

THETA CHI

Accreditation Report

2014-2015

Intellectual Development

- Theta Chi was ranked 14th out of 17 Interfraternity Council Chapters in the fall 2014 semester with a GPA of 2.93044, an increase of .08422 from the spring 2014 semester. The 2.93044 GPA placed the chapter below the All Fraternity and All Greek average.
- Theta Chi was ranked 16th out of 17 Interfraternity Council Chapters in the spring 2015 semester with a GPA of 2.8886, a decrease of .04184 from the fall 2014 semester. The 2.8886 GPA placed the chapter below the All Fraternity and All Greek average.
- Theta Chi's fall 2014 new member class GPA was 3.0343 ranking fourth out of 11 Interfraternity Council Chapters. The new member class GPA was 2.599 for spring 2015 ranking 16th out of 17 Interfraternity Council Chapters.
- Theta Chi had 8.9% of the chapter on the Dean's List in the fall 2014 semester and 5.2% on the Dean's List in the spring 2015 semester.
- Theta Chi's academic success plan promotes optional study hours, especially during the New Member Education time period, for all members of the chapter.
- Theta Chi continued to implement their "Movie Night in America" program, watching several movies from various genres and drawing connections to current national and local events as relevant to the experience of the chapter's members. The Chapter partnered with the Director of Multicultural Affairs, Tyrone Russell, to lead a stimulating conversation regarding at least one of the films screened for this program.
- Theta Chi encourages discussion in chapter meetings regarding recent inter/national issues, often led by the Chapter's Current Events Chairman.
- Theta Chi has sustained its "Lending a Helping Hand" tutoring program, which connects brothers who can assist each other through academic challenges based on specific course enrollment and academic majors.
- Theta Chi hosted their formal Faculty Appreciation Dinner with Pi Beta Phi again this year, which helps inspire stronger bonds between chapter members and faculty on campus.
- The chapter is in the planning phase of creating an Intellectual Chair position, which will allow a member to focus on the development and implementation of Intellectual Development programs throughout the year.
- Theta Chi focused on the continued establishment of their core programs this year. The Committee is concerned about the possibility of stagnation if programs and efforts are not continually revised and improved each year, beyond basic repetition.
- Theta Chi made steps to understand and infuse concepts of intellectual growth—beyond the basic premise of academic success—into their programs. The Committee commends the chapter for this and would like to encourage the chapter to continue these efforts and work with their Assistant Director to further develop an understanding of the underpinnings of Intellectual Development.

Chapter Development Question for 2015-16:

- **How can Theta Chi intentionally infuse more curiosity and intellectual development with all chapter members beyond those who naturally gravitate to these experiences and conversations?**

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

Leadership Development

- Theta Chi revamped their House Points system this year, which encouraged and incentivized leadership amongst its members in both internal and external engagement opportunities.
- Theta Chi continued to utilize its new election cycle on a calendar year cycle rather than an academic year cycle, for the second year in a row. The Chapter has seen success in this change of election cycles.
- The Chapter additionally continued to use a slating system for their small chairs elections, which they have also found to be effective in its election and transition operations.
- Theta Chi has continued to include alumni in their operations and events; the Chapter's relationship with their chapter advisor, Gary Tilles, is exceptionally strong.
- Theta Chi sent 12 brothers to attend the Inter/National Headquarters mid-year leadership retreat, which is a higher number of supported attendees than any previous year.
- Theta Chi benefited tremendously from the learning brought back by the Chapter President after his attendance at the Inter/National Headquarters' Deranian Presidents' Conference. The President reflected significant learning in methods of delegation and influential leadership.
- Theta Chi implemented a new position, the President's Chief of Staff, as a means to help the outgoing President transition out of the role and support the incoming President, rather than succumbing to previous attitudes similar to a version of leadership "senior-itis."
- The Chapter is still exploring the meaning and opportunities provided by the Vice President of Health & Safety and the Sacred Purpose initiative, introduced last year by Theta Chi Inter/National Headquarters. The Committee thinks this is an area of untapped potential, and would like to see the Chapter work closer with their Assistant Director from the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs, Carter Gilbert, and Inter/National Headquarters representatives to better understand the opportunities available.
- Theta Chi encourages non-positional leadership from its members by encouraging and promoting individual members' passions such as yoga and hiking in the Poconos.
- The Committee commends the Chapter for sustaining some recent changes to the Executive Board structure, and the exploration of a few non-positional leadership opportunities. The Committee recommends the Chapter continue exploring opportunities for general members to support the success of the chapter.

