

SIGMA PHI EPSILON

Accreditation Report

2007-2008

Scholarship

- Sigma Phi Epsilon was ranked 1st among fraternities in the fall 2007 semester with a 3.22 GPA. This placed them above the All Undergraduate, All Greek, All Men, and All Fraternity averages.
- Sigma Phi Epsilon was ranked 1st among fraternities in the spring 2008 semester with a 3.255 GPA. This placed them well above the All Undergraduate, All Greek, All Men, and All Fraternity averages.
- 36% of the chapter was on Dean's List in the fall 2007 semester and 38% was on Dean's List in the spring 2008 semester in the spring 2008 semester.
- The chapter's new members obtained a GPA of 3.267 in the spring 2008 semester, second amongst fraternities.
- The chapter held two mentor training workshops with the Center for Academic Success this year. The Academic Chair also met with Kelly Grim, the Director, to discuss possible improvements of the plan.
- The chapter recruited a new faculty advisor this year Ms. Kelly Grim.
- The chapter continued their annual Balance Man Scholarship competition and dinner.
- The chapter is considered a Residential Learning Chapter through their Headquarters, which involves two professors conducting study hours in the chapter house.
- The chapter had several faculty members attend dinners this year.
- The chapter incorporated non-chapter members into their academic assistance plan.
- The chapter has an established academic standard of 2.6. If a brother falls below, he is placed on the Academic Plan and must meet with the Academic Chair and mentor. Four were put on probation this past year.
- The chapter has good incentives, including a Phi Beta Kappa Wheelhouse dinner for brothers over a 3.15 GPA. In addition, the chapter utilizes awards from their Inter/National Headquarters for various academic achievements by members.
- The chapter won the Highest GPA and Scholarship Award at the Greek Awards Banquet.
- The chapter rewarded brothers with the top twenty GPAs with Broadway tickets. This type of incentive is recognized as a Best Practice.

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

Leadership

- The chapter worked very hard this year to balance the resources offered by their Inter/National Headquarters and the resources with Lehigh resources in achieving their goals.

- The chapter membership held over 30 campus leadership positions outside of the Fraternity.
- The chapter had one member initiated into Order of Omega this spring.
- Sigma Phi Epsilon sent men to several national conferences, including the Edge Camp, Carlson Leadership Academy, and Sigma Phi Epsilon's Conclave.
- The chapter did a good job of setting goals this year. They assessed and removed goals that did not meet the needs of the chapter.
- The chapter continues to be a highly visible and active member of the University Community by providing and/or attracting members that hold leadership positions in outside organizations, including Student Senate, University Productions (UP), and the Gryphon Society.
- The chapter worked with the Office of Student Leadership Development on their officer transition program. In addition, the chapter worked with Tim Wilkinson, Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, on goals and accreditation.
- The chapter conducted a mid-year evaluation to assess the overall progress of chapter leadership. While this is a great start, the committee would like to see the chapter take the next step in assessment by making this a regular on-going process throughout the year. The chapter does a very good job having conversations about where they need to improve, which the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs and the Office of Student Leadership Development can help them formalize this process.

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

Citizenship

- The chapter had two social policy violations over the course of the year. The chapter learned a valuable lesson this year being on social and disciplinary probation. The chapter needs to learn from these mistakes and understand that individual actions affect the chapter and mistakes that are intentional cannot be repeated.
- The chapter had brother involvement in over 70 clubs/organizations at Lehigh.
- The chapter partnered with Phi Sigma Kappa to host a charity poker tournament that raised money for their Inter/National philanthropy YouthAIDS.
- The chapter partnered with Alpha Gamma Delta to host their third annual softball tournament, which also raised money for YouthAIDS.
- The brothers regularly volunteer time at Fritz Church for the homework club program. In addition a few brothers volunteered at the Fountain Hill Elementary School tutoring students.
- The chapter assisted with the Community Service Office's "Livin' La Vida Lehigh" event, which unfortunately did not have a great turnout due to bad weather.
- The chapter had an excellent year in terms of community service and philanthropic opportunities. They've done over 460 community service hours and donated over \$15,000 through The Election for Cancer Research, as well as smaller events.
- The chapter participated in several other organizations' philanthropic events, such as the Fiji Fall Classic and the Class of 2009 dodgeball tournament.

