

CHI PHI

Accreditation Report
2008-2009

Scholarship

- Chi Phi was ranked 3rd among fraternities in the fall 2008 semester with a GPA of 3.249. This placed the chapter above the All Greek, All Men's, and All Fraternity averages. The chapter ranked 6th in the spring 2009 semester with a 3.126 GPA, above the All Men's and All Fraternity Averages, but below the all Greek Average.
- The new members obtained an average GPA of 2.98 in the spring 2009 semester, ranking 11th out of 20 fraternities.
- The chapter had 35% of its members on Dean's List in the fall 2008 semester and 14% on Dean's List in the spring 2009 semester.
- The chapter's academic team structure continues to be a significant aspect of their academic plan and involves a rewards component for highest team GPA and top three team GPAs. The chapter also continues to reward brothers with a 3.0 GPA or higher to dinner at a local restaurant. Alumni also provided monetary rewards for individuals.
- The chapter continues to have a solid relationship with their faculty advisor, Professor Kenneth Sinclair. His involvement reaches all members of the chapter and truly impacts their general development as students, individuals, and brothers of the Fraternity.
- The chapter spent some time focusing on improving their scholarship program this year. In addition to the two workshops in the fall with Gamma Phi Beta, the chapter also invited the Center for Academic Success to conduct training for in-house tutors.
- The chapter created a new tutoring system within the chapter house with four brothers serving as tutors and holding "office hours" each Sunday in the library. This was a committee recommendation from last year and the chapter is commended for implementing this new program.

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

Leadership

- The chapter made several improvements to their organizational structure. The President and Vice President's responsibilities were distinguished between external and internal relations as fit those brothers in the positions. In addition, the chapter created a new committee structure to share responsibility and create buy-in from general chapter membership.
- The chapter created a Parents Chair to organize events and communicate with parents. The chapter also increased the responsibilities of the Accreditation Chairman and the off-campus liaison to keep seniors informed and involved with the brotherhood.
- The chapter continues to allow new members to take on roles that are a part of the executive board.

- The chapter conducted an officer retreat in August to discuss plans for the year. The chapter's Greek Life Coordinator, Tiffany Showalter, facilitated several communication activities as well.
- The chapter continued to conduct the Vote of Confidence as a formal system for evaluating officer performance. The chapter also incorporated an informal system focusing on officer feedback regarding follow-through of their duties. The committee would encourage the chapter to continue to assess ways in which they can improve this process, incorporate reviewing goals, and maintain effectiveness.
- The chapter conducted a Leadership Styles module for general membership with the Office of Student Leadership Development. Attendance and respectful behavior were issues at the workshop, both of which were addressed in a follow-up meeting.
- The chapter has an officer transition program and while it seems to have improved this year, the committee would encourage the chapter to continue working with their Greek Life Coordinator and the Office of Student Leadership Development to ensure a successful transition from year to year.
- The chapter was unable to attend a Chi Phi Regional Leadership Alliance this year due to scheduling conflicts and financial issues related to traveling. The executive board did request and receive the materials from the conference, which were shared with the rest of the chapter.
- The chapter continues to have regular attendance at their national conferences and participated in national teleconferences.
- Parker Gill attended the Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute last summer and returned to campus highly motivated and equipped with new ideas for not only his chapter, but the entire fraternity and sorority community.
- Rob Fagnani served as the VP of Programming for Order of Omega and the chapter has a total of four members in the organization.
- Parker Gill was elected Treasurer for next year's Interfraternity Council executive board. He was also chosen as one of the founding members of the new Peer Values Educators program and acts as a mentor in the GEM program.

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

Citizenship

- The chapter had a violation at the beginning of the fall 2008 semester while already on probation from previous incidents, which resulted in more severe sanctioning, including being made alcohol free through the fall 2008 semester. While the committee understands that Chi Phi initially struggled with the outcome, the chapter worked closely with their alumni to assess risk management policies and implement new policies to ensure compliance with the sanctions and prevent further issues. In addition, chapter leadership made great efforts to stress the significance of the situation with the membership, which resulted in no additional incidents throughout this year.
- Based on the chapter's continued probationary status through next year, the committee commends the chapter for how they addressed the situation and recommends the chapter continue to focus on understanding the legacy of being in a fraternity extends past their time as undergraduates. The chapter has a long history at Lehigh and its existence affects not only the current brothers, but many caring alumni.

