

ALPHA OMICRON PI

Accreditation Report

2007-2008

Scholarship

- Alpha Omicron Pi was ranked third among sororities in fall 2007 with a chapter GPA of 3.344. This accomplishment placed them above the All Sorority, All Women's, All Undergraduate, and All Greek GPA's. The chapter's spring GPA was fourth among sororities with a 3.294 GPA, which was also above all of the metrics.
- The new members of Alpha Omicron Pi obtained an average GPA of 3.085 in the spring 2008 semester.
- The chapter had 29% of its members on the Dean's List in the fall 2007 semester, and 26% on the Dean's List in spring 2008.
- The chapter did as Balancing Stress Module with two student leadership trainers.
- The chapter hosted a faculty dinner with 10 faculty members in attendance. In addition, the chapter sponsored the second annual Faculty Appreciation Breakfasts in various academic buildings.
- The chapter spent a great amount of time and energy on reorganizing their library, which includes a check-in/out system for binders, books, or notes.
- The chapter established a book club this spring and read *Catch 22*.
- Alpha Omicron Pi held their annual academic banquets in the fall and spring to recognize those individuals who obtained various academic successes.
- The chapter has a strong relationship with their faculty advisor Bette Fisher who is also the chapter's alumnae advisor.
- The committee strongly recommends for next year that the chapter put together a formalized chapter assistance program, as well as a set standard for struggling academic students. While the chapter continues to do well academically, it is important for a program to be in place that will help identify members should their grades begin to fall. The chapter is encouraged to work with the Center for Academic Success to accomplish this recommendation.

In the area of **Scholarship**, the committee rated Alpha Omicron Pi to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Leadership

- Alpha Omicron Pi became an official member of the Global Union this year, the second sorority to do so at Lehigh. To emphasize their commitment to this organization, the chapter developed the position of Global Outreach Chair who will serve as the liaison to the Global Union.
- The chapter partnered with Alpha Chi Omega for Women's Health Week to host a film and discussion on female genital mutilation. Dr. Rita Jones, the Director of the Women's Center, facilitated the discussion. The committee commends the chapter for creating this educational program to share with other women, as it is outside of the topics traditionally chosen for this week.

- The chapter was very involved in leadership opportunities through Alpha Omicron Pi, including the International Leadership Academy, International Convention, and hosting a regional AOPi day involving Inter/National Presidents, advisors, and several regional chapters.
- Amanda Hemmerly and Brittany Grier attended the Northeast Greek Leadership Association (NGLA) annual meeting in Connecticut. Brittany served as this year's Panhellenic President and Amanda was elected to serve as Panhellenic's VP of Administration and Community Service for the 2008-2009 academic year. Lidia Monticola also served on this year's Panhellenic Executive Board as the VP of Finance.
- The chapter participated in several topical leadership modules including stress management, career services opportunities, and eating disorder awareness.
- The chapter has good participation in the GEM mentor program, as well as student leadership trainers. The chapter has participated in student leadership trainer workshops as well.
- The chapter worked closely on their new member program with their Inter/National Headquarters and with their Greek Life Coordinator Tiffany Showalter.
- Alpha Omicron Pi has a shadowing program that was extended this year to include not only the positions of President and Treasurer, but also the New Member Educator and House Manager positions.
- In addition to the Global Outreach chair, the chapter created an assistant House Manager position.
- The committee believes Alpha Omicron Pi has a comprehensive leadership system in place that is well rounded and offers many opportunities for chapter members.
- The committee considers the chapter's Leaders Council (LC) Carnival to be a Best Practice. This is a great way for members to understand fully the various positions within the chapter prior to elections.
- The committee recommends the chapter send a member to the Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute (UIFI) if funding allows.

In the area of **Leadership**, the committee rated Alpha Omicron Pi to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Citizenship

- Alpha Omicron Pi had no conduct violations this year.
- The chapter participated in a lot of community service and philanthropy events this year. The committee greatly commends the chapter for getting involved with the causes that they did because they have direct meaning to the sisterhood, whether it is has impacted them as a collective whole or as individuals. Jessica's Race, Knit for Nancy, and Steps for S.T.E.P.H. are examples of this dedication and support.
- The chapter continues to volunteer time at Camelot for Children. In addition, the chapter has worked to build a positive relationship with Fountain Hill Elementary School through tutoring and other programs.
- The chapter participated in annual philanthropy events, such as the car wash with Delta Tau Delta that raised \$600 for Delt's National philanthropy Bleed Purple and the 50-Hour See Saw Marathon with Sigma Chi that raised \$2700 for AOPi's

philanthropies of American Juvenile Arthritis Organization and Huntsman Cancer Institute.

