

## ALPHA PHI

### Accreditation Report

2008-2009

#### Scholarship

- Alpha Phi had a fall grade point average of 3.34 which ranked them 3<sup>rd</sup> amongst sororities and 3<sup>rd</sup> overall, above the All Women's, All Sorority and All Greek GPA's. The chapter's spring grade point average is 3.246, which ranks them 5<sup>th</sup> amongst sororities, below the All Women's and All Sorority GPA's, but above the All Greek GPA.
- 28% of the chapter was on Dean's List in the fall 2008 semester and 26% was on Dean's List in the spring 2009 semester.
- The spring 2009 new member class GPA was 3.03, ranking 6<sup>th</sup> out of 8 sororities.
- The chapter's scholarship program was revamped this year, stating that any member who has not met the minimum GPA requirement the previous semester receives an academic warning and must earn fifteen scholarship "points" in order to attend formal and avoid further consequences.
- The chapter rewards scholarship points for activities such as visiting a professor or Teaching Assistant during office hours, keeping track of library hours, studying with an Alpha Phi sister or getting good grades on papers, projects and exams.
- Alpha Phi identifies in-house tutors at the beginning of each semester
- The study room in the basement of the chapter house is open on a 24 hour basis
- The chapter established a faculty advisor with Vincent Walsh this year; a teaching fellow and adjunct professor in the English Department
- The committee recommends that the chapter work with Kelly Grim to solidify their scholarship program.
- The committee recommends that chapter considers raising their GPA requirement for membership. Alpha Phi is now at the point where they are excelling greatly in this area, and this final step will assist with academic consistency during recruitment.

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

#### Leadership

- The chapter has attended their Inter/National Convention for two straight years. Individual members have been able to return and integrate what they learned into the chapter.
- The committee commends the chapter for including the sophomore classes in their beginning of the year retreat. The committee recommends that the chapter find ways to integrate other juniors and seniors into this process to ensure that everyone is engaged.
- Shannon Bruce, an Alpha Phi consultant from their Inter/National Headquarters came to speak to the chapter about the importance of involvement as well as ethical decision making

- The incoming executive board attended the Alpha Phi Mid-Atlantic Regional conference where they learned valuable information that assisted them in their officer transition process.
- The chapter's relationship with their Alumnae Advisory Board has greatly improved over the past few years and has been a huge benefit to the chapter.
- The chapter has had chapter members very active with the Panhellenic board. Next year they will have two chapter members serving on the board.
- Alpha Phi participated in continuous open bidding for the first time this past year. The chapter was very successful with their first effort.
- The incoming president participated in the Alpha Phi Emerging Leaders Institute (ELI) this year.
- Alpha Phi attended the Villanova Mock Rush event for the first time this year. It is something that the chapter found great value in and it is evident in their very successful recruitment period this past spring. The committee considers this a best practice.

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

### Citizenship

- Alpha Phi has been involved in numerous community service and philanthropy efforts this year. The chapter has made an effort to balance between their own activities and those sponsored by other Greek organizations.
- This past year, Alpha Phi changed their main community service project from volunteering at Boys and Girls Club to the Homework Club at the local Nativity church in order to add more value to the entire chapter's participation
- The chapter also participated in the America Reads program, a community service activity at Donegan Elementary School.
- This year Alpha Phi implemented a new system to ensure that everyone respected each other's living spaces and living environments with the use of roommate contracts
- The chapter decided to reward sisters who participated in extracurricular events besides Alpha Phi with additional house points
- The chapter has a representative from each new member class on their judicial board. This was a conscious effort made by the chapter to ensure that every class was heard in important chapter decisions.
- The chapter held numerous recruitment workshops as well as two educational consultants
- The committee recommends that the chapter work on their standards board with incorporating more positive aspects

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

### Partnership

- The chapter has worked with the Lehigh University Police Department to speak to the chapter about campus safety and proper response protocol
- The chapter initiated numerous partnership opportunities including: Workout for a Cure, Boys and Girls Club Thanksgiving Dinner, scholarship dinners and Jammin' with the Phi; a partnership with their newly appointed faculty advisor Vincent Walsh
- Alpha Phi continues to host their annual breast cancer walk with Delta Phi and added Alpha Tau Omega to the team this year.
- The chapter has done a better job on their relationship with their Inter/National Headquarters initiatives
- Alpha Phi continues to have a strong partnership with the sister's parents.
- The committee recommends that Alpha Phi continue to work to continue to assess programmatic efforts to ensure that all initiatives are in line with the values and passions of the chapter. This is an area the chapter showed much improvement with over the past year, and the committee would like to see this become a consistent practice for the chapter.
- The chapter continued to partner with Kappa Alpha for their annual faculty scholarship dinner.
- The influence the chapter could use to partner with non-Greek organizations is something the committee hopes to see Alpha Phi begin to use more in the upcoming year.
- The committee is extremely impressed with the growth the chapter has shown in this area.

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

### **Stewardship**

- The chapter has made a conscious effort to tie ritual into their practices and created a committee this year to achieve this. The committee commends the chapter for this effort and initiative.
- Alpha Phi has made an initiative to go green using environmentally friendly to go storage containers as well as using dinnerware during lunch and dinner.
- The chapter is performing more ritualistic aspects in their house meeting and other new member functions.
- The Court of Ivy ceremony was done for the first time this year as the chapter is getting more in line with ritualistic practices. The committee commends the chapter for this practice.
- The chapter house is in good shape and their budget has improved. Early in the spring semester the chapter has issues with their chef but they were resolved in a timely manner.
- The chapter begins every formal house meeting with the chaplain reading the creed of our founding sisters and the rest of the chapter repeats it after her.
- The chapter participated in intramural sports as another way to engage sisters and get involved on campus.

- In the beginning of the fall semester, Alpha Phi formally discussed emergency procedures. The sisters talked about what to do in case of different kinds of emergency and how to act in a fast, organized, and efficient manner. The committee considers this a best practice.

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

### Overall Rating

**Overall rating for Alpha Phi is Gold. The chapter continues to grow. They are now coming together as an organization and the structure is something they are really going to solidify. They are at the point that elite achievement is something Alpha Phi should expect every year and we're very proud of them. The chapter is doing a much better job at linking their activities with their values and passions. The committee would like to see them begin looking for structured ways to bring Alpha Phi's Inter/National Headquarters assessment process in to work with in putting together their Accreditation binder. We believe this will really help them continue to improve what has become a high achieving chapter.**

**The accreditation committee has assigned Alpha 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.**

### Best Practice:

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### Recommendations:

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- The committee recommends that chapter considers raising their GPA requirement for membership. Alpha Phi is now at the point where they are excelling greatly in this area, and this final step will assist with academic consistency during recruitment.
- The committee recommends that the chapter work on their standards board with incorporating more positive aspects
- The committee recommends that Alpha Phi continue to work to continue to assess programmatic efforts to ensure that all initiatives are in line with the values and passions of the chapter. This is an area the chapter showed much improvement with over the past year, and the committee would like to see this become a consistent practice for the chapter.

