

THETA CHI

Accreditation Report

2007-2008

Scholarship

- Theta Chi was ranked 7th among fraternities in the fall 2007 semester with a 3.091 GPA, which placed them above the All Men and All Fraternity averages. The chapter was ranked 13th among fraternities for the Spring 2008 semester with a 2.964, which placed them below the All Men and All Fraternity averages
- The chapter had 23% of their members on Dean's List in the fall 2007 semester and 26% in the spring 2008 semester.
- The chapter's new member class obtained a GPA of 2.677 in the spring 2008 semester, ranking 15th out of the fraternities.
- The chapter's Academic Fantasy Draft continues to be a successful program.
- The chapter holds members accountable for not achieving well academically.
- The chapter held a finals preparation workshop with the Center for Academic Success.
- The chapter has a good relationship with their faculty advisor, Professor Keith Schray.
- The chapter hosted faculty dinner in the fall and again in the spring with Pi Beta Phi sorority.
- The chapter's practice of inviting non-members to the house for tutoring assistance is recognized as a Best Practice.
- Theta Chi has integrated their new member process with academics through the New Member Scholarship liaison. However, the chapter should continue to assess inducting new members whose grades are below standard. A recommendation is talk with the chapter about continuing to review how to make that a tool for chapter development, and making sure it does not become an anchor for weighing down their academics.
- The chapter should review their awards system to ensure the rewards that are in place are incentives for brothers. The committee suggests expanding rewards to ensure that all chapter members have the opportunity to compete for something academically.

In the area of **Scholarship**, the committee rated Theta Chi to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Leadership

- Theta Chi promoted leadership within the chapter through the double shadowing of executive board and committee positions.
- The chapter has class year diversity in their executive board as it includes sophomores, juniors, and seniors.
- The chapter specifically reserves four spaces on the board for new members and all new members are placed into committees.

- The chapter deserves recognition for their ability to keep their seniors involved, both in formal leadership positions, as well as informal leadership positions.
- Theta Chi has had representation on the Interfraternity Council for the past three consecutive years. James Brink was extremely involved this year as the VP Judicial Affairs, which directs the Interfraternity Judicial Council. He also served on the Theta Chi Inter/National Headquarters Alcohol-Free Housing Waiver Appeals Committee.
- The chapter has two members in Order of Omega.
- The chapter continues to be involved in the Office of Student Leadership Development programming, such as the executive board ropes course, as well as using resources from the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs.
- The chapter had representation at their International conferences and conventions, including the Chapter Leadership Conference, the Mid-Year, and the Deranian Presidents Conference.
- The chapter won several awards through their International Headquarters, including 11 Chapter Excellence Awards.
- The chapter was given the Quay Cup (Fraternity of the Year) at the Greek Awards Banquet this spring.
- The chapter is an active participant in the New Member Tracks Program. Brother Michael Doherty co-facilitated the program this spring and several new members participated in the program.
- The chapter is commended for fraternity and sorority community leadership in the Interfraternity Council, as well as New Member Tracks Program. The chapter had one mentor and one mentee in the GEM Mentor Program. The committee would like to see involvement in this program continue.
- Theta Chi's development of the Beta Sigma Wiki program is recognized as a Best Practice.

In the area of **Leadership**, the committee rated Theta Chi to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Citizenship

- Theta Chi had two code of conduct violations this year, but they handled both in a responsible manner with the Office of Student Conduct. This was the first year for the chapter having the Alcohol-Free Housing Waiver from their International Headquarters.
- A recommendation is that the chapter continues to look for opportunities to educate chapter members on Theta Chi and Lehigh social policies.
- The chapter participated in over 300 hours of community service, which is commendable.
- The chapter partnered with several organizations throughout the year for philanthropy events, such as Chow Down for Charity, Strykes for Tykes, and the Journey Cover Band.
- In addition to having members participate in the Relay for Life, Theta Chi partnered with Pi Beta Phi in manning the moon bounce.
- The chapter participated in Adopt-A-Family with Brother Craig Torpey acting as Santa Claus throughout the event.

- The chapter had a good ratio of money raised versus donations for philanthropies. Over \$3642 donated and 335 hours served.
- The chapter balanced community service and philanthropy effectively throughout the year, even beyond the information provided during their accreditation presentation.
- The chapter's Standards Board is worthy of commendation, as the chapter takes holding members accountable very seriously. The board functions as both a punitive and a rewards system. The board determines the chapter's "Standards of Excellence Award".
- The chapter should continue to look at community service practices and educate themselves on the efforts they are participating in, such as why they are choosing certain causes and what does a particular foundation do for that cause.

