

ALPHA GAMMA DELTA

Accreditation Report

2008-2009

Scholarship

- In the fall 2008 semester, Alpha Gamma Delta ranked 2nd amongst sororities, with a 3.35103 GPA, which placed them above the All-Greek, All-Women's, and All-Sorority Averages. In the spring 2009 semester, the chapter ranked 3rd amongst sororities with a 3.3509 GPA, which placed them above the All-Greek, All-Women's, and All-Sorority Averages.
- The chapter had 30.9% of members on Dean's List in the fall 2008 semester and 38.7% of members on Dean's List in the spring 2009 semester.
- Alpha Gamma Delta's spring 2009 new member class GPA was 3.37, ranking 1st out of 8 sororities.
- The chapter has been very successful in the use of their scholarship contract. The committee considers this a best practice, as it believes it's a unique way to initiate difficult conversations regarding academics in an effort to keep individuals accountable.
- In terms of metrics, the chapter has the highest GPA overall of all fraternities and sororities, and has one of the highest percentage of members on the Dean's List.
- The chapter's academic plan consisting of study hours, faculty dinners, Yay for A's, and Family College Trees, among other programs, continues to work for them. The committee encourages the chapter to continue using the tools they already have in place and to refine any portion that may increase academic success.
- Alpha Gamma Delta sent out letters to parents this year, a new practice, and the committee is eager to see how this works for the chapter.
- The chapter currently has a 2.3 GPA requirement for active membership. The committee would like the chapter to consider if this is a time for the chapter to raise this academic requirement.

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

Leadership

- Alpha Gamma Delta is strong in their own evaluation of their programs, officer success, and overall effectiveness of chapter functions. The chapter is effective and self-critical in a positive manner, which benefits them in future planning.
- The chapter fosters an environment of leadership, even during new member education. This practice is not forced but something that each sister but something of which each sister strives to be a part.
- Alpha Gamma Delta continues to be involved in many other student organizations on campus, and because of this chapter members are able to articulate how leadership outside of the chapter really impacts chapter operations and chapter involvement. The committee commends the chapter for this understanding.
- The chapter is innovative and one that can move the fraternity and sorority community into a new direction. For example, the chapter's social justice program

“Be the Change You Want to Be,” was a first of its kind for the Lehigh Greek community and the committee considers this a best practice.

- Alpha Gamma Delta’s Delta Experience program for senior engagement could be a best practice if the chapter continues to innovate it. Since it is the first year the program is in existence, the committee is eager to see how this program positively affects the chapter.
- The chapter has five seniors serving as Rho Gammas this coming year. In addition, the chapter was represented by seniors as the outgoing Panhellenic Vice President of Programming and Campus Relations Chair and the incoming Panhellenic Vice President of Administration and Vice President of Recruitment.

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

Citizenship

- Alpha Gamma Delta logged over 325 hours of community service as a chapter in a number of targeted community service projects that the chapter, as a group, was passionate about including working with a local girl scout troop, and supporting various Lehigh sponsored service events.
- The chapter’s annual Strikes for Tikes bowling event raised over \$1200.
- Alpha Gamma Delta’s “Be the Change You Want to Be” is evidence alone of the chapter’s dedication and passion for civic engagement. The chapter is proud of its reputation for challenging negative practices and for creating positive, new traditions.
- The chapter participated in and sponsored numerous campus wide events and programs including: Spooktacular, Adopt A Family, Lehigh-Laf-apalooza, Step Out to Fight Diabetes Walk by the American Diabetes Association (ADA) in Bethlehem, and Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week.
- Alpha Gamma Delta sisters supported an alumna’s cause of AYUDA, a foundation to benefit the prevention and treating of youth diabetes, by hosting a fundraiser at the Goosey Gander, raising over \$250.
- The chapter has had no social policy or Code of Conduct violations this year.
- The committee recommends that the chapter continue to track the number of community service hours completed by the sisters of the chapter, and encourage sisters to continue to increase the hours of community involvement.