In the area of **Citizenship**, the committee rated Sigma Phi Epsilon to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Partnership

- The chapter held their 100 Year Gala anniversary celebration in ASA Packer Dining Room. The chapter also hosted events for alumni over Young Alumni and Lehigh/Lafayette Weekends.
- The chapter has a strong relationship with their alumni and meet at least twice a semester. They won the Alumni Relations Award at the Greek Awards Banquet this spring.
- The chapter partnered very well with their International Headquarters and worked very closely with their Regional Director.
- The chapter worked very closely with several offices at Lehigh including Admissions, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, and the Office of First Year Experience.
- The chapter participated in several educational programs including Kaleidoscope, Conversations on Race, and Lehigh World Cup.
- The chapter has partnered with chapters, Lehigh offices, and non-Greek student groups throughout the year.
- The chapter incorporated a parent's BBQ into recruitment for potential members' parents to meet brothers and ask questions prior to joining.
- The committee feels that Sigma Phi Epsilon is one of the best examples of partnering with other groups and they deserve credit for their efforts.
- The Chapter's practice of meeting with members of Theta Chi and Phi Sigma Kappa, known as the "Gold Triangle" monthly meetings is recognized as a Best Practice. The committee would encourage the chapter to expand these conversations to include other chapters if the brothers feel comfortable doing so.

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

Stewardship

- The chapter had one life safety violation this year.
- The chapter's damages were low.
- The chapter did an admirable job of implementing ritual within the chapter.
- The chapter excelled at values-based recruitment and involved potential new members in opportunities to learn about the chapter.
- The Balance Man Program is a new member education program that the chapter continues to excel in and make continuous improvements.
- The chapter co-hosted the iron man competition during Greek Week.
- The chapter participated in intramural sports.
- The chapter's event forms are recognized as a Best Practice because it assists with the organization within the chapter.

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

Overall Rating

Sigma Phi Epsilon continues to be an innovative chapter at Lehigh. The chapter is commended for continuing to realign their accreditation process to be more in line with the Inter/National Buchanan Cup process. Additionally, working with other chapters on the consistent basis that Sigma Phi Epsilon did this year is indicative of the way that chapters can work together to form a community. We hope to see other organizations adopt this type of partnership. The chapter does need to realize that mistakes such as social event and life safely violations are serious and impact the chapter. Sigma Phi Epsilon continues to be one of the most progressive and innovative chapters at Lehigh, and the committee expects them to learn from the mistakes made in these areas and continue to improve.

The committee assigns Sigma Phi Epsilon 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.

Sigma Phi Epsilon

Recommendations

- The chapter conducted a mid-year evaluation to assess the overall progress of chapter leadership. While this is a great start, the committee recommends that the chapter take the next step in assessment by making this a regular on-going process throughout the year. The chapter does a very good job having conversations about where they need to improve, which the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs and the Office of Student Leadership Development can help them formalize this process. (Leadership)
- The committee considers the "Gold Triangle" monthly meetings with members of Theta Chi and Phi Sigma Kappa a best practice. The committee encourages the chapter to expand these conversations to include other chapters if the brothers feel comfortable. (Partnership)

Best Practices

- The Chapter's overall dedication to partnership is impressive, deserving of credit, and recognized as a Best Practice. (Partnership)
- The Chapter's practice of meeting with members of Theta Chi and Phi Sigma Kappa, known as the "Gold Triangle" monthly meetings is recognized as a Best Practice. The committee would encourage the chapter to expand these conversations to include other chapters if the brothers feel comfortable doing so. (Partnership)
- The chapter's event forms are recognized as a Best Practice because it assists with the organization within the chapter. (Leadership)