

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## REGARDING THE 2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR AND BSA OPERATIONS

**Q: I FEEL A BIT HESITANT ABOUT JOINING AN ORGANIZATION GIVEN THE UNCERTAINTY WITH COVID-19 AND EFFECTS**

A: THAT IS A VALID CONCERN! WE TAKE VERY SERIOUSLY THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF OUR MEMBERSHIP. YOUR 2020-2021 BSA OFFICERS HAVE BEEN WORKING DILIGENTLY TO PLAN FOR EVERY POSSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT BSA CAN EFFECTIVELY FULFILL ITS MISSION WHILE KEEPING MEMBERS SAFE. WHETHER YOU ARE A VIRTUAL OR ON-CAMPUS MEMBER OF BSA, REST ASSURED THAT YOU WILL BE ENGAGED AND PROFESSIONALLY DEVELOPED THROUGH THIS UNCERTAIN TIME. REMEMBER, BUILDING YOUR RESUME AND PORTFOLIO FOR PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL OR YOUR POST-TAMU PLANS CANNOT STOP BECAUSE OF COVID-19. WE MUST ADAPT AND CONQUER!

**Q: BSA IS A LARGE ORGANIZATION. WHAT SPECIFIC STEPS ARE BEING PLANNED TO ENSURE MY SAFETY IF ATTENDING MEETINGS IN-PERSON?**

A: HERE ARE SPECIFIC EXAMPLES:

- ALL BSA MEETINGS AND EVENTS WILL REQUIRE A FACE COVERING UPON ENTRY TO THE VENI COMPLEX. **BSA WILL BE PROVIDING CUSTOM-MADE BSA DESIGNED FACE MASKS TO ALL ITS MEMBERS AT THE FIRST GENERAL MEETING**
- ALL MEETINGS WILL BE STREAMED THROUGH ZOOM AND FACEBOOK LIVE IF MEMBERS ARE UNCOMFORTABLE MEETING IN PERSON
- ALL FOOD FOR IN-PERSON MEETINGS WILL BE CATERED
- BSA IS FORTUNATE TO HOST ITS MEETINGS IN THE NEW VET MED COMPLEX, WHICH HAS VERY LARGE, SPACIOUS LECTURE HALLS. MEMBERS WILL BE SOCIALLY-DISTANCED THROUGHOUT 8 LARGE LECTURE CLASSROOMS AND SPEAKERS WILL TRANSITION BETWEEN THE ROOMS TO MINIMIZE GROUP MOVEMENT AND DISRUPTION. LECTURE HALLS WILL BE DISINFECTED BEFORE AND AFTER MEETINGS. (REMEMBER, THERE ARE ONLY 2 GENERAL MEETINGS AND 3 BRANCH MEETINGS EACH SEMESTER-LASTING ONLY 1 HOUR)
- A HEAVY EMPHASIS WILL BE PLACED ON THE SMALL GROUP "SQUADS" (15 MEMBERS MAX) SYSTEM TO KEEP MEMBERS ENGAGED AND INFORMED. EACH SQUAD WILL HAVE A GROUPME LED BY AN OFFICER OR UPPERCLASSMAN MENTOR. THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN A HALLMARK OF BSA AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE IMPORTANT TO PROVIDE FAMILY ATMOSPHERE, MENTORSHIP, AND OUTREACH

**Q: WHAT IF TAMU IS FORCED TO MOVE BACK TO ALL-VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION, DUE TO COVID-19?**

A: WE ARE PLANNING FOR THAT POSSIBILITY AND YOU CAN BE SURE THAT MEETINGS WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY AND YOUR MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS WILL STILL BE ABLE TO BE FULFILLED IN AN ALL-VIRTUAL SETTING. NOTHING WILL STOP BSA FROM ITS PASSION, WHICH IS TO DEVELOP ITS MEMBERS FOR SUCCESSFUL PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL OR GRADUATE SCHOOL ENTRY.

**Q: WHEN IS THE DEADLINE TO JOIN BSA?**

A: WHILE WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO JOIN NOW SO THAT WE CAN GET YOU PLACED IN A SQUAD AND PLACED IN THE COMMUNICATION STREAM PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF CLASSES ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, THE PRIORITY DEADLINE TO JOIN BSA FOR FALL 2020 WILL BE SEPTEMBER 1, 2020.