



C. Craig Smith
President

George J. Morales
Vice President

Curtis D. Gomulinski
Executive Director

March 14, 2020

COVID-19 Update

Chapter Leaders,

As the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve, this includes updates beyond what I shared on Wednesday. This is being sent to chapter presidents, vice presidents, and chief advisors. Feel free to share this with any other officers who may be interested. We will continue to post regular updates to the [TBP website](#).

We are asking a representative of each chapter to complete a [Google Form](#) with information that will allow HQ to better support your chapter during the next several weeks. I expect it will take 15-20 minutes to complete. While we have some information, this will give us a complete picture of the situation at your campus and any needs you may have. Please complete the survey by Tuesday, March 17. I realize you may have sent an email to HQ or to your DD with some of this information, but appreciate you taking the time to complete this form.

If your school has not cancelled classes or imposed activity restrictions, please continue to operate your chapter as normal.

If your school has cancelled classes, switched to online classes, limited in-person activities, or restricted travel, Tau Beta Pi is recommending the following actions:

1. Adhere to the guidelines in force on your campus.
2. Follow [CDC recommendations](#) to protect yourself.
3. Postpone or cancel any chapter activities that cannot be held or are non-essential.
4. If you have yet to invite candidates to membership, do so electronically.
5. Among the officers, determine the best way to assess candidate character without in-person activities.
6. Utilize virtual meeting tools (WebEx, Zoom, Google Hangouts, etc.) to conduct candidate meetings or interviews.
7. Conduct election meetings using virtual meeting tools.
8. Consider utilizing a new virtual initiation ceremony.

Many chapter officers have asked about resources being made available to support our chapters during this period. Here are some items currently being worked on:

1. **Chapter Meetings:** We are exploring virtual meeting tools for use by chapters. If you already have access to one, use it! If you need something, we will have suggestions next week.
2. **Candidate Elections / Officer Elections / Ratification Ballot Votes:** We are exploring options to facilitate your chapter's ability to conduct business during this situation. Guidance will be provided next week.
3. **Virtual Initiations:** Director of Rituals D'Avignon is working to prepare a virtual initiation ceremony. We are hopeful that this will be available by April 1, if not sooner.

The Tau Beta Pi Association, Inc., Founded 1885

Member of the Association of College Honor Societies
508 Dougherty Engineering Hall, UT, P.O. Box 2697, Knoxville, Tennessee 37901-2697
Tel: (865) 546-4578 Fax: (865) 546-4579 E-Mail: tbp@tbp.org Web: www.tbp.org

While the University of Tennessee-Knoxville (UTK) has switched to online courses, research facilities, labs, and offices remain open. As such, TBP HQ will continue to remain open while the university is open. If this changes, we will let you know.

We realize that all of you are dealing with a great deal of uncertainty, health concerns, and upheaval right now. We appreciate you taking the time to continue your commitment to Tau Beta Pi, and Headquarters will be working overtime to support your efforts.