

PI BETA PHI

Accreditation Report

2007-2008

Scholarship

- Pi Beta Phi's fall 2007 GPA was a 3.221 which is slightly below the All Women's and All Sorority averages. In the spring 2008 semester, the chapter has a 3.143 GPA.
- The chapter's new member GPA was 2.839, 8th amongst the sororities.
- 33% of chapter members made Dean's List in the fall 2007 semester, and 29% made Dean's List in the spring 2008 semester.
- The chapter has a set of academic benchmark standards (3.0, 2.75 and 2.5) with different sanctions for being below each benchmark.
- Pi Beta Phi has very good short term academic assistance. They utilize their bulletin boards; have a scholarship dinner, a study dinner, and an in-house tutoring program.
- The chapter has examined the use of study hours and has found that a less uniform program suits different study styles better. The committee recognizes the chapter for recognizing differences in academic needs of its members.
- Pi Beta Phi partnered with Career Services to hold workshops on resumes and salary and negotiation.
- Pi Beta Phi should undergo a full examination of their scholarship program and determine what practices (both short and long term) work well for their membership. Some possible areas to examine are: more recognition and more scholarship opportunities with their alumni and soon to be established house corporation.

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

Leadership

- Pi Beta Phi has done an admirable job of reducing redundant and inefficient leadership practices.
- The chapter's use and continued examination of "Pi, Beta, and Phi" groups for leadership and educational programming is commendable. The chapter should develop a method for the "Pi, Beta, and Phi" groups to report back to the organization as a whole on their activities.
- Pi Beta Phi has a strong focus on lifelong growth objectives as set by their International Headquarters. The chapter utilizes the Office of Student Leadership Development in achieving these objectives.
- Pi Beta Phi readdressed their bylaws this year to insure that members are involved but not overcommitted.
- Pi Beta Phi has participation in Order of Omega as well as other campus organizations. Additionally their members serve in many campus leadership positions.
- Pi Beta Phi members will serve as the 2008-2009 Panhellenic President, Panhellenic Treasurer, and Order of Omega Secretary.

- Pi Beta Phi has strong representation in the Greek Emerging Leaders 2008 class. The committee anticipates that these women will be able to translate their experience into chapter improvement and growth.
- Pi Beta Phi's use of Facebook in holding members accountable for their behavior is a considered a "Best Practice". The chapter utilizes this method because of its pervasive use by members and its anonymous nature. Facebook allows members and officers to communicate with members about their behavior before something rises to the level of an incident requiring a standards board. The chapter should continue and solidify this program.

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

Citizenship

- Pi Beta Phi's community service efforts this year included working with "Links to Literacy", supporting their national philanthropy and working within the local community with Victory House and Adopt a family.
- The chapter worked with the Pi Beta Phi Chapter at Lafayette, participated in their Inter/National organization's Day of Service, won the best fund raiser award at Relay for Life and continues to partner with other chapters and with other Lehigh organizations and offices.
- Pi Beta Phi's angel board, as they called their standards board, is functioning well. They partner very closely with their headquarters on internal standards board operations.
- Pi Beta Phi chapter members are very involved in day to day operations of the chapter and involved in completing the community service and philanthropic events in which the chapter has decided to participate.
- Pi Beta Phi's use of a membership survey to determine what type of community service and philanthropic efforts to they wanted to continue to participate in is recognized as a Best Practice.
- Pi Beta Phi should work with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs on how they are reporting their community service hours. Specifically the chapter should begin reporting person hours in addition to other statistics.

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

Partnership

- The chapter has re-established their alumni advisor council and established a house corporation this year. As the chapter transitions into a more traditional house this will be of benefit.
- Pi Beta Phi utilized their award from last year's Gold Chapter status to sponsor an All-Panhellenic brunch with Dr. Rita Jones, the Director of the Lehigh University Women's Center. The committee commends the chapter on this event as Pi Beta Phi is continuing to look to unify Lehigh's Women's Fraternities on a community level as well as have Panhellenic look at more women's issues overall.
- Pi Beta Phi is well engaged with their parents. This year the chapter hosted a murder mystery dinner, various brunches, and several tailgates.

- Pi Beta Phi continues to provide partnership and educational opportunities for its members by hosting faculty and staff member dinners and by having members involved in leadership positions both in and out of the Fraternity and Sorority Community.
- Pi Beta Phi should examine a program assessment model for next year. The chapter can work with their Greek Life Coordinator, and their faculty advisor on this knowing that Dean of Students has a model which could help the chapter really evaluate the activities in which they participate.
- Pi Beta Phi should solidify their relationship with their faculty/staff advisor, Ms. Allison Ragon. Allison is a valuable resource and has a wealth of information. It would be a disservice for the chapter not to capitalize on her skills.

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

Stewardship

- The chapter has had no life safety violations.
- The chapter is fiscally sound and instituted a budget committee to internally review their fiscal practices. Pi Beta Phi partners with the FMA.
- Pi Beta Phi has zero dollars in damages in the fall 2007 semester, and the committee commends the respect they show for their facility.
- The chapter won Treasurer of the Year Award at the Greek Awards banquet.
- Pi Beta Phi is involved in Intramurals and they have some fun ways of keeping the chapter involved and motivated.
- Pi Beta Phi has several awards that recognize members on a weekly basis including: "Freak of the Week", "Pi Phi of the week", and the stuffed pig award.
- Pi Beta Phi is providing meaningful programming for their seniors across a diverse range of topics.
- Pi Beta Phi should be aware of the challenges they will face next year in moving into a larger, traditional house. There will be increased expectations for members and additional responsibilities for the organization. It is recommended that they contact other Panhellenic organizations that recently moved onto "the Hill" for advice and ideas.
- The chapter should spend a portion of next year working with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs and the Lehigh University Alumni Association to develop a strategic plan for increasing alumni involvement and support.

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

Overall Rating

Pi Beta Phi

Pi Beta Phi is functioning very well and should be recognized for the efforts they made this year to streamline their operations and reduce the sheer number of activities that they participate in. The chapter should continue along these lines and assess what they are doing, why they are doing it, and how it benefits their members in relation to their stated values.

The move to a new facility will likely be challenging for Pi Beta Phi, and they will need to re-examine the ways in which they operate. The chapter is strong and will continue to do amazing work over the course of the 2008-2009 academic year.

The accreditation committee has assigned Pi Beta 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 and we can't wait to see next year!

Recommendations

- Pi Beta Phi should undergo a full examination of their scholarship program and determine what practices (both short and long term) work well for their membership. Some possible areas to examine are: more recognition and more scholarship opportunities with their alumni and soon to be established house corporation.
- Pi Beta Phi should develop a method for the "Pi, Beta, and Phi" groups to report back to the organization as a whole on their activities.
- Pi Beta Phi should work with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs on how they are reporting their community service hours. Specifically the chapter should begin reporting woman hours in addition to other statistics.
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Best Practices

- Pi Beta Phi's use of Facebook in holding members accountable for their behavior is considered a "Best Practice" The chapter utilizes this method because of its pervasive use by members and its anonymous nature. Facebook allows members and officers to communicate with members about their behavior before something rises to the level of an incident requiring a standards board. The chapter should continue and solidify this program.
- Pi Beta Phi's use of a survey of its members to determine what type of community service and philanthropic efforts to decide they wanted to continue to participate in is recognized as a Best Practice.