

PSI UPSILON

Accreditation Report
2008-2009

Scholarship

- Psi Upsilon had a fall GPA of 2.96 which ranked them 13th among fraternities, below the All Men's, All Fraternity and All Greek GPA's. The chapter's spring grade point average is 2.89, which ranks them 18th amongst fraternities, below the All Men's, All Fraternity and All Greek GPA's.
- In the fall 2008 semester, the chapter had 10% of their men on Dean's List. In the spring 2009 semester 12% of the chapter was on Dean's List.
- The chapter's spring 2009 new member GPA was 2.68 ranking them 17th out of 20 fraternities.
- The chapter's scholarship chair is dedicated and their point plan is something that the committee believes that the chapter is really trying to practically to use.
- The chapter hosted five faculty dinners this year to engage in more interaction with this population and to replace the academic workshops that had been done before.
- Psi Upsilon has probation levels for academic probation as well as voluntary probation.
- The committee recognized Psi Upsilon's continuous effort to look for ways to be innovative in regards to scholarship and the committee commends them for that. Psi Upsilon spent a lot of time in the spring reworking and will begin implementing their new changes in the fall.
- New additions to their scholarship plan include: new penalties for probations, new rewards for success, and a new mentoring program
- The committee recommends that the chapter reach out to look for best practices and partnerships amongst other fraternities and sororities to identify a suitable scholarship plan that fits their needs, specifically the overwhelming presence of engineering majors in the chapter. Psi Upsilon should reach out to faculty and staff resources to ensure that the academic needs of engineering majors are balanced with the other majors represented within the chapter.

In the area of **Scholarship**, the committee rated Psi Upsilon to be a **Silver Chapter**.

Leadership

- The chapter has excelled in the area of new member education
- Psi Upsilon continues to utilize the Office of Student Leadership Development as a way to plan and coordinate their leadership plan and initiatives.
- The chapter implemented a Brotherhood Development Chair this year to alleviate the problem of brothers being distant from one another. Some activities included: brotherhood workdays, movie nights, and secret Santa
- The chapter has a pretty good functioning officer transition period. To ensure a smooth transition from one term to the next, the chapter has a shadowing program

where two weeks before the elections brothers who are interested in a particular position shows the current officer

- The chapter continues to attend both their National and Regional Conventions oftentimes bringing back ideas and other initiatives of the fraternity to the chapter.
- The chapter sends a brother to their Archon's Academy where brothers learn about risk management, team building, alumni correspondence, and networking within the entire national organization.
- The chapter held numerous fundraising opportunities to help their NJIT chapters raise money for the rebuilding of their chapter house that was damaged in a fire.
- The chapter has one member who is an Martindale Scholar a very prestigious honor that recognizes Lehigh students in the area of Business
- The chapter has approximately 17 brothers in leadership positions outside of Psi Upsilon and involvement in about 26 outside organizations.
- The chapter initiated a brotherhood development charity this year to support a brother who was going abroad. The committee commends the chapter for this activity.
- Psi Upsilon transitioned this year to a calendar year executive board period. This has been working for them.
- The chapter hosted their 125th Anniversary which President Gast and the International Director for Psi Upsilon
- Overall, the chapter continues to work for them and they stick to them and it's been effective. You can tell the chapter understands leadership.

In the area of **Leadership**, the committee rated Psi Upsilon to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Citizenship

- The chapter had a conduct violation this year but they were proactive, communicative and handled the situation well.
- The standards board is something they've worked on and it seems to be functioning.
- Psi Upsilon has over 30 brothers active in outside organizations
- The chapter has supported 28 philanthropic efforts of both Greek chapters as well as the Lehigh campus community in which over \$1800 was donated
- The chapter has reported approximately 300 community service hours. This is an area that Psi Upsilon prides themselves on and are very good at
- The chapter used campus involvement and leadership as one of the components of offering bids to their new members. Every new member is involved in an outside organization that will benefit Psi U's overall leadership and chapter dynamic.
- The chapter volunteered their services to set up and take down every campus sponsored blood drive that was held on campus.
- The chapter does a great job with balancing both their philanthropic support and their actual service rendered.
- The chapter played major parts in the Community Service Office sponsored programs of Spooktacular, Spring Fling, Parent's Night Out and Victory House Visits.

