

EPSILON GAMMA IOTA, INC.

National Social and Service Organization



June 13, 2020

Greetings Framily!

I hope all are in good spirits and taking time for themselves and their families as we navigate new terrain and redefine how we live socially, professionally, and personally. As you all know the National Advisory Board (NAB) started our planning for this year's National Convention to be held on July 24th -27th in Atlanta, GA. Unfortunately, due to the global pandemic taking place we have decided to postpone convention for one calendar year. The new proposed date for our National Convention is July 22-25, 2021. This date is **tentative** and may change based on the outcomes of the pandemic and city, state, and national response. **What does all of this mean for you?**

VIRTUAL NATIONAL MEETING

In lieu of our bi-annual national convention we will be hosting a virtual national meeting on **July 25, 2020 from 11am – 3pm**. The meeting will be hosted using Zoom. Registration information and an itinerary will be posted on our website www.eci1984.org in the coming week. Our convening will allow us to focus on the business of our beloved organization in three key areas:

State of Epsilon Address: Will focus on the current membership and financial standing of the organization. NAB will report on the progress of milestones established during the 2018-2020 term and announce new programs and projects underway.

Interim National Elections: While we will not be able to hold an in-person meeting, we will still have national elections to fill vacancies on the board. NAB positions that are currently filled will remain filled by their incumbent unless challenged. Vacant positions will be open for election and appointment. A full list of vacant and current positions will be announced with registration information in the coming week. The focus of the election will be to fill positions needed to complete outstanding milestones.

General Body Meeting: As the world changes and social and professional ways of life change, so must we. Our current constitution and bylaws need a refresh and update. During the General Body Meeting will discuss and vote on changes to our national constitution and bylaws. Additionally, our National Director will announce our Five-Year Strategic Initiatives Plan.

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FAQs

These announcements may prompt additional questions and suggestions. Here are a few answers to questions you may have.

Are we having two National Convention in a row?

No, we are not. The Virtual National Meeting will allow us to handle organization business that cannot wait until we are able to meet in person. The proposed date for convention in 2021 is a suggestion. In the off years (years we do not have convention) we used to have an organization retreat. We will vote as a national organization on whether we will have a retreat in 2021 or host a full convention which would change our bi-annual national convention from even years to odd years.

Why are elections happening if it is only for one year?

Due to the current pandemic we do not know what the final decisions on travel, school, and professional setting will be. This has a great impact on how we operate our organization. Additionally, the decision to host a national convention in 2021 will be determined at our Virtual National Meeting. If the organization decides to host a convention in 2021, we have national elections at that time. If the organization votes against a national convention, members elected at the Virtual National Meeting will remain in their roles until our next national convention in 2022. Lastly, we know that there are several ways to handle the uncertainty and election process. We have chosen this as an option.

If I am interested in running for a position how will communicate my platform to the organization?

Each member who submits nomination form for an elected position will be able to share their platform using the share screen feature in Zoom. Additionally, the Zoom platform allows participants to upload documents into the meeting chat. If a member wants to share their platform with the membership in document format, they will be able to do using this feature.

What if I want to submit changes to the National Constitution and Bylaws to be voted upon by the membership?

A link to the organization's National Constitution and Bylaws will be available within a week along with the Virtual National Meeting registration information for your review. Additionally, we will provide you with a link to submit National Constitution and Bylaw amendments. The membership will be provided a list of the proposed amendments the

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day of the Virtual National Meeting. When it is time to vote on amendments, your name will be called, and you will be able to propose your amendment to the organization for vote. The NAB has created a Constitution Review Committee as a part of the National Director's Five-Year Strategic Initiatives Plan. We encourage you to join the committee if you are interested in proposing changes.

Respectfully,

John Nicklos II, **National Director**

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