- The chapter worked very hard on community service and philanthropy efforts this year. While Chi Phi continues to do annual events, the brothers have added new aspects to these events to improve overall effectiveness. In addition, the chapter added new efforts this year that were connected to the brotherhood and have begun to educate brothers on the causes they support.
- The chapter continued to volunteer time at the Boys and Girls Club, which is their national philanthropy. This year, the chapter sponsored and organized a Lehigh basketball game and snacks for the children.
- The chapter also chose to support a brother and recent graduate of Lehigh who is a U.S. Marine. The chapter worked with Alpha Omicron Pi, Delta Phi, and Phi Gamma Delta to organize care packages for troops in Afghanistan.
- Chi Phi brothers realized the chapter had a relationship in the past with the Hellertown Historical Society. The chapter reestablished their relationship with the Society and former Mayer Zimpfer and assisted with revitalization efforts in the fall. Chi Phi hopes to continue this partnership in the future.
- The chapter continued to participate in other chapters' philanthropic events, such as Fiji Fall Classic, Delta Gamma World Cup Soccer tournament, and Lambda Chi Alpha's food drive.
- The chapter has a solid standards board that offers both rewards and reinforcement. Chi Phi worked to establish consistency for outcomes of both positive and negative behaviors, which was also reviewed by Assistant Dean Chris Mulvihill.
- The chapter has a good number of brothers involved in student organizations, sports, and University committees.

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

Partnership

- Chi Phi continues to have a very close relationship with the Briarfield Association. Actives and alumni meet at least once a semester to discuss current chapter issues. This spring, the chapter partnered with the Briarfield to organize a young alumni reunion at the Comfort Suites the same weekend of their meeting in order to encourage attendance.
- The chapter has a strong relationship with their Inter/National Headquarters. A consultant visited the chapter earlier in the fall 2008 semester and offered recommendations for improvements, which the chapter implemented.
- The chapter hosted their annual parents' softball tournament with Gamma Phi Beta sorority.
- The chapter continued discussions with faculty this year through a political debate, as it was a Presidential election year. The brothers invited Professor Berrisford Boothe and Professor Dave Amidon to the chapter house for dinner, which was followed by a discussion of the differing political views of the presidential candidates.
- The chapter fully utilizes their faculty advisor Professor Kenneth Sinclair for workshops, connections to faculty, advice, and friendship.
- The chapter partnered with a few non-Greek organizations including the Class of 2009 and ASA for the State Radio concert and Athletics for the Boys and Girls Club basketball trip.

- The chapter also worked with Delta Tau Delta, Delta Gamma, and Phi Gamma Delta to bring Mark Sterner to talk about drinking and driving, which was well-attended by many in the fraternity and sorority community.
- The chapter had representation on the University Appeals Committee.

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

Stewardship

- The committee would like to commend the chapter for their efforts in holding individual brothers accountable for damages to the chapter house during the fall semester. This however, was not the case in the spring semester and the committee would like to see more consistency with this.
- During the spring semester the chapter had issues with care of life safety equipment, including emergency lighting and fire alarm pull stations.
- At closing, the chapter was lax in restoring bedroom furniture to the expected opening standards. Additionally, the party room and chapter room were left in an unacceptable condition.
- The chapter house was left in less than acceptable conditions at the end of the year closing. The committee recommends the chapter implement a committee or plan for ensuring that all belongings are removed from the chapter house and unwanted items are properly discarded.
- At closing there was clear evidence of use of candles in the chapter room. This is considered a life safety violation.
- The chapter has been under occupancy for two consecutive semesters, but worked with alumnae to develop solid plans that will ensure the chapter meets occupancy in the future. One of these plans was a successful recruitment, which the chapter completed in the spring with 17 newly initiated members.
- The chapter is currently in good standing with the FMA and brother Bill Bronander served as the Director of the FMA Board this year.
- The chapter continued to work with Alpha Chi Omega to host Sumo Wrestling during Greek Week.
- The chapter has great participation in intramurals, including winning the fraternity basketball league.
- The chapter recognizes brothers for going above and beyond expectations through the Brother of the Month award.
- The committee would like to commend the chapter for their off-campus liaison program. The program has been active for a year and has proven highly valuable for keeping off-campus members, including seniors, involved in the chapter.
- The chapter allows off-campus members to take on positions within the chapter, which is also a great way to maintain brother involvement.

In the area of **Stewardship**, the committee rated Chi Phi to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Overall Rating

The committee assigns Chi Phi an overall rating of Silver. The chapter did an excellent job of utilizing a well run executive board, strong advisory support and recognition of the need to learn from past challenges. Chi Phi worked hard this year to take recommendations from past Accreditation rankings as well as the thoughts and advice from Offices of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs and Student Conduct.

The committee has assigned Chi Phi an overall rating of Silver 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!

Recommendations:

- The chapter continued to conduct the Vote of Confidence as a formal system for evaluating officer performance. The chapter also incorporated an informal system focusing on officer feedback regarding follow-through of their duties. The committee would encourage the chapter to continue to assess ways in which they can improve this process, incorporate reviewing goals, and maintain effectiveness.
- The chapter has an officer transition program and while it seems to have improved this year, the committee would encourage the chapter to continue working with their Greek Life Coordinator and the Office of Student Leadership Development to ensure a successful transition from year to year.
- Based on the chapter's continued probationary status through next year, the committee commends the chapter for how they addressed the situation and recommends the chapter continue to focus on understanding the legacy of being in a fraternity extends past their time as undergraduates. The chapter has a long history at Lehigh and its existence affects not only the current brothers, but many caring alumni.
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