

PSI UPSILON

Accreditation Report

2014-2015

Intellectual Development

- Psi Upsilon was ranked 13th out of 17 Interfraternity Council Chapters in the fall 2014 semester with a GPA of 2.9625, an increase of .06552 from the spring 2014 semester. The 2.9625 GPA placed the chapter below the All Fraternity and All Greek average.
- Psi Upsilon was ranked 10th out of 17 Interfraternity Council Chapters in the spring 2015 semester with a GPA of 3.03673, an increase of .07423 from the fall 2014 semester. The 3.03673 GPA placed the chapter below the All Fraternity and All Greek average.
- Psi Upsilon's spring 2015 new member class GPA was 3.031 ranking fifth out of 17 Interfraternity Council Chapters.
- Psi Upsilon had 22.2% of the chapter on the Dean's List in the fall 2014 semester and 16% on the Dean's List in the spring 2015 semester.
- Psi Upsilon utilizes an accountability system within their academic plan that incorporates three different types of probation. The Committee has, and still does, consider this a good practice and commends the Chapter for its intentional, continued use of this plan. The Committee considers the Chapter's academic plan, as developed and utilized, to be a best practice.
- Psi Upsilon revised their academic plan to include even more incentives for those who experience improvement and success in their academic endeavors. These incentives include financial awards, house points, recognition certificates, etc.
- Psi Upsilon connects to their ritual by implementing literary exercises to discuss recently-read books and issues of global importance during chapter meetings.
- Psi Upsilon hosts a Professor's Appreciation Dinner every fall semester, and the Chapter utilizes this opportunity to recognize support from their faculty as well as achievements of member brothers.
- Psi Upsilon implements many programs and events which showcase intellectual development from a non-academic focus, and the Committee commends the Chapter for these continued efforts.

Chapter Development Question for 2015-16:

- **How can Psi Upsilon work to embed the Creative Curiosity bLUEprint foundation to create opportunities for members to intentionally reflect upon and maximize their learning from the programs already in place for their experience?**

In the area of **Intellectual Development**, the Committee rated Psi Upsilon to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Leadership Development

- Psi Upsilon supports its members' engagement in leadership roles outside of chapter opportunities, and encourages their reflection and connection of development across experiences. The Committee encourages the Chapter to continue to explore these opportunities for reflection and connection in experiences.
- The Chapter sends one representative every year to their Psi Upsilon Archon's Academy, which is the Inter/National Headquarter's annual president's leadership academy. This year the current president attended and brought back many ideas for implementation at Lehigh.
- Psi Upsilon is a member organization for the Global Union umbrella organization on campus. Psi Upsilon has members in leadership positions within Global Union, and actively supports and attends events put on by the Global Union. The Committee considers this involvement to be a best practice.
- Psi Upsilon includes several members from varying classes in their formal leadership structure and positions. The number of leadership opportunities available in the Chapter totals 23 formal positions. The Committee commends the Chapter on this structure.
- Psi Upsilon hosts numerous events throughout the year, for the purposes of building and solidifying lasting bonds between the brotherhood. These events include annual favorites like Secret Santa and the Goodale Cup, and new excursions such as a fishing trip in the fall laser tag in the spring. The Committee commends the Chapter for truly understanding the meaning of brotherhood and the responsibility an organization has to build those relationships, rather than assuming they will happen naturally and without intention. The Committee recognizes this as a best practice within the community.
- Psi Upsilon takes great pride in being a brotherhood built upon respect. The Committee would like to acknowledge and commend the authenticity with which this was displayed in the Accreditation presentation and report, as well as throughout the year.

Chapter Development Question for 2015-16:

- **How can Psi Upsilon maintain their commitment to their values, without being swayed by peer pressure or social culture, yet become more involved in the Greek community to lead by example for peers who have similar ambitions?**

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

Community Development

- The Chapter hosted their National Convention just before the past fall semester. As a host organization, the Chapter was able to implement a "Day of Service" as a part of the programming. The Committee commends the Chapter for this effort, and recommends the Chapter continue to find opportunities such as this to build upon and integrate service in meaningful ways.
- Psi Upsilon continued many of its regular involvement programs, including their annual Pumpkin Carving Station for attendees at Lehigh's Spooktacular community event in October.

- Psi Upsilon partnered with Alpha Gamma Delta in the spring semester for their second annual Tie Dye event to raise funds for both organizations' national philanthropies. Psi Upsilon donated their raised funds to the Sam Schmidt Paralysis Foundation. Additionally, Psi Upsilon was recognized by their peers at an All-Greek Council Meeting as a true demonstrator of Greek unity, primarily based on the success of this program.
- Psi Upsilon maintained commitment to many annual events by contributing to and attending events such as Relay for Life, Dance Marathon, Take Back the Night, and the Vagina Monologues, etc. The Committee recognizes the authenticity with which the membership engages in these programs, and considers this to be a best practice amongst their peers in terms of intentional involvement and support for community initiatives.
- Psi Upsilon developed many new, meaningful relationships with campus and community partners this year, including the Fountain Hill Elementary School. The Committee commends the Chapter for these new partnerships and encourages the chapter to maintain them now that they are built.
- Psi Upsilon intentionally increased the number of service projects that members were involved in this year and found the experience to be very rewarding. The Committee commends the Chapter for this commitment and subsequent success.
- Psi Upsilon maintains a strong relationship with their alumni. The chapter routinely engages with their alumni board and advisors through meetings, their annual Founders Day event, and the bi-annual Greek Alumni Council meeting.
- Psi Upsilon is currently working with their alumni board, the Goodale Literary Association, to plan a Networking Event for the fall semester. The Committee is anticipatory about the possibility of great success for this event.

