

ALPHA PHI

Accreditation Report

2007-2008

Scholarship

- In the area of scholarship, Alpha Phi had a GPA of 3.337 for the fall 2007 semester, which was higher than the all undergraduate, all sorority and all women's average. The chapter is ranked fourth among sororities and all chapters. The chapter had a spring 2008 GPA of 3.308, which ranked third.
- The chapter had 27% of members on the Dean's List for the fall 2007 semester, and 28% on Dean's List in the spring 2008 semester.
- Alpha Phi's spring 2008 new member class GPA was 3.027, which was 6th overall among sororities.
- The chapter required that active sisters maintain a grade point average of 2.25.
- Sisters holding an executive position must maintain a grade point average of 2.5.
- While a 2.25 requires intervention, the chapter scholarship chairs intervenes with a grade point average as low as 2.5. An extra hour of studying is required for every tenth of a point a student must reach until they maintain a 2.8 GPA. All students who fall between 2.5 and 2.8 will be monitored for progress.
- The Alpha Phi basement provides sisters with a twenty-four hour a day seven nights a week study room, unlike the library. This room is constantly quiet and provides an exceptional study environment. Also in this room is a white board for group work and a bookshelf of resources. These resources include notebooks with homework, in class review, study guides, and old tests that can be used for review.
- The chapter continues to do some of their recognition programs including: Tea with the Phi, their Scholarship Dessert Reception, and the Smart Cookie of the Week Program.
- During finals and test periods Alpha Phi requires that study hours be extended in the entire house for 24 hours a day
- In house tutors are identified each semester so that sisters can utilize each other for assistance with their studies.
- The chapter hosted the Center for Academic Success to speak to sisters about learning styles and effective study habits
- The chapter held a time management and study skills workshop where sisters learned how to manage their time with classes, leisure activities, homework, tests and papers.
- "Classy Phi" is the chapter's most highlighted reward system in the area of scholarship. At the end of each semester sisters attaining a GPA over 3.0 are rewarded in different ways for their hard work. Sisters who achieve dean's lists and the highest and most improved GPAs are further rewarded. This rewards program entices sisters to achieve and become a "classy phi" for the next semester.
- The chapter is doing well academically, but the committee recommends that the chapter takes a long look this year at how formalized and consistent their academic

efforts really are. The chapter needs to make sure that they are working with the Center for Academic Success to improve these programs, that they are holding chapter members accountable, and that the chapter ensures an atmosphere of scholarship is something that is ingrained with in the chapter versus something that is put upon the chapter to meet accreditation standards.

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

Leadership

- The chapters met with the Office of Student Leadership Development this year to draft a leadership plan and set goals in this area. Their workshops were intentionally planned to coordinate with events on their calendar
- Alpha Phi did not have anyone on Panhellenic this past year but the chapter took seriously the recommendation of their Greek Life Coordinator in running for office for the 2008-2009 academic year. Jessica Cohen is the new VP of Communications on Panhel for next year.
- While the chapter's New Member Education program was questioned early on, there is great improvement that has been seen. The chapter presidents, other members of the executive board and their chapter advisors continued to effectively communicate with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority affairs throughout the allegation. The chapter met with the Offices of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs and Student Conduct in order to understand the nature of the allegations. No charges were brought against the chapter.
- The chapter had a representative from their Inter/National Office conduct a four part module workshop on Alpha Phi ideals. Topics covered included: sister hood, character development, unity and loyalty
- The chapter hosted peer mentors from Break the Silence at the chapter facility to talk about the stereotypes affecting both male and females. As a group the chapter also covered the topic of sexual assault and the culture at Lehigh surrounding this topic. The women learned how to react if approached by someone who had been harmed and how to avoid such circumstances.
- The Silver and Bordeaux team concept is a good concept but needs some work. The committee recommends that the chapter identifies what type of events they should attend as a chapter for chapter benefit versus what events they want to split up as a chapter in order to make sure that they are represented. Alpha Phi should have conversations with other sororities that utilize this concept.
- The chapter continues to attend their chapter leadership conference every year. The new executive board attended their regional conference in which gained knowledge on how to be a strong and effective executive board. Other workshops attended included, risk management, planning a successful philanthropy event and improving ritual practices.
- The chapter requires that every sister is involved in an organization other than Alpha Phi. Some organizations that sisters are involved in include, Order of Omega, Phi Eta Sigma, ASA, Accounting Club, Brown and White, Hillel and Women in Business.
- The chapter held an Officer Transition Day where all current and future position holders met to discuss the specifics of each position.

