

November 10, 2020

Dear FSL Community,

We take sincere pause to remind our entire community that we are in the midst of a staggering pandemic and surge of active COVID-19 cases, across the globe and here at home in our neighborhoods. The United States passed the sobering total of 10 million infections on Monday, and Illinois state health officials again reported more than 10,000 new cases, while our seven-day positively rate increased to 11.4%. This is serious, and we must address it as such.

Since August 31, UIC FSL has maintained that organizations will <u>not host socials/mixers at any time in our current Phase</u>, and with our <u>Chancellor's update September 4</u>, we have communicated a limit of 10 persons in all gatherings. We have not changed from this position in FSL, and we are reinforcing our adherence to these critical public health standards.

On October 30, our campus positivity rate markedly increased, citing overwhelming cases from household transmission and social gatherings. Please continue to follow the guidelines implored in these data-driven messages and all updates from <u>UIC's Response to COVID-19</u>.

If you are contacted by university officials on the COVID-19 <u>Contact Tracing team</u>, we expect you to cooperatively follow all directives in their communication regarding <u>testing</u> and quarantine.

FSL and student organization events will not cease entirely, though we must caution everyone to find sensible and mission-centered reasons to host any event -- for example, a socially-distant beach cleanup, volunteer hours at a food pantry under site supervision, or a nature hike with members staggered in open air. Anytime you are near someone else, with the absolute limit of 10 persons in any gathering, be certain you wear a mask, wash your hands, take your temperature, and maintain six or more feet of distance.

Thank you for demonstrating servant leadership together, so we can keep our community healthy and #ShowYouCare.

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Sincerely,

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