recruitment to incoming students and families or caregivers virtually or through the mail.
- Use social media to promote how your Panhellenic is helping to create community and virtual experiences.

### **Organize and sponsor a women's-only membership recruitment program.**

- Host a virtual Panhellenic preview for a "spring preview" or "admitted students" day.
- Use Zoom (and the waiting room/breakout room) feature for recruitment counselor interviews or training.
- Set up recruitment counselor training like a class using your campus' Canvas, Blackboard or other learning management system.
- Be mindful of your own timelines and campus guidance regarding the need to make decisions on any worst-case scenario situations for fall recruitment activities.

### **Encourage the highest possible academic, social and moral standards.**

- Promote how campus academic support is going online (e.g., library, tutoring, supplemental instruction, writing center).
- Transition to "virtual" faculty and advisor appreciation.
- Share tips for academic success from women who already take online courses.

### **Coordinate activities, establish orderly procedures and provide for programming in addition to recruitment.**

- Host a guest speaker series.
- Invite your NPC area advisor to attend your virtual meetings.
- Invite campus departments to present programming for the sorority community virtually.
- Host a virtual yoga or other exercise class.
- Invite your campus career center to record a session to then share out about navigating a job or internship search during a hiring freeze.
- Host a virtual painting or crafting activity.
- Move Greek Week/end activities to a virtual platform (e.g., Instagram trivia, TikTok challenges).
- Host a women's empowerment week online.
- Sponsor mental health programming.
- Create a newsletter for all Panhellenic women featuring sorority alumnae with professional development advice.



**Actively support the mission of its host institution.**

- Create a sense of belonging even through this time of physical distancing. We do not need to be socially distant from one another.
- Help share information regarding campus resources that can help women in your community.

**Promote good public relations.**

- Keep your Panhellenic's social media accounts active and engaging.
- Update/create a Panhellenic website.
- Use #UnfilteredTimesUnfilteredUs hashtag to highlight authentic experiences of sorority women during this time.
- Create YouTube videos or use local YouTube influencers to promote the Panhellenic community.
- Provide weekly tips for mental health, self-care, well-being, etc.
- Share quick workouts for the Panhellenic community.
- Create a handwashing challenge on TikTok.
- Allow members of your Panhellenic community to do a "social media takeover" and share snippets of their day taking classes online and connecting with sisters virtually.
- Create social media posts that encourage engagement from your community.
- Consider how you can share content already being created by chapters, inter/national organizations and your college/university to create personal connections across your Panhellenic community.
- Use hashtags from your college/university to help incoming students find your Panhellenic's posts.

**Give service to the community and campus.**

- Share community service or other volunteer opportunities in your community that can be done while adhering physical distancing practices or orders.
- Participate in school rivalry challenges, if available, to support local efforts.
- Encourage people to download apps that help to foster individual volunteering opportunities.
- Utilize a virtual workshop to create cards that can be shared with retirement communities.
- Volunteer to read to children or tutor them virtually.
- Texas Woman's University created a resource for online volunteering. View their resource [here](#) and see if your own campus has created one.

**Sponsor Junior Panhellenic, if appropriate, for specialized programming efforts.**

- Jr. Panhellenic "pajama party" hour.
- Jr. Panhellenic pen pals or book clubs.

**Promote friendship, harmony and unity among members, chapters, faculty, administrators and campus groups.**

- See how end-of-year awards could be celebrated virtually and how families and caregivers could engage.
- Celebrate graduating seniors using videos or slide decks and share them through social media platforms.
- When school is back in session, host a "welcome back" event for all Panhellenic women.
- Create a Facebook group for all Panhellenic women on campus to get updates and resources.
- Navigate virtual elections, transitions and installation ceremonies if you're electing new officers.
- Create a self-love calendar.
- Pair sorority women up to become pen pals.
- Host a book club.

As your Panhellenic begins to utilize platforms like Zoom, these resources were recommended:

- "[Zoombombing](#)" resource from the University of Southern California.
- [Hosting Troll-Free/Playful/Interactive Virtual Events with Zoom](#) from Alexandra Kutler.

For more how-to information, please refer to our [COVID-19](#) resource website and the Panhellenic operations [update](#).

As your Panhellenic works through business and is faced with questions, as always, please continue to work with your NPC area advisor. If she is unavailable or you need further support, please contact your area advisor coordinator or Panhellenic support specialist at the NPC office. See [map](#) for reference.