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

Citizenship

- At the beginning of each semester the chapter hands out a standards document that each sister must abide by. This was done to eliminate any ambiguity of responsibilities among the sisters. The initial document was in place to remind sisters of their responsibilities in order to attend formal. This has been changed this year to include other house privileges
- The chapter has a functioning judicial board in place. The chapter did have to utilize the system in order to hold two sisters accountable at the end of the year. The chapter worked very closely with their Greek Life Coordinator to obtain input and to ensure that the chapter was following all procedures correctly.
- The chapter has a Watch Care system in place in order to ensure the safety of sisters in all situations.
- The chapter co-sponsored the Chow Down for Charity with Theta Chi and Colleges against Cancer. Together the groups raised \$400
- Two Alpha Phi members conducted a Healthy Hawks presentation to the chapter to discuss healthy eating options. Topics included changes to the Food Pyramid, exercising and portion control.
- The chapter helped out with the annual Spooktacular event sponsored by the Office of Community Service. The chapter ran the table that assisted children in making ghost lollipops.
- The chapter co-sponsored with Delta Phi their Annual Breast Cancer Walk. The chapter decided to donate all proceeds to the cause rather than buying t-shirts like in years past. Many of the sisters in the chapter have mothers or aunts who have or are currently battling breast cancer. Therefore, this is an event that is very important the chapter.
- The chapter has a great relationship with the Boys and Girls Club of Bethlehem helping out with the children's after school activities/experiences. Four sisters volunteer and the club every Tuesday and Thursday on a rotating basis. It is required that one senior, one junior and two sophomores attend each session together. All sisters, including those who do not live in the house are required to sign up for a time to attend.
- The chapter co-sponsored the second annual Thanksgiving Dinner at the Boys and Girls Club of Allentown with Kappa Alpha. The chapter helped to prepare dinner for the children and their families.
- The chapter sponsored their second annual Red Dress Gala in support of Alpha Phi's National Philanthropy. Much progress was made since last year's event. The chapter moved the event to the Friday of Family Weekend in order to allow parents to attend. The chapter received many donations from local businesses. Chapter members also helped to collect over \$4000.
- The chapter co-sponsored Skate for Tots with the class of 2008 to raise money for holiday gifts for young children in need.
- The 2008 new member class of Alpha Phi participated in New Member Tracks
- Members of the chapter attended Leadership Lehigh's voter registration presentation. Members were given the opportunity to register if they have not already done so. Members also participated in the discussion about the difference between Republican and Democratic parties.
- Alpha Phi has donated to many philanthropic causes throughout the year including: Alpha Gamma Delta's ACE academics, Delta Tau Delta's Fall Car Wash for a Cause,

The Thin Line, Alpha Chi Omega's Luminaries, Good Scholar and IFC/Panhel's Adopt-a-Family.

- The chapter sponsored Cardiac Care week to increase knowledge and funding for the Alpha Phi Foundation to support Cardiac Care. The chapter set up tables in the student center and passed out information on healthy eating the problems that poor cardiac care can cause. The chapter was able to not only reach those in the Greek community, but they also gained the attention of many in the general Lehigh community.
- The chapter hosts a Senior Appreciation Brunch where seniors are recognized for the contributions to the chapter. Sophomore sisters in each senior lineage family present the senior sister with a binder of letters, pictures and memories from Alpha Phi sisters of their lineage. This is given to each senior so that they may have fond memories of their Alpha Phi experience.
- One of Alpha Phi's chapter members, Andy Kripalani conducted a basic CPR and first aid presentation for the chapter.

