

Virtual: Phi Program – Module 2

READY: BEFORE THE MEETING

- Announce:** Communicate with new members regularly and provide the group with enough notice of any meeting.
- Online Learning:** Expect new members to complete the online learning module before participation in the discussion.
- Invite:** Invite the following officers/members to the meeting and provide them with an overview of what they are responsible for:
 - Members of executive board
 - Music/song chairman or a member confident in teaching the Hymn.
- Review:** Review the discussion prompts and personalize how you will contribute to the discussion.
- Connect:** Connect with new member(s) who you have not had a chance to connect with one-on-one.

SET: HOSTING THE MEETING

- Get familiar with the interface.** Select and become familiar with the platform you plan to use for your meeting discussions. Practice setting up and using breakout rooms, screen sharing, and chat functions.
- Set the tone.** The meeting is a facilitated discussion. New members should be prepared to participate in conversation and contribute the same way they would in an in-person meeting or online learning.
- Be prepared and consistent.** We want to model professionalism by being prepared. Sticking to the same agenda and format will create an environment new members can count on.
- Stimulate conversation.** We are suggesting that discussions be formatted to encourage close friendships among the new members. New member classes larger than 20 should have *breakout rooms* where they can communicate and make deep connections in the same group of 8-12 new members. Breakout rooms should be the same week to week whenever possible.
- Monitor participation and discussion.** Throughout the meeting you or a member of your committee should quietly keep a tally (hint: use page 23 of the guidebook) of the number of times each new member contributes or engages with the group. Follow up after the meeting with anyone who seems disengaged or may benefit from some one-on-one time and attention.

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GO: LEADING THE DISCUSSION

WELCOME

ENCOURAGE CASUAL CONVERSATION AS PEOPLE LOG ON

ATTENDANCE – Hint: you can use page 23 in your guidebook

CREED – Reciting The Creed is optional in this format, but you may find that it helps to naturally cut off casual conversation and focus people into the discussion.

DISCUSSION

TRANSITION: We are going to start with our guest presenters today. As you might have guessed we are going to be discussing leadership. Allowing the executive board to introduce themselves and their responsibilities in the chapter seemed like a great way to start this topic.

GUEST PRESENTER: Invite the executive board to present for 5-10 minutes (total) about the basic job functions and responsibilities for each role. Be sure to use terms and language they will understand as new members. Make sure they address:

- *Emphasis on chain of command*
- *Relevant responsibilities.*

** There is no need to go into detail about slating and elections, that will be addressed at a chapter meeting ahead of applications.*

TRANSITION: Thank you! [E-board Logs Off] We count on our executive board to lead our chapter. As a part of online learning you were introduced to the first leaders of our organization, Phi Sigma Sigma's Founders. I want to discuss your first impressions of these women.

1. What role do you think religion played in how women developed friendships in the early 1900s, the time when our Founders began discussing forming a new sorority?

Listen for: civic groups, clubs, organizations, neighborhoods were segregated by race and sometimes religion. Most sororities had roots in religion and excluded others.

2. Why is it important for us as Phi Sigma Sigmas today to understand the commitment our Founders made on November 26, 1913, to be the first nonsectarian sorority?

Listen for: standing for diversity, inclusion, accepting others – important values still today

3. What does our founding as an organization that has been open to diverse membership from its inception have to do with Phi Sigma Sigma today?

Listen for: bias, discrimination, exclusion is still an issue on campuses today

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- 4.** How does knowing about your earliest sisters and our founding impact you? How does it make you feel?

Listen for: responsibility, pride

TRANSITION: I want us to spend a couple of minutes talking about the “Twin Ideals” that were introduced to you.

- 5.** Where do we see examples of “the brotherhood of man and alleviation of the world’s pain,” in our current circumstances?

Listen for: first responders, healthcare providers, individual commitment to stay at home

- 6.** What is the difference between service and philanthropy?

Listen for: service = giving of time and services; philanthropy = giving of money and goods; spreading awareness can be either/both

- 7.** Can I get a couple of people to share with the group some of their community service experiences?

- 8.** Why do you think sororities spend time and energy helping others through service and philanthropy?

Listen for: we have the resources, we are organized, we have privilege and access

- 9.** Taking it a step further – outside of community service and serving those external to our group—what does it mean to serve your sisters in Phi Sigma Sigma? How will Phi Sigma Sigma serve you?

Listen for: building self-esteem, leadership, networking, friends, connection to campus

- 10.** Finally, what do leadership and service have in common?

Listen for: selfless, for the good of others, not paid, makes you feel good

TRANSITION: While you got to hear from our formal leaders in the chapter, leadership occurs at many levels in our organization. One of the most familiar to you are the women that serve as big sisters and mentors.

- 11.** Why is it important to have a role model or mentor when you are learning about something new? In what ways are big sisters supposed to serve you?

Listen for: have someone to answer questions, talk to, support you, sit next to you

TRANSITION: Before we wrap up – it is important that we share the Phi Sigma Sigma Hymn with you. Singing is a part of sorority whether during recruitment, a ritual or special event. Liebestraum written by Paula Berman and Sylvia Robinson of the Zeta Chapter at the University of California, Los Angeles is the Hymn of Phi Sigma Sigma and is sung at chapter meetings and Fraternity events.

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INSTRUCTIONS: Lead or invite someone from the chapter to lead the new members through the lyrics line-by-line. Sing it once all the way through for them and 2-3 times together.

*We love you so, Phi Sigma Sigma,
Cherished Fraternity,
Our love will grow, Phi Sigma Sigma,
Until eternity.
Your Sphinx head proud and true,
Binds us all to you,
Where e'er we go, Phi Sigma Sigma
First in our hearts you'll be.*

WRAP UP

Thank you for participating.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming events, reminders and encouragement. Remember to always include times, links, attire and a breakdown of what that event is.