Theta Iota Chapter- Sigma Nu
2015 Sanctions

Investigator: Amanda Newman Samsel, Coordinator Judicial Affairs & Mediation Services

The Theta Iota Chapter of Sigma Nu has been found responsible for violating MTSU’s Student Code of Conduct, specifically Threatening or Disruptive Conduct, Hazing, Disorderly Conduct, Alcoholic Beverages, Failure to Cooperate with Institutional Officials, Violation of Imposed Disciplinary Sanctions, Drugs, Unauthorized Surveillance, Smoking Violations, Aiding & Abetting the Commission of Offenses, and Unacceptable Conduct in Disciplinary Proceedings. In addition, individual members are also being charged with rule violations.

Sigma Nu Fraternity’s national board of directors also found sufficient evidence to substantiate violations of Sigma Nu Fraternity’s risk management policy and standards of conduct. The national Fraternity will be implementing the following sanctions:

Suspension of the Chapter’s Charter. This closure of the chapter requires that members of the Theta Iota Chapter cease from operating as a chapter and prohibits members from conducting business as a chapter. Sigma Nu will work with the MTSU Interfraternity Council once it is time to return to campus. The fraternity is eligible to begin the process of returning to campus during the Fall 2018 semester for a Spring 2019 re-colonization.

Reclassification to Disciplinary Alumni Status. Current collegiate members will be placed on disciplinary alumni status with the Fraternity, as outlined in the closure notification letter from Fred Dobry, Director of Risk Reduction for Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc. Current collegiate members may face individual disciplinary charges, under the Fraternity’s member discipline procedures. No current collegiate member may be involved in the re-colonization of the chapter.

MTSU Sanctions

SUSPENSION- Effective immediately, the Theta Iota Chapter of Sigma Nu is suspended until the Spring 2019 semester. This suspension includes non-recognition by the University and prohibition from participation in any student organization activities. The University will not recognize Sigma Nu as an organization on its campus while suspended. Any future violations by the organization will be evaluated within the context and may result in addition sanctions being issued, such as a longer suspension or even expulsion. Individual violations will be treated separately and will not constitute additional sanctioning for the organization. The Office of Judicial Affairs & Mediation Services will determine whether an incident constitutes a group violation or an individual violation.

Beginning in fall 2018, Sigma Nu’s National Organization, Alumni, and any interested students may apply for reinstatement to recolonize the chapter for the spring 2019 semester. No current collegiate members from the Chapter may be part of returning to campus. Reinstatement must be approved by
the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life, specifically IFC, the Office of Judicial Affairs & Mediation Services, the Dean of Students, and the Vice President of Student Affairs.

Furthermore, as stated in MTSU Policy III:01:01 Student Organizations policy, no student organization which has been suspended or its registration withdrawn will be reinstated or registered with the university unless the following criteria have been met:

1. The student organization has complied with all conditions and requirements imposed by this policy and the disciplinary decision that resulted in the organization’s suspension or withdrawal of registration;
2. The student organization has remedied the violation that led to the suspension or withdrawal of registration and put a written plan in place, which has been approved by the Vice President for Student Affairs, to prevent the reoccurrence of the event that led to the suspension or withdrawal of registration; and
3. The student organization and any individuals or entities affiliated with the student organization, including but not limited to national organizations, housing corporations, or other entities acting in concert with or on behalf of a student organization, have satisfied all outstanding financial obligations to the University.

PROBATION PERIOD- If reinstated, whether it be in the Spring of 2019 or at a later date, Sigma Nu will return on Operational Probation, equivalent to “Colony” status in Sigma Nu terminology. Operational Probation is a serious encumbrance upon the chapter’s good standing with the University, but does not include any type of social restriction. The Chapter will be allowed to host social events and participate in mixers, intramurals, tailgating, homecoming, and all other normal activities of a recognized student organization. The probation is in place to ensure the Chapter does not violate any student rules once it returns. It is also a period of time where the organization will be closely monitored to ensure compliance and works towards achievement of Sigma Nu Fraternity’s chartering criteria. It is expected that an advisor or a National representative will be consistently and meticulously working with the group during this time. Lifting of the probationary status will not be considered until one full semester after returning to campus. The Chapter must be in full compliance with the sanctions issued by their National Office and MTSU in order for the probation to be lifted. Additionally, if Theta Iota violates MTSU’s Student Code of Conduct while on probation they may face permanent expulsion from the University.

EDUCATIONAL SANCTION- A comprehensive new member education plan that outlines in full detail what activities will take place with each subsequent new member class is required once Sigma Nu returns to MTSU’s campus. The Chapter must adhere to this plan and may not participate in any activities not listed. The plan must be pre-approved by Fraternity & Sorority Life, the National Fraternity, and then finally approved by Judicial Affairs and Mediation Services. The plan must be submitted before the Chapter is approved to begin their new member process. Theta Iota may not stray from this plan, unless approval is given from both the National Fraternity and F & S Life.

Additional judicial action: MTSU reserves the right to pursue additional action against the chapter if additional policy violations are reported or uncovered.

Sigma Nu, Theta Iota Chapter President

MTSU Judicial Affairs Coordinator