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

Partnership

- The chapter held a meet and greet University Police program at the chapter facility. Topics of discussion included: campus safety social policy, sexual harassment, and how to react in an emergency situation that may occur at the chapter house.
- The chapter partnered with Phi Beta Phi during Women's health week to help raise awareness about the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV). The chapter chose Ulrich Student Center in a location close the post office to set up a table and posters with interesting facts about the virus to share with the campus community
- The chapter partnered with numerous parents during the Parent's Weekend Tailgate.
- The chapter held an Alumni Brunch where 19 recent alumnae came back to celebrate with the women. The class of 2007 and older alumnae came back to explore the new chapter facility.
- The chapter held a discussion on eating disorder with two representatives from the University Health Center. The women shared personal stories of eating disorders that they may have witnessed with family member or close friends. Other topics of discussion were how to identify the signs of eating disorders and how to properly approach that individual
- The chapter has partnered more with regional and Inter/National Alpha Phi leadership than more in the past.
- Across the year, the chapter has done some good programming with other offices. The committee recommends that the chapter extend their co-sponsorships to non-Greek organizations and to more chapters.
- They have had a number of education programs, but the committee recommends that they do a lot more partnering with faculty speakers and other offices on campus.
- The entire chapter attended the Ariel Levy presentation on Female Chauvinist Pigs and followed up with a conversation with Rita Jones, the Director of the University Women's Center.
- The chapter had active members and alumnae attend each GAC meeting.

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

Stewardship

- The chapter had no life safety violations this year
- Every Tuesday evening sisters, both on and off campus, come up to the chapter house to eat dinner together. On many occasions The chapter advisor along with the house chef and her family will join the ladies.
- The chapter holds house meeting every Tuesday evening where official business of the fraternity takes place. Women have the opportunity to discuss important issues or advertise events that they are involved in. The meetings end with the VP of Membership Development giving a interesting fact about International Alpha Phi, famous sisters, or info about another Alpha Phi chapter.
- Alpha Phi ritual is something that the chapter is getting more acquainted to. The chapter Marshall makes sure that every woman in the chapter abides by the ritualistic practices mandated by Alpha Phi at each formal chapter meeting. The chapter is beginning to understand the connection that ritual has with Alpha Phi International.
- The chapter website is updated every month with new information about the chapter and their current events. The website features members and their pledge class year, positions held and listing of different organizations that members are involved in outside of the chapter.
- The chapter participated in two seasons of intramurals. Many sisters who participated in high school sports find that these activities are a good way to release energy and enjoy a team oriented environment.
- The chapter is in good financial standing with the FMA.

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

Overall Rating

Alpha Phi had another productive year and the continued progress that the chapter has made over the past four years is remarkable. While the chapter was successful again in 2007-08, it is time for the sorority to examine the programs and processes that they have in place and ask themselves why they are doing what they do. While Alpha Phi is gold in all of the specific metrics, the committee wants the chapter to focus on having a passion for their activities and not just scheduling different events or creating policies to fit the accreditation criteria.

The accreditation committee has assigned Alpha Phi an overall rating of Gold chapter, the highest level of achievement in the process, with all that 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 on all of your hard work.

Alpha Phi

Recommendations

- The Silver and Bordeaux team concept is a good concept but needs some work. The committee recommends that the chapter identifies what type of events they should

attend as a chapter for chapter benefit versus what events they want to split up as a chapter in order to make sure that they are represented.

- The chapter is doing well academically, but the committee recommends that the chapter takes a long look this year at how formalized and consistent their academic efforts really are. Making sure that they are working with the Center for Academic Success to improve these programs, that they are holding chapter members accountable, and that the chapter ensures an atmosphere of scholarship is something that is ingrained with in the chapter versus something that is put upon the chapter to meet accreditation standards.
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Best Practices