



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ALPHA CHI OMEGA CHAPTER AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY CLOSES

INDIANAPOLIS, December 17, 2020 – With great sadness, Alpha Chi Omega announces the closure of the Zeta Iota chapter at Stanford University, effective December 14, 2020 following a unanimous vote of the National Council to withdraw the chapter charter. The decision came after a series of challenges facing the chapter, and ultimately the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated restrictions placed on recruitment by the university set the chapter on a course from which it could not recover.

Since the chapter's reestablishment in 2017, Alpha Chi Omega provided the chapter with substantial assistance, both on-site and remotely, and made a significant commitment to assist with growth efforts, support the chapter financially, and conduct regular meetings with chapter leadership and advisors. Over the past year, the chapter has taken steps toward improvement, but regrettably the chapter had fallen to a size that was no longer viable, making it very challenging for members to maintain the chapter without feeling overwhelmed or burned out. We appreciate the dedication and effort the members, advisors and additional volunteers have invested in the chapter and our sisterhood. Current collegiate members in good standing have been granted alumnae status, effective immediately, retaining lifetime membership in Alpha Chi Omega.

Despite the Fraternity's best efforts, continued operations could not be sustained on this campus. "I want to emphasize that while this might feel like failure, the National Council does not view it this way. There are multiple obstacles that made success a harder road for the chapter," said Alpha Chi Omega National President Lynne Herndon. "Ultimately, we felt the Zeta Iota chapter was not reflective of the type of experience we wish to provide our collegiate members. We value the sisters of Zeta Iota and hope they continue their lifelong Real. Strong. Women.® Experience as alumnae."

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ABOUT ALPHA CHI OMEGA

Founded more than 135 years ago on the campus of DePauw University, Alpha Chi Omega has been a leader in redefining what it means to be a sorority. Through strength in sisterhood and a commitment to the values we share, generations of real, strong Alpha Chi Omega women have become leaders who effect change on our campuses, in our communities and around the world. Visit alphachiomega.org to learn more.