The Crux

January 2022: Consider Disability in the Return to Campus (Article)

**Read:** In Return to Campuses, Students with Disabilities Fear They're Being 'Left Behind'

## What it's about:

As universities have welcomed students back to full in-person instruction, students with disabilities have seen their needs overlooked. This has academic and social implications for these students. The article shows how the solutions to the problems that these students are facing can be found by listening and having a willingness to adapt based on those conversations.

## Why it's important:

1 in 8 university students has a disability -- many of which are invisible in a first-impression. From hardness of hearing to visual impairment and neurological conditions, disability means a broad spectrum of frustrating difficulties in a world where ability is often assumed. These issues aren't just for university-administrations and faculties to consider. Fraternities must also be exposed to the unique challenges that come with accommodating a variously-abled student population.

## Reflect and discuss:

- 1. What was a challenge faced by a student in the article that you hadn't been aware of previously?
- 2. What barriers to membership or participation may exist for people with disabilities in relation to your chapter's activities and normal operations?
- 3. What realistic steps could you take as a chapter to be more inclusive and considerate of how disabilities impact some students at your school?

## Want to learn more?

Read: <u>A summary of the progress made</u> in the 31 years since the Americans with Disabilities Act was passed

Read: A repository of stories and resources giving awareness to people with physical, learning, speech, emotional, and medical differences

The ADA National Network <u>provides guidance and training</u> on how implement the Americans with Disabilities Act https://adata.org/