

DELTA GAMMA

Accreditation Report

2007-2008

Scholarship

- Delta Gamma was ranked 6th among sororities in the fall 2007 semester with a GPA of 3.231, which placed them above the All Undergraduate and All Greek averages. The chapter ranked 5th among sororities in the spring 2008 semester with a GPA of 3.263, which was slightly below the All Women's GPA and above the All Greek GPA.
- The chapter had 29% of members on Dean's List in the fall 2007 semester and 27% on Dean's List in the spring 2008 semester.
- The chapter's new member class obtained an average GPA of 3.11 in the spring semester, ranking 4th among sororities.
- The chapter redid their scholarship room and conducted academic goals surveys.
- The chapter has a prize raffle during mid-term exams to continue promote academic success among members.
- The chapter utilized the Center for Academic Success for two workshops, including time management/finals preparation and tutor training workshops.
- The chapter has library sign-in sheets, which the committee encourages the women to assess whether this is the most efficient way for members to study, as well as how using library hours can affect study skills or study habits.
- The chapter has a house tutoring program. While this is a great start, the committee suggests the chapter reassess this program and work with the Center for Academic Success and make sure it is effective in helping women who may be struggling.
- The chapter has recognition for members with very high grade point averages. The committee would like to see the chapter enhance this with recognition for improving grade point averages or chapter members who are middle of the pack and have made significant strides in terms of goals.
- The committee strongly recommends the chapter continue to formalize a plan to help those women who are struggling academically, including incentives or loss of privileges, as well as more proactive measures to ensure success. At this point, members meet with an approved mentor if they are below a 2.3, which is a start. The committee would like to see the chapter work with the Center for Academic Success to enhance this program to better meet the needs of the chapter members.

In the area of **Scholarship**, the committee rated Delta Gamma to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Leadership

- Delta Gamma had representation on the Panhellenic Executive Board through Morgan White as VP Judicial and Bergen Minnihhan as the Facilities Chair. Next year, Emily Goodwin will serve as the VP Marketing and Publicity.
- The chapter had one individual selected to be a GEM Mentor.
- The chapter participated in a workshop on leadership styles with the Office of Student Leadership Development. They also conducted a leadership and time management workshop.

- The chapter had several new members attend New Member Tracks.
- The chapter utilized webinars from their International Headquarters for various leadership positions. The committee would like to see the chapter expand these opportunities to other interested members of the chapter.
- The chapter utilizes a committee structure known as Crews, which allows for each member to be involved.
- The committee really likes the use of the white board in the dining room area as a way to continuously remind chapter members of the events happening on campus and in the chapter.
- The chapter discussed using their Collegiate Development Consultant visits, but the committee feels that the chapter could be more proactive in taking hold of the resources available to them through these individuals. The committee recommends the chapter utilize the feedback given by the CDC's in future operations.
- The chapter continually struggles in their relationship with their faculty advisor who is a Delta Gamma and is a great resource in terms of leadership development. The committee recommends having the Chapter President set up regular meetings with their advisor to maintain good communication and potentially discuss ways she may be able to assist the chapter.
- The retreats the chapter conducted could be more effective if they utilize all resources available to them, including the University, International Headquarters, and the Alumnae Advisory Board.
- The committee feels the chapter has taken a step back, as it does not seem as though the chapter is utilizing the resources available to them to the best of their ability. The committee feels that by utilizing resources on campus and through the International Headquarters, the chapter will make progress.
- The committee believes the chapter needs to look internally and make a decision as a chapter as to the avenues that they want to pursue and how the entire chapter can buy-in, as opposed to two or three leaders. The chapter has a recent history of having strong individual leaders at the top whom are expected to take on the brunt of the chapter responsibility, which is neither fair nor productive. This culture of leadership needs to be chapter-wide, and it needs to happen now. The entire chapter has to make a collective decision as to the direction they want to take the chapter, and how they are going to develop leaders within the organization.

In the area of **Leadership**, the committee rated Delta Gamma to be a **Bronze Chapter**.

Citizenship

- The chapter organized Anchor Slam. The committee was very pleased to see this event occur as the chapter has been working to plan this for some time. The committee would like to see the chapter continue to enhance, reach out and partner with different organizations for this event.
- The chapter has a unique philanthropy through their headquarters, which can be difficult to find ways to support. However, the chapter raised \$700 for Service for Sight with Anchor Slam and utilized an awareness video on individuals with visual impairment.
- The chapter distributed bookmarks to the Panhellenic Council with information on eye care.

