

LAMBDA THETA ALPHA

Accreditation Report

2008-2009

Scholarship

- Lambda Theta Alpha was ranked 9th among sororities in the fall 2008 semester with a GPA of 1.902, which placed them below the All Greek, All Sorority, All Women, and All Undergraduate GPAs. The chapter's spring GPA was 2.654, again ranking them 9th amongst sororities and below the All Greek, All Sorority, All Women and All Undergraduate GPAs.
- The chapter created an academic plan in spring 2009, in consultation with the Center for Academic Success and their Greek Life Coordinator. The committee would like to see the chapter stabilize this plan and ensure that it can work for the size of their organization.
- The chapter has struggled throughout the year in terms of balancing their academic responsibilities with the excitement of Lambda Theta Alpha's first year at Lehigh. Since its inception in the spring, the chapter has utilized their academic plan; however the bigger focus needs to be on how, as a small organization, they are going to balance all the opportunities available to them while at the same time fulfilling their obligations of membership in the sorority and as students.
- The committee recommends the chapter continue to work with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, the Center for Academic Success, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, and all their support systems to find the right opportunities for the chapter and only pursue those opportunities when they are able to successfully balance their academic responsibilities.
- The committee would like to stress to the chapter that academics have to come first and must be their number one priority for the 2009-10 academic year.

In the area of **Scholarship**, the committee rated Lambda Theta Alpha to be a **Poor Chapter**.

Leadership

- The chapter has good individual leadership within the organization and with the creation of the Multicultural Greek Council.
- Lambda Theta Alpha utilizes event proposal and evaluation forms that allow the chapter to be more organized, along with examining what they're doing as a chapter, how it relates to the values of Lambda Theta Alpha, and how the chapter can best support its members.
- The chapter has one member initiated into Order of Omega.
- The chapter met with the Greek Life Leadership Coordinator to discuss future leadership plans, as well as attended the Setting Your Chapter Up for Success workshop in fall semester. Lambda Theta Alpha also sent more members than required to the Greek Leadership Retreat.
- Lambda Theta Alpha members are involved in several organizations and leadership positions outside the chapter.
- Lambda Theta Alpha's involvement in National Hazing Prevention Week is recognized as a Best Practice.

- The chapter had many growing pains this year as they began to understand the responsibility of running their organization and then again in the second semester as they juggled changing responsibilities to accommodate for inactive members. The committee is pleased to see the chapter's hard work and ability to have honest conversations regarding their successes and struggles.

In the area of **Leadership**, the committee rated Lambda Theta Alpha to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Citizenship

- The chapter worked extensively to start a tutoring program with the Hispanic American League of Artists. While it was not able to be implemented this year, the chapter should continue to look for alternative avenues that could allow the program to occur.
- Lambda Theta Alpha spearheaded The Hill Rocks the Vote, including reaching out to sixteen other fraternities and sororities to co-sponsor the event.
- The chapter's new focus on sexual violence prevention and awareness is a promising venture and started off well in the spring with their co-sponsorship of the I Heart Female Orgasm program.
- Lambda Theta Alpha sponsored a ribbon fundraiser for ovarian cancer, along with participating in the Ovarian Cancer Walk and Light the Night Walk in Philadelphia.
- The chapter participated in Spooktacular, Moov-In, Panhellenic Pink Day, Kappa Alpha's Luminaria Night, and Hunger & Homelessness Week.
- The chapter has a clean conduct record.
- The chapter, in spite of its size and struggles over the past year, has done a good job of identifying opportunities for community service while at the same time contributing philanthropically as much as they are able.

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

Partnership

- The chapter is very involved in other student organizations and has utilized those already established relationships to co-program and partner on events and activities throughout the year.
- The chapter has a strong partnership with Kappa Alpha Psi, including events such as Meet the Greeks, dinner & a movie at the Umoja House, and the play "Platanos and Collard Greens".
- Lambda Theta Alpha has also worked closely with several Lehigh offices, such as the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Community Service Office, and the Office of Student Activities.
- The chapter played an integral role in founding the LASO (Latin American Student Organizations) group at Lehigh. Through this partnership, the chapter sponsored a Quinceanera, which is a cultural celebration of a Latina girl's fifteenth birthday.
- The chapter is heavily involved in regional events such as educational conferences and retreats with other Lambda Theta Alpha chapters in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware

- The chapter has partnered on a number of strong events and programs, however the committee would like to see the organization truly understand what a “partnership” means in terms of planning from the beginning, getting everyone involved, etc.
- The committee recommends the chapter strategically select partnerships that they are passionate about, while at the same time maintaining balance with their other responsibilities.

In the area of **Partnership**, the committee rated Lambda Theta Alpha to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Stewardship

- The chapter sponsored several fundraisers, including a lollipop sale, scarf sale, car wash and flower sale.
- The chapter has utilized Lehigh’s Student Organization Fund to receive support in sponsoring programs and events throughout the year. The committee would like to see the chapter continue to use the many resources on campus to support their programmatic efforts.
- The chapter is still in the process of figuring out finances and dues for members. While their dues are high, they still pay out of pocket for many of the organization’s expenses. The committee would like to see the chapter work with their national organization and the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs to determine an appropriate and realistic financial structure for the chapter.

In the area of **Stewardship**, the committee rated Lambda Theta Alpha to be a **Bronze Chapter**.

Overall Rating

The overall rating for Lambda Theta Alpha is **Bronze**. The chapter’s first full year was a learning experience for the women, especially in terms of balance. The women within the chapter must learn that individual balance, especially academics, must come first. The chapter is extremely enthusiastic and has the potential to become a mainstay at Lehigh. However, Lambda Theta Alpha must concentrate inwardly first, and ensure that all personal and organizational obligations are satisfied.

The accreditation committee assigns Lambda Theta Alpha an overall rating of **Bronze**, which is considered a solid level of achievement in the accreditation process, with all the privileges that accompany such a rating.

Best Practices:

- Lambda Theta Alpha’s involvement in National Hazing Prevention Week is recognized as a Best Practice.

Recommendations:

- The chapter created an academic plan in spring 2009, in consultation with the Center for Academic Success and their Greek Life Coordinator. The committee would like to see the chapter stabilize this plan and ensure that it can work for the size of their organization.
- The committee recommends the chapter continue to work with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, the Center for Academic Success, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, and all their support systems to find the right opportunities for the chapter and

only pursue those opportunities when they are able to successfully balance their academic responsibilities.

- The committee would like to stress to the chapter that academics have to come first and must be their number one priority for the 2009-10 academic year.
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