- The chapter has mainly utilized their Standards Board as a more of an evaluative body of chapter operations rather disciplinary actions. Topic included: reevaluation of the house point system, developing the scholarship plan, establishing the philanthropic standards, reviewing house fines, rewriting the house by-laws, and creating a position review system

In the area of **Citizenship**, the committee rated Psi Upsilon to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Partnership

- The chapters has a great alumni partnership which continues to develop as younger alumni get involved
- The chapter does a good job partnering and supporting other local Psi Upsilon chapters.
- The chapter began to get involved with the Global Union this year with many of their initiatives.
- The chapter worked with Kappa Alpha Theta for their Capture the Flag Tournament
- Psi Upsilon has done a great job with getting faculty other than their advisor involved with the chapter. The committee recommends that the chapter continue this practice in the future.
- The chapter assisted in the Two Dollars a Day Challenge with the Global Union, Microfinance Club, LU/UN Partnership, Global Citizenship, MDGI, and OCS in sponsoring this event.
- The chapter continues to have a great partnership with the community service office oftentimes being majorly supportive of many of their initiatives including Spooktacular, and Spring Fling.
- The chapter has a lot of involvement with other organizations that overlap in the area of partnership and citizenship. The committee challenges the chapter to reach out and make more solid programming connections from the ground up. Psi Upsilon has the acumen to design and implement programming from the initial stages through implementation, based off of the interests of the chapter members, as opposed to outside organizations.
- The chapter continues to be involved with the Alumni Association; scheduling two meeting every year during the fall and spring semesters

In the area of **Partnership**, the committee rated Psi Upsilon to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Stewardship

- Psi Upsilon takes great pride in their chapter facility and their brotherhood.
- Every new member class works on a house project which adds to the unique craftsmanship of their many practical use equipment
- The chapter has had a budge surplus of \$10,000 which will be used to buy new furniture to add to the value and "home" environment that the men like to promote.
- The chapter is very big on ritual which is not just done during new member education. At each meal as well as at each chapter meeting, the brothers sing a formal fraternity song

- The chapter received a new cook in the spring semester and he is a very good fit for the chapter.
- The chapter using a email system to communicate with all brothers in between formal house meeting. This process works great for them as they are all able to be well informed when it comes to chapter operations.
- The chapter continues to implement the Greek Peer Advisor program that was implemented and discontinued by the University a few years ago. This person serves in the role of the Risk Manager as well.
- The chapter is involved with intramurals. They are committed to IM which is actually more obsessive than one would realize in terms of not missing things.

In the area of **Stewardship**, the committee rated Psi Upsilon to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Overall Rating

Overall Psi Upsilon is Silver. They have good sense of who they are as a chapter that clearly understands what it means to be a valued student organization. Besides continuing to work on academic plans, one of the challenges from the committee is for the chapter to extend a sense of who Psi Upsilon is. The committee would like the chapter to partner more in depth on signature events that Psi Upsilon can be known for. They are a very good chapter and they should be exerting their influence on the Lehigh community even more.

The committee assigns Psi Upsilon 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. Psi Upsilon has had an excellent year and the committee continues to be impressed with the work they have done.

Recommendations:

- Psi Upsilon has done a great job with getting faculty other than their advisor involved with the chapter. The committee recommends that the chapter continue this practice in the future.
- The chapter has a lot of involvement with other organizations that overlap in the area of partnership and citizenship. The committee challenges the chapter to reach out and make more solid programming connections from the ground up. Psi Upsilon has the acumen to design and implement programming from the initial stages through implementation, based off of the interests of the chapter members, as opposed to outside organizations.
- The committee recommends that the chapter reach out to look for best practices and partnerships amongst other fraternities and sororities to identify a suitable scholarship plan that fits their needs, specifically the overwhelming presence of engineering majors in the chapter. Psi Upsilon should reach out to faculty and staff resources to ensure that the academic needs of engineering majors are balanced with the other majors represented within the chapter.

