



SIGMA CHI RESPONSE TO COVID-19 REGARDING SUMMER EVENTS SCHEDULE

May 4, 2020

Brothers,

Summer has traditionally provided an opportunity to facilitate gatherings, celebrations of our brotherhood and to deploy our flagship educational and leadership development programs: the Krach Transformational Leaders Workshop (TLW) and Horizons Huntsman Leadership Summit. As tracking the spread of the global pandemic continues to rightly keep our primary focus on health and safety concerns, causing major disruptions as an extension, Sigma Chi, like other organizations and industries has been forced into the undesirable position of reconsidering what we have enjoyed for so long as our cornerstone traditions.

This past weekend, the Executive Committee (EC) discussed the feasibility of conducting the traditional summer events schedule in light of the disruptions caused by the pandemic. The decisions made by the Executive Committee, listed below, were made after consultation with experts from the fields of epidemiology, higher education, interfraternal and the economy. In addition, the EC received and considered recommendations from the various operating committees who have charge over the planning and execution of our summer educational programs. We are grateful to the leaders and members of those committees — and especially to the board of the Sigma Chi Leadership Institute (SCLI) — for their incredible work.

1. **Grand Council in two sessions:**
 - a. A special session on June 27 for the purpose of electing undergraduate representatives to the Executive Committee for 2020 to 2021.
 - b. Defer the regular Grand Council session to early fall, on a date to be determined.
2. **Horizons Huntsman Leadership Summit — Canceled.**
3. **Krach Transformational Leaders Workshop — Moved to virtual format.**

GRAND COUNCIL - REGULAR SESSION

The regular meeting of the Grand Council, scheduled for June 27, 2020, is being converted to a special session on that date, with other business to be postponed to the early fall; date TBD.

The Teams meetings for the undergraduate representatives, Grand Praetors and Grand Trustees scheduled for separate evenings before the June 27 meeting will proceed as announced. Among other things, this will allow the undergraduate representatives to select their two representatives to the EC for 2020 to 2021.

As Grand Consul, I have interpreted that the Sigma Chi Governing Laws provide the flexibility for this rescheduling. We will be working again within the confines of our Governing Laws to set the timeframe for the rescheduled meeting of the Grand Council. Members of the Grand Council will hear from Executive Director Church as soon as the new date is set by the EC.

GRAND COUNCIL – SPECIAL SESSION

The Governing Laws provide the opportunity to the EC to call a special session of the Grand Council with not less than 30 days' notice. While the regular meeting has been postponed due to concern for the health and safety of individuals who would be required to travel and gather in person, the EC is calling a special session of the Grand Council to take place virtually on the previously scheduled date of June 27, 2020, at 1 p.m. CT. The primary purpose for this meeting will be to facilitate the process for election of the two undergraduate representatives to the Executive Committee for 2020 to 2021. There will, of course, be a few other important items of business conducted and we will need all members of the Grand Council to plan to be present for this meeting so that we may still reach quorum. An agenda for this special session of Grand Council will be distributed to the members of the Grand Council shortly. Both the special session on June 27 and the full meeting to be held in early fall will be conducted electronically.

HORIZONS HUNTSMAN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

The nature of our Horizons program is so tightly wound with an in-person experiential process of discovery and development that the Horizons Operating Board and SCLI jointly felt that a migration of this program to a digital setting would not be conducive to the high-quality learning experience that we all expect of the program. Therefore, the EC has regrettably decided to cancel all summer 2020 sessions of the Horizons Huntsman Leadership Summit. All members who were accepted into the program this year and who will still be eligible next year will be given first priority to attend one of the 2021 sessions. All members accepted to the program who will not be eligible next year will be exclusively invited to participate in a virtual session on leadership, facilitated by some of our best and brightest facilitators. Those accepted to the program will hear directly from our staff and Horizons leaders on next steps.

KRACH TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERS WORKSHOP

Since its first deployment in 1947, Sigma Chi's workshop has been a flagship event for the Fraternity. Only once in our history since its initial deployment has the event not taken place due to extraordinary circumstances. After consulting with the experts noted above, the EC has determined that the risk of bringing together up to 2,000 individuals in August is simply too great of a public health risk and has, therefore, determined that, for just the second time ever, an in-person Krach Transformational Leaders Workshop is not possible. However, with sincere gratitude to the leadership of SCLI and Team Krach, we are pleased to announce that the primary learnings associated with workshop will be able to be delivered in a virtual setting over the course of several weeks later this summer. We are affectionally coining the delivery of this one-time-only, virtual deployment of workshop: vKrach TLW. The process for this workshop is an extraordinary effort of adaptation to unfortunate circumstances, but we are confident that the experience will lend itself to an excellent opportunity for the further development of our brotherhood.

TOWN HALL / Q&A

You are invited to join Fraternity leaders for a Town Hall Q&A session to learn more about the plan for the above events. We will spend a few minutes discussing the rationale for postponing the meeting of the Grand Council and the rationale for canceling the 2020 sessions of Horizons. However, the bulk of the time will be spent reviewing the details and framework for how the workshop will be pivoted to a virtual setting. There will be an opportunity for questions after the presentation. I hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to learn more about this exciting development.

Invitation details are immediately below:

Please register for Sigma Chi Summer Update Town Hall on May 7, 2020 5:30 PM CDT at:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3579331868046917644>

Grand Consul Steve Schuyler joined by Grand Pro Consul Tim Sanderson, Past Grand Consul and Chairman of the Sigma Chi Leadership Institute Mike Greenberg, Past Grand Consul and Chairman of Horizons Dick Hester, Chairman of Team Krach Jeff Twibell, and other leaders of the Fraternity will be hosting a webinar to provide updates on the impact of the Covid-19 crisis on the Fraternity, the status of our summer programs and events, and plans for the future. Attendance will be limited to 1000 attendees so please register and join early on the day of. Recordings of the webinar will be distributed widely following the event.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Brothers — I know you may be disappointed in finding that this is just yet another string of disruptions to the lives that we all want to reclaim. As with everything else, we will get through this. Sigma Chi has prospered for 165 years and, if we all pull together, we will most assuredly prosper for another 165 and beyond. I am grateful to each and every one of you for your leadership and continued commitment to Sigma Chi.

Guard Well,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Steven Schuyler". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steven Schuyler, ARIZONA 1979
71st Grand Consul