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

Partnership

- Alpha Gamma Delta is a chapter that is very open to new partnerships. Evidence of this includes the chapter’s new efforts to involve parents through letters sent out to new members of the chapter, and including parents at the Feast of Roses.
- The chapter partners with a number of different chapters and campus based offices which include the Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Office of LGBTQIA Services, the Women’s Center, and the Council for Equity and Community. The committee considers this engagement a best practice.
- The chapter has created a very positive relationship that they continue to cultivate with Alpha Gamma Delta Inter/National Headquarters. The International Vice President of Alumnae and the chapter’s alumnae advisor actively participated in a number of activities at the chapter, including the senior rededication ceremony.

- The chapter participated in the International Reunion Day this Spring, following their National Convention, with area chapters and other alumnae and Inter/National headquarters personnel to trade ideas and how the year had been going for each chapter.
- The chapter has begun to develop an active relationship with their alumnae, a prime example being the chapter's support of an alumna's foundation. The committee recommends that the chapter continue to find ways to keep alumnae involved in chapter functions and events.

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

Stewardship

- The chapter was honored with Stewardship Chapter of the year by the Office of Residential Services.
- The chapter has developed a very positive relationship with the Office of Residential Services and was even asked to serve as an example chapter for a Residential Service conference this year.
- Alpha Gamma Delta did a number of renovations to beautify the chapter house including purchasing a new television, redoing the floors of the common room, and purchasing new furniture.
- The chapter does a great job of delegating responsibilities in order to keep the chapter clean and in order. The chapter demonstrates positive accountability.
- Alpha Gamma Delta is one of the best chapters in the Lehigh Greek community when it comes to articulating ritual proficiency without reciting actual ritual. The chapter understands how to live ritual and how to incorporate it into daily chapter activities.
- The committee considers the chapter's knowledge of Alpha Gamma Delta ritual a best practice. Using tools such as ritual code of the week and assigning songs to memorize as a group, truly assists the chapter in learning its ritual.
- The chapter moved over to a new financial system through their Inter/National headquarters and has shown financial responsibility in this turnover.

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

Overall Rating

Alpha Gamma Delta has the great potential to foster change within the community, especially in relation to Greek Week and some other practices that have traditionally occurred but are not positive for the community. The chapter has this potential because of the civic engagement of its members. The chapter members understand the mutual expectations the chapter has for one another and also what the committee expects of the chapter, being that it is at the forefront of the Greek community. The chapter has already existing relationships with other chapters interested in seeing change. Knowing that the chapter has Panhellenic support, the committee is really looking forward to what the chapter presents in the next year.

The committee has assigned Alpha Gamma Delta an overall rating of Gold Chapter, which is considered a high level of achievement in the accreditation process, with all 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. Congratulations!

Best Practices:

- The chapter has been very successful in the use of their scholarship contract. The committee considers this a best practice, as it believes it's a unique way to initiate difficult conversations regarding academics in an effort to keep individuals accountable.
- The chapter is innovative and one that can move the fraternity and sorority community into a new direction. For example, the chapter's social justice program "Be the Change You Want to Be," was a first of its kind for the Lehigh Greek community and the committee considers this a best practice.
- The chapter partners with a number of different chapters and campus based offices which include the Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Office of LGBTQIA Services, the Women's Center, and the Council for Equity and Community. The committee considers this engagement a best practice.
- The committee considers the chapter's knowledge of Alpha Gamma Delta ritual a best practice. Using tools such as ritual code of the week and assigning songs to memorize as a group, truly assists the chapter in learning its ritual.

Recommendations:

- The chapter's academic plan consisting of study hours, faculty dinners, Yay for A's, and Family College Trees, among other programs, continues to work for them. The committee encourages the chapter to continue using the tools they already have in place and to refine any portion that may increase academic success.
- The chapter currently has a 2.3 GPA requirement for active membership. The committee would like the chapter to consider if this is a time for the chapter to raise this academic requirement.
- The committee recommends that the chapter continue to track the number of community service hours completed by the sisters of the chapter, and encourage sisters to continue to increase the hours of community involvement.
- The chapter has begun to develop an active relationship with their alumnae, a prime example being the chapter's support of an alumna's foundation. The committee recommends that the chapter continue to find ways to keep alumnae involved in chapter functions and events.