

## **ALPHA PHI ALPHA**

### **Accreditation Report**

2014-2015

#### **Intellectual Development**

- Alpha Phi Alpha was ranked second out of three Multicultural Greek Council Fraternity chapters in the fall 2014 semester with a GPA of 2.328, a decrease of .192 from the spring 2014 semester. The 2.328 GPA placed the chapter below the All Fraternity and All Greek average.
- Alpha Phi Alpha was ranked first out of three Multicultural Greek Council Fraternity chapters in the spring 2015 semester with a GPA of 2.93, an increase of .602 from the fall 2014 semester. The 2.93 GPA placed the chapter below the All Fraternity and All Greek average.
- Alpha Phi Alpha implemented a program called “Alphademics” this year, which was a group study every week and was regularly attended by members, aspirants, and non-members alike.
- Alpha Phi Alpha’s “Kyng’s Week” programming included many opportunities for attendees to further their intellectual curiosity. An example includes the screening of a film called “Pyramid Code” which allowed participants to learn about Egyptian culture and various contributions to modern science and global knowledge. The Committee would like to commend the Chapter for efforts such as these, which promote Intellectual Development beyond academics.
- Alpha Phi Alpha programmed and co-sponsored many events that promoted intellectual curiosity of issues pertaining to diversity and inclusion, such as a discussion-based program called “Desensitization of Words,” and a program called “Lehigh in Shanghai” which allowed members to share about their experiences while increasing general interest of under-represented students in studying abroad.
- Alpha Phi Alpha utilized many resources to support their academic endeavors, including tutors; peer mentors and leaders on campus; their campus advisor, Tyrone Russell; and alumni advisors. The Committee commends the Chapter for reaching out for help with academic challenges, and encourages the Chapter to continue to find more resources that can make a positive impact for members and aspirants.
- Alpha Phi Alpha spent significant efforts focusing on and increasing academic success of its active members. The Committee commends the Chapter for this focus, and recommends the Chapter explore how to translate these efforts to effectively support aspirants’ academic endeavors.

#### **Chapter Development Question for 2015-16:**

- **How can Alpha Phi Alpha better utilize on-campus resources, such as the Center for Academic Success, to promote academic success for both their members and the campus community?**

In the area of **Intellectual Development**, the Committee rated Alpha Phi Alpha to be a **Bronze Chapter**.

#### **Leadership Development**

- Alpha Phi Alpha has representation in several on-campus student organizations, and also supports its members' dedication to holding leadership positions on the Executive Board and Committees of the Multicultural Greek Council.
- Alpha Phi Alpha has maintained a strong level of commitment to sending members to leadership opportunities hosted and run by their Inter/National Headquarters, including Area, Region, and National meetings, summits, and conventions.
- Alpha Phi Alpha hosted their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual brotherhood retreat prior to the beginning of the academic year, where all active members and invited alumni members were involved in goal-setting and strategic planning for the upcoming academic year.
- Alpha Phi Alpha has continued to include "For the Good of the Brotherhood" in their bi-weekly chapter meetings to promote support, discourse, and conflict resolution for its chapter members.
- Alpha Phi Alpha explored the concept of masculinity and leadership in an event called "Real Men Cook Dinner" as a part of their "Kyng's Week" programming, which was well attended and received by the campus community.
- Alpha Phi Alpha supports its members' development of leadership in conjunction with personal passion. This was showcased particularly through one member's responsibility for the Community Service and Youth Development committees, which allowed the member to focus on strengthening the Chapter's relationship and commitment to an Allentown-based youth development center called "The Caring Place."
- Alpha Phi Alpha spread their leadership through campus, particularly through their "Love for all Mankind" event, which seemed to positively impact the campus community.

#### **Chapter Development Question for 2015-16:**

- **How can Alpha Phi Alpha provide opportunities for its members to reflect and build upon their understanding of leadership?**

In the area of **Leadership Development**, the Committee rated Alpha Phi Alpha to be a **Bronze Chapter**.

#### **Community Development**

- Alpha Phi Alpha continues to strengthen its relationships with on-campus student organizations, both Greek and non-Greek alike. These connections can be seen through their community events, and the positive reception of the events highlights the benefits of these collaborative efforts.
- The Chapter is supportive of its Inter/National Headquarters' National Programs, and is especially committed to "Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College." Their enthusiasm for this National Program is highlighted through their continuous relationship with The Caring Place, and weekly visits to support the youth of the program. The Committee considers the commitment to this sustained relationship to be a best practice.
- Alpha Phi Alpha utilized another National Program called "A Voteless People is a Hopeless People" to inform the campus community about voting and civic efforts. The Chapter partnered with the Hispanic Center of the Lehigh Valley and the Bethlehem NAACP chapter for this event.