In the area of **Citizenship**, the committee rated Theta Chi to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Partnership

- The chapter utilized their faculty advisor Professor Keith Schray as well as bringing different administrators up to speak to the chapter on topics of interest.
- The chapter is heavily involved within the fraternity and sorority community, as well as with University administrators. The brothers have a good working relationship with their Greek Life Coordinator Tiffany Showalter, whom they interact with as a chapter on a regular basis.
- The chapter partnered with Alpha Omicron Pi, Alpha Gamma Delta, and the Residence Hall Association for the Creative Dating campus-wide speaker.
- The chapter partnered with the Women's Center for the Take Back the Night march.
- The chapter assisted with the Rutgers' Theta Chi re-installation and continued to partner with their International Headquarters in a variety of ways.
- The chapter was very involved with parents, both in terms of active events in the chapter facility, as well as communications through a newsletter, *The Red and White*.
- The chapter has a strong relationship with their alumni board, which includes both older and young alumni, and hold regular meetings throughout the year. Meetings were held during Young Alumni Weekend and Lehigh/Lafayette Weekend, along with alumni social events.
- The chapter and the alumni are commended for *The Bull* newsletter that is primarily for alumni.
- The chapter has a professional and informative website that is kept up-to-date with information for current members and alumni.
- The chapter should continue inviting students to the house to work with tutors and for educational projects regardless of chapter affiliation.
- The chapter's weekly meetings with members of Sigma Phi Epsilon and Phi Sigma Kappa are recognized as a Best Practice. The committee would recommend that the chapter continue to look for ways to include other chapters in this if they are comfortable doing so.
- The chapter invited both Tim Wilkinson and University Police to the house for educational programs. The committee recommends the chapter branch out and invite a more diverse group of administrators and faculty to hold discussions with the chapter.

- The chapter should strive to partner with other non-Greek student organizations. The chapter has a lot of positive influence and the committee would like to see the chapter exert that on the rest of the Lehigh community.

In the area of **Partnership**, the committee rated Theta Chi to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Stewardship

- The chapter had no life safety violations this year.
- Theta Chi has a very well managed house. Over the course of this year they demonstrated this by: running a surplus, keeping damages to a reasonable minimum, and billing individuals to make sure that they are held accountable when incidents occur.
- The chapter worked closely with their alumni to make various house improvements, such as new windows in the chapter and dining rooms. The chapter also purchased new furniture for their chapter room.
- The chapter's House Manager determines the Beyond Brotherhood Award, which is given for commitment to acknowledge house maintenance and respect for the chapter house.
- The chapter hosted Theta Chi Sweetheart during Greek Week.
- The chapter actively participates in intramurals.
- The committee commends the chapter for incorporating Theta Chi values in recruitment efforts and new member education activities. The men of Theta Chi took the concept of recruitment to heart and are an exemplar in integrating values into these types of activities.
- Overall, the chapter's combination of house management, financial management, and values management continue to espouse what the committee is looking for in the area of Stewardship.
- The chapter's overall facility management, particularly the brotherhood lock-ins, is recognized as a Best Practice. The chapter takes great pride in their house and it shows in their daily maintenance and care.

In the area of **Stewardship**, the committee rated Theta Chi to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Overall Rating

The chapter continues to be progressive and continues to be a leader in the Lehigh community. The two areas that the chapter needs to continue focusing their energies on are academics and alcohol / social policy management. Now that they have their Alcohol-Free Housing Waiver they need to work to keep it, if this is a priority for the organization. Theta Chi should continue to assess their academic program and standards to ensure the programs they implement are meeting the needs of all brothers, particularly those struggling academically. The chapter should continue to educate brothers on both Lehigh and Theta Chi policies regarding alcohol. Additionally, the partnership that Theta Chi demonstrated in working with Sigma Phi Epsilon and Phi Sigma Kappa is indicative of the direction the entire Lehigh fraternity and sorority community needs to go. Overall, the chapter continues to act as an innovator in the fraternity and sorority community and should be proud of the year that they had. The brothers understand and incorporate the values of Theta Chi in many if not most of their programs.

The committee assigns Theta Chi 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.

Theta Chi

Recommendations

- The chapter should review their awards system to ensure the rewards that are in place are incentives for brothers. The committee suggests expanding rewards to ensure that all chapter members have the opportunity to compete for something academically. (Scholarship)
- Theta Chi has integrated their new member process with academics through the New Member Scholarship liaison. However, the chapter should continue to assess inducting new members whose grades are below standard. A recommendation is talk with the chapter about continuing to review how to make that a tool for chapter development, and making sure it does not become an anchor for weighing down their academics.
- The chapter should continue to look at community service practices and educate themselves on the efforts they are participating in, such as why they are choosing certain causes and what does a particular foundation do for that cause. (Citizenship)
- A recommendation is that the chapter continues to look for opportunities to educate chapter members on Theta Chi and Lehigh social policies. (Citizenship)
- The chapter should strive to partner with other non-Greek student organizations. The chapter has a lot of positive influence and the committee would like to see the chapter exert that on the rest of the Lehigh community. (Partnership)
- The chapter invited both Tim Wilkinson and University Police for programs. The committee recommends the chapter branch out and invite a more diverse group of administration to hold discussions with the chapter. (Partnership)
- The committee recommends that the chapter strive to partner with other non-Greek student organizations. The chapter has a lot of positive influence and the committee would like to see the chapter exert that on the rest of the Lehigh community. (Partnership)

Best Practices

- The chapter's practice of inviting non-members to the house for tutoring assistance is recognized as a Best Practice. (Scholarship)
- The committee gave Theta Chi a best practice for the development of the Beta Sigma Wiki program. (Leadership)
- The chapter's weekly meetings with members of Sigma Phi Epsilon and Phi Sigma Kappa are recognized as a Best Practice. The committee would recommend that the chapter continue to look for ways to include other chapters in this if they are comfortable doing so. (Partnership)
- The chapter's overall facility management, particularly the brotherhood lock-ins, is recognized as a Best Practice. (Stewardship)