

# ALPHA OMICRON PI

## Fraternity

Alpha Omicron Pi  
International Headquarters

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*Dear Alpha Omicron Pi Parents,*

On behalf of Alpha Omicron Pi's Executive Board, I wanted to reach out to you in the spirit of empathy and compassion. We are living in difficult and uncertain times. This uncertainty presents challenges that can become overwhelming for college students and create anxiety about the future. We know it also presents challenges for you as parents.

Like you, we are heartbroken for our graduating seniors, who will not be able to celebrate the traditional rites of passage they have worked so hard to achieve. We are disappointed for our members who are missing opportunities for professional internships, to study abroad, and to participate in summer programs. We are worried about our members who are now facing financial uncertainty and must make decisions about their own paths in higher education. We are also mourning alongside our members who are experiencing illness and loss in their own families and among their friends.

We want you to know that your daughter is important to us, and to her AOII chapter sisters. The silver lining of this pandemic has been to see how our members have connected in new and innovative ways during this time of social distancing. They have remained engaged, creating connections and relying on one another for strength and support. They have built a network of friends that will extend beyond this pandemic and beyond their college years, just as our founders intended.

Personally, I am the parent of two high school students. We have braved these last weeks and months sheltering in place, distance learning, and celebrating milestone moments at home. We have laughed and cried. We have had hard conversations about our future – how our plans have changed and how they will likely change again. Vacations canceled. Events postponed. Life as we know it reimaged.

Despite all of this, I know one thing. Our sisterhood isn't canceled. Our sisterhood isn't postponed. **Our sisterhood is NOW.** Thank you for sharing your daughter with us. Please be encouraged to know that we are working to support her and her AOII sisters during this global pandemic. We will continue to do so until we can all be together again. We look forward to the day that we can safely welcome all of our sisters back to their home away from home.

Until then, stay safe and be well.

*Crystal Grafton Combs*  
International President