Chapter Development Question for 2015-16:

- **How can Psi Upsilon continue to build and maintain meaningful opportunities for philanthropy and service involvement, without spreading themselves too thin?**

In the area of **Community Development**, the Committee rated Psi Upsilon to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Organizational Development

- Psi Upsilon is very committed to exploring their ritual throughout the year, and is able to do so in manageable, yet meaningful ways, such as through songs and literary exercises, etc.
- Psi Upsilon was one of many groups to be impacted by the bankruptcy of the Financial Management Association (FMA), and the Committee would like to commend the Chapter for their well thought-out plan to alleviate their debt.
- Psi Upsilon's standards board is utilized in many innovative ways, including being the party responsible, in conjunction with the house manager, for meeting with the facility chef on a regular basis. Another way the standards board has been utilized this past year was with the responsibility of updating position binders. The Committee commends the chapter for finding many creative ways to involve positional leaders beyond the standard prescribed expectations.

- Psi Upsilon implemented their Strategic Planning Committee in 2012, and continues to find value in its existence and responsibility for creating and revising long-term strategic plans for the Chapter.
- Psi Upsilon annually revises their strategic plan, helmed by the leadership of their Strategic Planning Committee. The plan includes a SWOT analysis, reflection of competitive advantages and command structure, creation of short and long-term goals that are specific and measureable, and an operations plan for achieving goals. The Committee believes this plan creation, revision, and reflection process to be a best practice.
- Psi Upsilon altered their advising structure, and invited Professor McIntosh to become their new faculty/staff advisor, whom they regularly engage with in a positive way.

Chapter Development Question for 2015-16:

- **How can Psi Upsilon utilize their strengths in strategic planning to embrace opportunities for meaningful positive change in a way that enhances their long-standing traditions and values?**

In the area of **Organizational Development**, the Committee rated Psi Upsilon to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Facilities Management

- Psi Upsilon had no common damages for 2014-15.
- Psi Upsilon has a Green Chair position who helps keep the chapter focused on sustainability initiatives and opportunities throughout the year. The Committee believes the intentional commitment to these initiatives, with the creation and maintenance of this leadership position, is a best practice.
- Psi Upsilon managed their financial debt positively, and did not feel any long-lasting impact on their ability to maintain a continuously-improving facility.
- The Chapter sets a standard for monthly meetings between their chef, house management, and standards board to discuss and prevent relevant problems before they arise. Additionally, these meetings provide an opportunity for communication regarding ways the membership can better support the chef, which results in an increased understanding of how the brothers' actions impact the service providers of the facility. The Committee believes this is a best practice.
- Psi Upsilon maintained their practice of chapter-wide weekly cleans, and the Committee commends the Chapter for continuing to instill this level of responsibility in the membership.
- Psi Upsilon invested in upgrades to their facility this year. When possible, the Chapter ensured that aesthetic upgrades also aided in a reduction of ecological impacts from facility use, like with the purchase of blinds for the library.
- Psi Upsilon showcases true respect for their facility and understanding of the privilege the facility affords them. The Committee commends the Chapter for demonstrating this commitment in an authentic manner.

Chapter Development Question for 2015-16:

- **How can Psi Upsilon continue to impress upon their new members the legacy of their facility to the history of the chapter?**

In the area of **Facilities Management**, the Committee rated Psi Upsilon to be a **Gold Chapter**.

Overall Rating

Overall, Psi Upsilon has been rated a Gold chapter by the 2014-2015 Accreditation Committee.

Psi Upsilon presented an impressive reflection on their past year of accomplishments and areas of growth and success. The Chapter has many programs and initiatives that are worthy of praise and the Committee hopes will be shared with peer organizations as best practices to support the overall growth and development of the Lehigh community. The Committee hopes the chapter will harness their momentum of positive impact and growth, and become more established as leaders within and of the Greek community in the coming years.

The Accreditation committee assigns Psi Upsilon an overall rating of Gold, 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

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- How can Psi Upsilon maintain their commitment to their values, without being swayed by peer pressure or social culture, yet become more involved in the Greek community to lead by example for peers who have similar ambitions?
- How can Psi Upsilon continue to build and maintain meaningful opportunities for philanthropy and service involvement, without spreading themselves too thin?
- How can Psi Upsilon utilize their strengths in strategic planning to embrace opportunities for meaningful positive change in a way that enhances their long-standing traditions and values?
- How can Psi Upsilon continue to impress upon their new members the legacy of their facility to the history of the chapter?

Best Practices

- Psi Upsilon utilizes an accountability system within their academic plan that incorporates three different types of probation. The Committee has, and still does, consider this a good practice and commends the Chapter for its intentional, continued use of this plan. The Committee considers the Chapter's academic plan, as developed and utilized, to be a best practice.
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