

KAPPA SIGMA

Accreditation Report

2007-2008

Scholarship

- The chapter had a fall 2007 GPA of 2.888, ranking 17th out of fraternities and below the All Men's and All Fraternity GPA. The chapter ranked 15th out of fraternities in the spring 2008 semester, with a 2.9334 GPA.
- The chapter spring 2008 new member GPA was 2.837, ranking 13th for the fraternities.
- The chapter had 5% of its members on Dean's List in the fall semester and 8% in the spring semester.
- Kappa Sigma created a new academic plan this year with the assistance of the Center for Academic Success and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs. The committee looks forward to seeing this evolve over the next year.
- The chapter has balanced a reward system for academic progress and success with a punitive system for chapter members that are not committed to academics. The committee thinks the chapter has done a good job putting this balanced system together.
- The chapter has created the Kappa Sigma scholar awards. Additionally, a number of chapter members belong to different academic honor societies.
- Kappa Sigma did some partnership with the Center for Academic Success in getting workshops for both semesters.
- Kappa Sigma found a new faculty advisor this year, Desra Fluck, who has a great relationship with the chapter. She has worked with them to enhance their academic program and also offer her own workshops.
- The committee recommends that the chapter implement incentives other than money. Additionally, the chapter should review their recognition standards and consider other criteria then just highest GPA and highest class GPA.

In the area of **Scholarship**, the committee rated Kappa Sigma to be a **Bronze Chapter**.

Leadership

- Kappa Sigma created a leadership position and also partnered with the Office of Student Leadership development to conduct, officer transition, and goal setting workshops.
- Kappa Sigma has reaffirmed their relationship with their Inter/National headquarters by working with them on their Four Pillars and my Brothers' Keeper leadership programs.
- The chapter has had some individual accolades at the Greek Awards reception; Jason Schatz, was IFC President of the Year, Kerry McGill, the alumni advisor of the year,
- Kappa Sigma was one of three fraternities to receive the fall IFC scholarship award.
- Jack Cherawatti is the new IFC recruitment chair.
- Kappa Sigma had excellent programming this year in the area of recruitment, having worked with Tim Wilkinson on a three part recruitment education series.
- Kappa Sigma has kept in close contact with their Inter/National office and utilized them quite a bit.
- A recommendation for next year is to work with the Office of Student Leadership Development and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life to plan a comprehensive leadership plan based more on chapter needs and values, as opposed to just putting programs in place.
- The committee recommends that the chapter review their individual event planning and work on organizing a year round event format to ensure the chapter is not over programmed.

In the area of **Leadership**, the committee rated Kappa Sigma to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Citizenship

- The chapter's community service and philanthropic opportunities and events have been impressive this year. The committee hopes that they will continue this trend next year.
- The chapter's commitment to Fountain Hill and the restoration of the Sun Inn are two things that particularly impress the committee.
- The chapter's signature Kappa Sigma and Chi Phi Holiday Hope Chest is something the committee is glad has been reestablished.
- Kappa Sigma continues to partner with other chapters to support their philanthropic endeavors.
- Kappa Sigma has done quite a bit of community service especially considering the chapter had so many other obligations.
- Kappa Sigma has returned to enforcing their code of conduct and their lack of violations is something that the committee is impressed with.
- Kappa Sigma also has been very quick to get the entire chapter involved in running the organization. The new members have been very quick to take up responsibilities that may not have been opportunities for them in the past.
- The committee recommends that the chapter show diligence in exercising continuous education and enforcement of Kappa Sigma and Lehigh alcohol policies, for both on and off-campus events.