- Alpha Omicron Pi partnered with Phi Sigma Kappa for two band parties that raised a total of \$1,100 which benefited the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.
- The chapter made a \$2500 contribution to the Alpha Omicron Pi Foundation at AOPi Day.
- The committee recommends the chapter look for ways to formalize their philanthropy and community service process, which could include establishing a service requirement, tracking hours, or tracking interest.
- The committee recommends the chapter streamline their philanthropy and service. The women are doing a lot and should consider finding ways to focus on a few projects or areas of interest, making them stronger, instead of continuing to add on new events.
- The committee also recommends the chapter better utilize their standards board as a positive means of recognition. Concerns within the chapter were brought up to the Chapter Relations Committee this year and they dealt with those concerns effectively. However, the chapter could find a way to have a formal process that focused on being more proactive regarding the issues.

In the area of **Citizenship**, the committee rated Alpha Omicron Pi to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Partnership

- The chapter has had numerous opportunities to engage with both their alumnae and their International Office. As mentioned previously, the chapter hosted AOPi day, which was a huge success. In addition, members have attended numerous Inter/National conferences.
- Alpha Omicron Pi has a well functioning alumni standards board, which is utilized as needed.
- The chapter partnered very well with other groups for educational programming, including Chi Phi, Psi Upsilon, Residence Hall Association, Alpha Gamma Delta, Theta Chi, Alpha Chi Omega, and Sigma Phi Epsilon. These programs included anti-hazing speaker Mitch Crane, the creative dating presentation, the female genital mutilation film and discussion, and Conversations on Race.
- The chapter hosted their annual Peek into AOPi Brunch with new members and parents. The chapter also provided a letter from their Advisor Bette Fisher and several members regarding pertinent chapter information, including new member education and financial requirements.
- The chapter started a new event this year which involved inviting a friend to lunch at Alpha Omicron Pi.
- The chapter has been very involved with other chapters for both community service and philanthropic events or donations.
- The committee recommends the chapter figure out ways to partner with more non-Greek groups in order to continue building relations outside of the fraternity and sorority community, as well as exert their positive influence in other places.

In the area of **Partnership**, the committee rated Alpha Omicron Pi to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Stewardship

- The committee views the senior fridge as a great idea and an innovative way to help avoid problems with senior food issues.
- The chapter had no life safety violations.
- The chapter had no risk management violations. The women developed an official crisis management plan, which was reviewed and approved by the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs and their Chapter Advisor.
- The chapter had an off-campus housing module for sophomores to start thinking about living off campus.
- The chapter has good involvement from their senior class.
- The chapter has gotten involved with intramural sports that are of interest to the chapter members.
- Alpha Omicron Pi is engaged with the values, tenets, and traditions of the International Headquarters and should be proud of that.

In the area of **Stewardship**, the committee rated Alpha Omicron Pi to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Overall Rating

Alpha Omicron Pi continues to find new ways to do things. The committee encourages the chapter to continue streamlining the programs and events they are doing. Continue to be creative. The committee views Alpha Omicron Pi to be an outstanding chapter among the fraternity and sorority community at Lehigh and believes they will continue to be for a long time.

The committee has assigned Alpha Omicron Pi an **overall rating of Gold Chapter**, which is considered a high level of achievement in the accreditation process, with all the privileges and rewards that accompany such a rating. The rewards/recognition will be discussed with the chapter's membership at the beginning of the new academic year. Congratulations!

Best Practices

- The committee considers the chapter's Leaders Council (LC) Carnival to be a Best Practice. This is a great way for members to understand fully the various positions within the chapter prior to elections. (Leadership)

Recommendations

- The committee strongly recommends for next year that the chapter put together a formalized chapter assistance program, as well as a set a standard for struggling academic students. While the chapter continues to do well academically, it is important for a program to be in place that will help identify members should their grades begin to fall. The chapter is encouraged to work with the Center for Academic Success to accomplish this recommendation. (Scholarship)
- The committee recommends the chapter send a member to the Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute (UIFI) if funding allows. (Leadership)
- The committee recommends the chapter look for ways to formalize their philanthropy and community service process, which could include establishing a service requirement, tracking hours, or tracking interest. (Citizenship)

- The committee recommends the chapter streamline their philanthropy and service. The women are doing a lot and should consider finding ways to focus on a few projects or areas of interest, making them stronger, instead of continuing to add on new events. (Citizenship)
- The committee also recommends the chapter better utilize their standards board as a positive means of recognition. Concerns within the chapter were brought up to the Chapter Relations Committee this year and they dealt with those concerns effectively. However, the chapter could find a way to have a formal process that focused on being more proactive regarding the issues. (Citizenship)
- The committee recommends the chapter figure out ways to partner with more non-Greek groups in order to continue building relations outside of the fraternity and sorority community, as well as exert their positive influence in other places. (Partnership)