- The chapter gathered materials to include in care baskets for the Turning Point, a local shelter for women.
- The chapter had several members volunteer with the American Heart Association and Moravian College at the Lehigh Valley Mall for a Valentine's Day heart awareness event.
- The chapter participated in the Fiji Fall Classic and Strikes for Tykes.
- The chapter's Honor Board is beginning to find its legs. The chapter has started to utilize the board for issues such as attendance, academics, and some other behavioral standards.
- The Honor Board was utilized for positive programming such as cookie decorating and a Valentine's Day dinner. The board also recognizes women through the Sister of the Week and Senior of the Month awards.
- The committee encourages the chapter to continue looking for or brainstorming other opportunities in the Lehigh Valley to support Service for Sight, or ways to educate the chapter on philanthropic-related topics.
- The committee feels the chapter still struggles with getting all the chapter members really involved. It seems as though it is a very small core group of leaders, more so the alumnae advisory board, that continues to push the chapter to up their standards. The chapter needs to decide as a whole what direction they would like to move in and have all members buy-in.
- The committee recommends the chapter reach out to various offices and utilize the resources on campus for continued leadership development for the chapter's leadership, new members, and general membership.

In the area of **Citizenship**, the committee rated Delta Gamma to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Partnership

- The chapter has a very strong alumnae advisory board who continuously challenge the women to better themselves. This group deserves to be recognized for the progress the chapter has made over the past few years.
- The alumnae and actives partnered to host an alumnae/faculty BBQ at the beginning of the year.
- The chapter continues to be a member in the Global Union. The women assisted with Rock for Darfur by organizing a donations table that raised \$200. They also worked on a Global Health Programs speaker and the Can Project.
- The chapter hosted a faculty dinner this year and invited President Gast and her husband, as well as several other faculty and staff members.
- The chapter partnered with Lafayette Delta Gamma's to celebrate Founder's Day.
- The women participated in their annual Lehigh/Lafayette Fiji/DG Rivalry Run with Lafayette students. In addition, they sold t-shirts this year to raise money for Service for Sight.
- The chapter worked with Gamma Phi Beta on self defense for Panhellenic Women's Health Week.
- The chapter held an etiquette dinner with Chi Psi.

- The chapter invited Tim Wilkinson and Tiffany Showalter from the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs to dinner and facilitate a discussion on the Medical Amnesty Policy.
- We recommend the chapter discuss their partnerships and focus on why they choose those opportunities and how they organize these partnership opportunities. The Greek Week dance competition is an example of a major program that could be a highlight for the chapter, but because of disorganization amongst the chapter and this is something that we spoke with them about for a number of years.

In the area of **Partnership**, the committee rated Delta Gamma to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Stewardship

- The committee feels the chapter has significantly improved the upkeep of the chapter house. The house has been renovated, which allows the chapter to take pride in their facility, which can be seen in the day-to-day conditions of the house.
- The chapter was proactive in educating members on life safety policies this year by inviting the Assistant Director of Residential Services Michael Gregorash to a dinner and discussion.
- The chapter had a live-in advisor for half the year who assisted with renovations.
- The chapter made efforts to go green this year by switching to dishes instead of Styrofoam.
- The chapter conducted more ritual-based activities and takes that very seriously. The committee wants to work with the chapter and their alumnae to make sure that both in new member education and on a chapter-wide level ritual is something that the women are performing and are proficient at. The chapter should understand ritual as a benefit to the chapter, not something that they are forced to do.
- The chapter had established letter days.
- The chapter participated in intramural soccer.
- The chapter has worked through some transitions this year and has begun to find success in managing their finances through working with both the Fraternity Management Association and Greek Bill.
- The committee commends the chapter for being more active with Continuous Open Bidding in the fall 2007 semester. The committee would like to see Delta Gamma take the lead in terms of fostering this positive atmosphere for upper class recruitment on campus.
- The chapter partnered with Alpha Tau Omega to host the Dance Competition during Greek Week. This event continues to be an issue in Greek Week with regards to disorganization in the planning and setup. If permitted to host this event next year, the committee strongly recommends both chapters better organize this event. The women did remain to help with cleanup, which was of great assistance.
- The chapter needs to continue to really think about their image, especially during Greek Week as their new members were asked to leave opening ceremonies as a new member class. Obviously, this is something that is not in line with the values of Delta Gamma nor with the values of Lehigh University.

In the area of **Stewardship**, the committee rated Delta Gamma to be a **Bronze Chapter**.

Overall Rating

Delta Gamma has made great strides over the past three years, but their inability to address key issues within the chapter cause the committee to have concerns about regression. The chapter must address leadership throughout the entire organization, the need to have a cohesive programming plan early on in the year, and the need to think about the image and public persona that the chapter wants to take on. Delta Gamma has come so far, but these are fundamental issues that will impede further progress until these issues are tackled head on. The chapter has good alumni support and many resources at the university to assist. However, the entire chapter must believe in this, not just some key members.

The committee assigns Delta Gamma with an overall rating of Silver which is considered a high level of achievement in the accreditation process, with all of 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. Once again, congratulations on a great year and the committee is sure to see great things again next year.

Delta Gamma

Recommendations

- The chapter has library sign-in sheets, which the committee encourages the women to assess whether this is the most efficient way for members to study, as well as how using library hours can affect study skills or study habits.
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Best Practices