



Wednesday, January 13, 2020

**Student Engagement Forum
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Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.” - Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dear Student Organization Leaders,

I hope you were able to spend some quality time resting and reflecting over Winter Break. I also hope that you and your family are doing OK. I know this is a lot for most of us, including the choices you have had to make this academic year. I can only imagine what it must feel like to be a college student right now. The OSE staff continue to listen to your stories, and hear your resilience and hope as we connect with you.

I continue to operate from a framework of gratitude, compassion, patience, care and grace. We must continue to listen to each other. We learn, we make mistakes and we move on. It is so much harder to do our work virtually. I sincerely miss seeing your 3D selves.

We continue to be in a state of change which I believe makes communication and authenticity all the more important. My goal is to provide you with email updates and opportunities to connect via virtual platforms regarding our work in support of our student organizations.

Student Engagement Forum

You are invited to connect with members from the OSE team, including from the Fraternity and Sorority Life team, on:

This Friday, January, 15
Time: 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. PST
Location: [Zoom link](#)

We will be there to connect and answer questions around student organizations and engagement. We will hold space for whatever you feel comfortable discussing with us. Join us whenever you can. Breakout rooms and large group discussions will be available, should you want it.

Depending on your interest, we will add more times in the near future. I know many of you are exhausted by virtual rooms, so I want to respect your time, and your eyes.

Winter Student Activities and Resource Fair

Please join us virtually at the Student Activities and Resource Fair on the Campus Groups Platform. Over Wednesday, January 27-Friday, January 29, you will be able to recruit members, share more about your organization, form connections, join new organizations, and meet a variety of offices that provide a plethora of resources. I was pleased to hear that over 50 offices at Stanford have signed for our resource fair. These fairs are not just for frosh, but for all undergraduate and graduate students. It's never too late to get engaged with a student organization or to learn about a Stanford resource. I also encourage you to stop by each other's booths, while one of your members is managing your space. For more information check it out [here](#).

Campus Groups Update

We are in the final contract negotiation stage for securing our agreement with Campus Groups - our new, one stop shop, digital platform for all student organization management.

We will roll out a plan for you in my upcoming communication. If you would like to be part of our beta testing group contact Trista Shideler at tshidele@stanford.edu. Once we have some organizations up and running, we will scale the on-boarding over Winter and Spring Quarters.

Policies Feedback

As I mentioned in my [end of the quarter message](#), we are committed to "having policies, processes and practices that are better informed by equity, inclusion and justice for all students." In the Autumn quarter, Assistant Dean's Ankita Rakhe, Inclusion, Community and Integrative Learning, and Amanda Rodriguez, Office of Student Engagement, conducted an analysis of the Office of Student Engagements [48 current policies](#), using a social justice [framework](#). If you would like to be part of a focus group or to provide written feedback please sign up [here](#).

Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

I hope that you will join our campus in celebrating the work and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The event will include a tribute to Dr. Clayborne Carson. More information can be found [here](#).

On behalf of everyone in the Office of Student Engagement we look forward to working with you to support your organization and to chart an exciting new path forward for our office, as we hit reset on a number of things and strengthen student engagement. All to say, students matter to me. We will move through this together.

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