



TCU Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life
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Dear fellow Horned Frogs,

The times we find ourselves in today are certainly unprecedented. The COVID-19 Pandemic has forced everyone to adjust their lives accordingly to combat this virus, and our fraternities and sororities are no exception to these adjustments.

On Thursday, July 2nd, the Interfraternity Council chapter presidents gathered and voted to support postponing formal fraternity social events for the Fall semester. Chapter and council leadership that sits on the Interfraternity Council came to this conclusion for two main reasons. First, the health and safety of our IFC community and the greater University population must be a high priority when considering what activities occur. Due to the increase in cases seen among TCU students who are staying in Fort Worth for the summer, the Council decided that having formal social events like ones in semesters past could very well result in a large portion of the TCU community contracting COVID-19. IFC is working to be a key player in stopping the spread of COVID-19 to others, especially those in vulnerable populations at TCU and throughout the Fort Worth community. Second, TCU has stated that the overarching goal for Fall 2020 is to bring students back to campus, have classes in-person, and persist through the proposed final date of the Fall semester, November 24th. As a council, we recognize our position in helping to ensure the academic mission of the University. We do not want a social event to be the cause of a potential University shut down. Another shutdown may have long-term academic and economic implications for the entire University population.

We are consistently communicating with University administration and local health officials to encourage best practices in preventing the spread of the COVID-19 on our campus this semester. Also, chapter leadership will work with their members to ensure that everyone understands their responsibility in minimizing the potential of creating "super spreader" events. We will also be utilizing our standards/conduct process to intervene as appropriate.

Ultimately, it comes down to each individual fully embodying the TCU Mission Statement and being "ethical leaders and responsible citizens in a global community" while following local, state, TCU, and CDC guidelines to help prevent the transmission and spread of COVID-19.

This decision was not taken lightly by the council and chapter leadership. However, we recognize the power of our united voices to set the tone for the Fall semester. We challenge our members to think about what fraternity can and should mean to them, absent of large social events. We encourage our leaders to find ways for creatively engaging our members in meaningful experiences. As a collective, we believe that the heart of fraternity is our ability to take care of our brothers and our community. This mentality is what we are committed to demonstrating throughout the year.

Fraternally,

The TCU Interfraternity Council