- Alpha Phi Alpha's annual "Condom Bingo" program aligned with their final National Program requirement called "Project Alpha." This program was held in collaboration with Lambda Sigma Upsilon, Mu Sigma Upsilon, the Black Student Union, and the Women's Center. The Committee commends the Chapter for its efforts to annually program around this topic with multiple campus partners.
- Alpha Phi Alpha continues to develop their relationship with Phi Kappa Theta by supporting their major events, and co-hosting their kick-off event on the UC Front Lawn to promote awareness of men's health issues.
- The Chapter has built strong relationships with other Alpha Phi Alpha chapters at nearby institutions, and regularly travels to support their events when opportunities arise. The Committee would like to note that the Chapter should always be balancing the needs of its members with the desire to support area chapters. These relationships are important and relevant, as is the academic success of active members and aspirants.
- The Committee believes Alpha Phi Alpha's commitment to building mutually beneficial relationships with both on- and off-campus organizations is a best practice.

#### **Chapter Development Question for 2015-16:**

- **How can Alpha Phi Alpha extend their focus and energies appropriately, in a similar vein of the Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College National Program, to support young adults who have made it to college but need support getting to graduation?**

In the area of **Community Development**, the Committee rated Alpha Phi Alpha to be a **Silver Chapter**.

#### **Organizational Development**

- Alpha Phi Alpha experienced organizational challenges this year when their provisional charter was rescinded by the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Board of Directors. The Chapter partnered with their advising alumni chapter and staff members at Lehigh to successfully petition for the extension of their provisional charter.
- The Chapter's partnerships continued through the academic year, and steadily strengthened as trust was established and Chapter members saw the benefit in working with external stakeholders to support their initiatives. The Committee commends the Chapter on these efforts and challenges the Chapter to continue to grow open and honest relationships with relevant stakeholders in the future.
- Alpha Phi Alpha has continued its organizational efforts from previous years, including the use of Robert's Rules of Order and "For the Good of the Brotherhood" to improve bi-weekly chapter meetings and the gathering of brothers for weekly meals on "Ice Cold Tuesdays."
- The Chapter partnered with an area chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha with a long history of successful organizational development, to learn from their brothers about best practices in chapter management and event planning. The Committee commends the Chapter for seeking advice from other chapters in the area identified as successful.

- Alpha Phi Alpha developed mobile business cards to increase their exposure on and off campus.
- Alpha Phi Alpha was unable to conduct intake due to low academic standing of aspirant men. The Committee is concerned about this and recommends the Chapter explore their marketing strategies, adherence to their Organization's aim of scholarship, as well as their support mechanisms for those who are identified as struggling academically.

#### **Chapter Development Question for 2015-16:**

- **How can Alpha Phi Alpha establish consistency in its organizational efforts to ensure the future sustainability of the Chapter?**

In the area of **Organizational Development**, the Committee rated Alpha Phi Alpha to be a **Poor Chapter**.

#### **Overall Rating**

**Overall, Alpha Phi Alpha has been rated a Bronze chapter by the 2014-2015 Accreditation Committee.**

Alpha Phi Alpha has experienced a series of ups and downs this academic year, and the Committee acknowledges the strain this placed on the members of the Chapter. Despite this stress, the Chapter successfully continued its cornerstone local programs and support of prescribed National Programs. Additionally, the Committee is impressed with the Chapter's commitment to spreading positivity throughout the campus and local community. Alpha Phi Alpha has built meaningful relationships with on- and off-campus organizations, and appropriately utilizes these relationships to promote multiple visions for success. The Committee would like to see the Chapter place a similar amount of effort on strengthening their organizational practices to ensure a sustainable future as productive Greek leaders on campus.

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

#### **Chapter Development Questions**

- How can Alpha Phi Alpha better utilize on-campus resources, such as the Center for Academic Success, to promote academic success for both their members and the campus community?
- How can Alpha Phi Alpha provide opportunities for its members to reflect and build upon their understanding of leadership?
- How can Alpha Phi Alpha extend their focus and energies appropriately, in a similar vein of the 'Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College' National Program, to support young adults who have made it to college but need support getting to graduation?
- How can Alpha Phi Alpha establish consistency in its organizational efforts to ensure the future sustainability of the Chapter?

#### **Best Practices**

- The Chapter is supportive of its Inter/National Headquarters' National Programs, and is especially committed to the "Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College." Their enthusiasm for this National Program is highlighted through their continuous relationship with The Caring Place, and weekly visits to support the youth of the program. The Committee considers the commitment to this sustained relationship to be a best practice.
- The Committee believes Alpha Phi Alpha's commitment to building mutually beneficial relationships with both on- and off-campus organizations is a best practice.
- The Chapter partnered with an area chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha with a long history of successful organizational development, to learn from their brothers about best practices in chapter management and event planning. The Committee commends the Chapter for seeking advice from other chapters in the area identified as successful.