In the area of **Citizenship**, the committee rated Kappa Sigma to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Partnership

- The chapter has done a very good job of implementing educational and risk management events, and workshops.
- Kappa Sigma's alumni have been extremely involved with them and have been a big part of why the reestablishment of the chapter.
- Kappa Sigma is actively involved with GAC. Additionally, their involvement in university committees and other leadership opportunities is continuing to grow.
- Kappa Sigma has started to get more involved in chapter to chapter partnership again by hosting etiquette dinners as well as the Holiday Hope Chest.
- Kappa Sigma has been doing philanthropic events with other chapters as well as working closely with the Kutztown Kappa Sigma chapter.
- The chapter had some good educational partnerships this year, such as Break the Silence and Social Event education with LUPD. The big test for the chapter is next year as they are continuing to do things for the betterment of Kappa Sigma as opposed to getting their charter back.
- Kappa Sigma needs to continue to seek a balance of long term events that are in congruence with the values of the chapter, as well as opportunities to make an impact for Lehigh specific needs. By planning these in advance, the chapter will be able to streamline partnership opportunities that occur over the year more successfully with existing events.
- While the chapter was working to restructure, oftentimes a few of the leaders were organizing programs and event. Now that the chapter has their charter back, Kappa Sigma must continue to work to make sure all events are an entire organizational effort.

In the area of **Partnership**, the committee rated Kappa Sigma to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Stewardship

- Kappa Sigma moved back into the chapter facility on a limited basis in the spring 2008 semester. The facility was well kept and there were zero life safety violation in that time.
- The committee is proud that the chapter has made occupancy after only one semester. However, it is imperative that the chapter recruits and educates new members for the betterment of the chapter, not to make numbers. Kappa Sigma must remain cognizant of that fact.
- The chapter has worked with their alumni to upgrade their living arrangements. Over the course of the year, they acquired new coaches, a television, dining room furniture, and several common rooms were repainted.
- Spring damages were very low and the chapter had a successful move out.
- The chapter is working on reestablishing ritual proficiency and it was obvious that chapter members are becoming more comfortable integrating chapter values then in the past.
- The chapter, fiscally, does not have any problems.
- Kappa Sigma's national headquarters are pleased with where they are going and the committee is as well.

In the area of **Stewardship**, the committee rated Kappa Sigma to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Overall Rating

Kappa Sigma

Kappa Sigma has achieved an overall rating of Silver. We are very proud that the chapter has been re-colonized and that they are headed in the right direction. The committee needs to continue to see that the chapter moves forward in maintaining the progress that was made this year. Kappa Sigma needs to concentrate on an academic plan, programming balance, and continued understanding of their obligations to be a partner with their Inter/National Headquarters. Perhaps more importantly, the chapter needs to exercise caution and good planning with event involving alcohol in the chapter house.

This year has been one of positive change for them and the committee expects that they will continue to grow and improve over the course of the next few years. The habits that they have gained this year in regards to chapter management and leadership are good ones. The committee would like to commend them on taking the situation that they placed upon themselves and making it one where they are a chapter in excellent standing. They have come back from a negative place and hopefully, will continue to do great things.

The committee assigns Kappa Sigma 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. Kappa Sigma has had an excellent year and the committee is impressed with the work they did to come back to Lehigh.

Recommendations

- The committee recommends that the chapter implement incentives other than money. Additionally, the chapter should review their recognition standards and consider other criteria then just highest GPA and highest class GPA.
- A recommendation for next year is to work with the Office of Student Leadership Development and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life to plan a comprehensive leadership plan based more on chapter needs and values, as opposed to just putting programs in place.
- The committee recommends that the chapter review their individual event planning and work on organizing a year round event format to ensure the chapter is not over programmed.

- The committee recommends that the chapter show diligence in exercising continuous education and enforcement of Kappa Sigma and Lehigh alcohol policies, for both on and off-campus events.
- A recommendation is that they have to look for the right events, events that work for them according to their values, according to who they are, not just partner with events just for the sake doing events, but thinking about what makes the most sense for the chapter both educationally and in terms of getting their name out there, both Greek and non Greek.
- Another recommendation is also trying to make sure they are partnering on all events or how they're working on their events. It's not just one or two leaders; it's got to continue to be continuous chapter effort and now just the work of one or two chapter members.

Best Practices