

KAPPA ALPHA

Accreditation Report

2008-2009

Scholarship

- Kappa Alpha had a fall grade point average of a 3.04 which ranked them 9th among fraternities below the All Greek, All Men's and All Fraternity Grade Point Averages. The chapter's spring grade point average is 3.117, ranking then 7th amongst fraternities, above the All Men's and All Fraternity Grade Point Averages, but below the All Greek GPA.
- The chapter's spring 2009 new member GPA is 3.071, ranking 6th out of 20 fraternities.
- In the fall 2008 semester, Kappa Alpha had 18% of chapter members on Dean's List. In the Spring 2009 semester, the chapter had 19% on Dean's List.
- The chapter has implemented the same academic plan for the past three years, which seems to be working for its members. Kappa Alpha's standards board plays a huge role in ensuring that the plan is adhered to. It also promotes a literary environment for the members and the chapter house
- The chapter has a lot of alumni support with their scholarship plan. Their alumni advisor, Peter Wolle plays an integral role in ensuring that the plan is carried out and upheld appropriately.
- Kappa Alpha's scholarship plan has various reinforcements in place that is comprised of both rewards and penalties; all of which function in accordance with their standards board.
- The chapter rewards those who succeed academically with monetary rewards and house points
- Every brother is required to submit their class schedules to the scholarship chair, which are posted for underclassmen to utilize if they have questions pertaining to the work of a specific class.
- The chapter required that all members be registered to vote in order to stay up to date with the historical presidential election campaign, the committee considers this a best practice.
- The chapter continues to host their faculty dinner with Alpha Phi. Professors from various departments were invited to attend the formal dinner.
- The committee would recommend that the chapter better articulate how the standards board functions in the area of scholarship in terms of both recognition and reinforcement.

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

Leadership

- The chapter continues to work with the Office of Student Leadership Development on chapter specific workshops for the chapter's development. The chapter should be

commended for their ability to build relationships with specific Student Leadership Trainers, which have lead to increased program effectiveness.

- Lehigh's chapter of Kappa Alpha continues to work with other KA chapters in the region. They have a continued interest in re-colonizing their mother chapter at Union College; an effort that has been going on for a year now.
- The committee enjoys the leadership structure involving the top five executive board members and other chapter leadership positions that involve the general membership
- Kappa Alpha has many other leadership positions outside the chapter and they articulate how this involvement impacts the entire chapter very well.
- The chapter does an excellent job of utilizing various resources through the university their headquarters, and their alumni.
- The chapter utilized workshops offered by the Office of Student Leadership Development as a part of their leadership plan. Workshops included the topics of: Visioning & Goal Setting, Motivation, Project and Event Management, Balance, Leadership Styles, and Goal Setting
- Every brother in the chapter is required to participate in at least one organization outside of Kappa Alpha
- The chapter partnered with Delta Gamma, Phi Sigma Kappa and the Black Student Union for Lehigh's first ever HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.
- The chapter's utilization of the Past President as Leadership Chair has been effective in transition of leadership needs from year to year. With that, the committee recommends that the chapter begin assessing current leadership topics and look for new and more topical areas for next year.

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

Citizenship

- The chapter had a social policy violation in the fall semester and was placed on social and disciplinary probation through the end of the fall semester. The chapter had a second policy in the spring semester which resulted in disciplinary probation through the fall 2009 semester.
- The chapter is doing a good job with community service and philanthropy. Kappa Alpha's relationship with the Newman Center is continuous and has grown through the years.
- Other noted chapter projects include: the Assisted Living Sponsorship, Workout for a Cure, Adopt a Highway, the New Bethany Ministries luminary project and the Thanksgiving Dinner with the Allentown Boys and Girls Club.
- The chapter continues to utilize their standards board which is highly structured; including both alum and young alum
- There seems to be a trend of one large scale social event happening in the semester with no others to be noted. Unfortunately, the chapter had a social event violation at the very end of the spring semester, which placed them on disciplinary probation through the fall 2009 semester.

- The committee highly recommends that the chapter work toward being proactive in relation to conduct violations by utilizing their leadership and standards board to assist in this effort. This can be done by partnering with other chapters, LUPD, and other university constituents.
- Kappa Alpha made a conscious effort to cover the many areas of citizenship this year. There seems to be a chapter culture of understanding the importance of giving back of the community. The committee would like to see the chapter do a better job of articulating how their community service and philanthropic choices affect the chapter as a values based organization.

In the area of **Citizenship**, the committee rated Kappa Alpha to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Partnership

- Kappa Alpha increased their partnership with the Newman Center this year as recommended.
- Kappa Alpha schedules bi-semester meeting with their alumni throughout the year in order to discuss current events pertaining to the chapter.
- The chapter has focused on establishing a strong partnership with their alumni in order to revive the dormant chapter at Union College.
- The chapter continues to maintain some of their standard and traditional partnerships and they are looking to add more to what they do.
- The chapter continues to have a great relationship with their headquarters. Being a very small organization, Lehigh's Kappa Alpha chapter is often noted among the best and more productive.
- Nearly every brother has visited another Kappa Alpha chapter house throughout their time at Lehigh.
- For the first time this year, the chapter implemented the Kappa Alpha Career Networking online sit. This domain is sued to engage alumni in the professional development of current Kappa Alpha brothers

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

Stewardship

- Chapter damages were well within reason.
- The chapter is ritually proficient. They understand and utilize their ritual in numerous ways
- Kappa Alpha continues the education beyond initiation part of member education something that is nationally recognized and have great pride in.
- The KA Code of Standards continues to be posted in the common rooms of the chapter house and every brother signs the form stating that he will abide by all standards set forth
- The chapter stayed within its budget and even had a surplus at the end of the fall semester. The chapter is very conscious about the appearance of their chapter house oftentimes added new elements and furniture in order to sustain the adored living environment.

- During closing the chapter had some major cleaning issues which were resolved with Residential Services immediately. However this is not the first time that this incident has occurred during closing over the past two years.
- The committee recommends that the chapter work towards ensuring that the practice of respecting the Lodge in such high regard continues throughout the entire semester, including closing. The committee would also like to see the chapter consistently address areas such as the storage closet and their party room.

In the area of **Stewardship**, the committee rated Kappa Alpha to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Overall Rating

Kappa Alpha receives an overall rating of Silver. Kappa Alpha continues to comport themselves as an outstanding chapter at Lehigh. They have established practices that work well for the chapter, as well as consistent partnerships and resources sharing opportunities. The next step for the chapter is to assess these practices and look for opportunities to freshen up and keep these practices relevant. The committee worries that the chapter could become complacent otherwise.

The committee assigns Kappa Alpha 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. Congratulations on your great work and efforts and we hope that Kappa Alpha will continue to strive for excellence.

Best Practices:

- The chapter required that all members be registered to vote in order to stay up to date with the historical presidential election campaign, the committee considers this a best practice.

Recommendations:

- The committee recommends that the chapter better articulate how the standards board functions in the area of scholarship in terms of both recognition and reinforcement.
- The committee highly recommends that the chapter work toward being proactive in relation to conduct violations by utilizing their leadership and standards board to assist in this effort. This can be done by partnering with other chapters, LUPD, and other university constituents.
- Kappa Alpha made a conscious effort to cover the many areas of citizenship this year. There seems to be a chapter culture of understanding the importance of giving back of the community. The committee would like to see the chapter do a better job of articulating how their community service and philanthropic choices affect the chapter as a values based organization.
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