Chapter Development Question for 2015-16:

- **How can Theta Chi be more intentional in creating avenues for general members to build leadership capacity?**

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

Community Development

- Theta Chi partnered with Kappa Alpha Theta to host their first annual philanthropic event, "Queso for Casa." The organizations raised over \$750 from 280 guests who showed up in support of the event.
- Theta Chi continued partnership with Alpha Chi Omega to co-sponsor their annual "Dodge Domestic Violence" event.
- Theta Chi continued to support many programs this year, including Take Back the Night, Relay for Life, Zeta Pink Week, Spring Fling, Dance Marathon, etc. The Committee commends the Chapter for continuing to sustain positive relationships and supportive efforts for these annual events, and recommends the Chapter additionally explore involvements and new relationships with different chapters and non-Greek organizations in the future.
- Theta Chi members contributed over 400 hours of service for community and philanthropic efforts throughout the academic year. The Chapter requires a minimum of 4 hours of service per semester from all members, and has mechanisms in place to reward those members who go above and beyond this minimum requirement.
- Theta Chi interacts with families and alumni every semester, through events such as their annual Family Dinner, and communication efforts such as their Red and White e-newsletter.
- Theta Chi programmed an additional family event in the spring semester, which was complimentary to their fall Family Dinner. The Chapter continues to see a good turn-out for these events and enjoys spending time getting to know the families of their members.

Chapter Development Question for 2015-16:

- **How can Theta Chi create opportunities for members to explore the rational and reasoning behind why they participate in service and philanthropy and how it connects to their values and purpose on a deeper level?**

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

Organizational Development

- Theta Chi's main focus has been to improve efficiency and productivity of the house as a whole and involve more members in general and daily operations. This focus was developed after identifying the impact of apathy within the brotherhood. The Chapter leadership set out to resolve these issues by setting clear goals for executive positions and the Chapter as a whole.

- Theta Chi worked to increase accountability for the executive officers through a system of intentional meetings and improved communication with general members. In particular, weekly task lists were drafted and referred to routinely to ensure every officer knew what they were responsible for at all times.
- Theta Chi revamped their chapter meetings to ensure they were efficient and productive and therefore worth the time invested by their members.
- Theta Chi revised their House Points system to reflect the true plethora of opportunities a member may have to be involved on and off campus. The Committee notes a highlight of this revision is the allocation of points for supporting brothers' events and programs on campus, thus promoting incentives for building brotherhood.
- The Committee commends the Chapter for acknowledging and naming difficulties within the Chapter. The Committee would like to now see the Chapter take appropriate steps and actions to truly make a difference and improve upon these issues.
- The Committee is concerned there may be areas where the Chapter is being given resources (such as the Vice President of Health & Safety role, and the Sacred Purpose initiative) to evolve, but it seems as though they are missing the opportunities before them. The Committee recommends the Chapter explore what might be the underlying causes of this gap in utilization of resources and work with their AD from the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs, Carter Gilbert, to better address their challenges in the future.

Chapter Development Question for 2015-16:

- **How can Theta Chi better utilize the opportunities and resources available to them to evolve given the changing university climate?**

In the area of **Organizational Development**, the Committee rated Theta Chi to be a **Bronze Chapter**.

Facilities Management

- Theta Chi's common damages for 2014-15 was \$1354.45.
- Theta Chi has demonstrated recent commitment to addressing the complacency of its members in regards to the stewardship of their facility. Primary goals included: accountability for damages, open communication, and improved cleanliness.
- Theta Chi had numerous minor and some major damage issues to the facility and in the spring semester began stricter use of the Standards Board to hold responsible parties accountable.
- Theta Chi began strengthening their relationship with the Office of Residential Services by holding a meeting between key leaders and staff representatives, and maintaining more regular communication throughout the semester.
- Theta Chi addressed issues of ignorance regarding Residential Services policies by educating the chapter appropriately, once it was identified that some members were unaware of the standards to which they were expected to adhere.
- Chapter leadership began seeking regular input from general members regarding facility improvement projects; an increased interest from members which was sparked from a greater care for the state of the facility.

- The Committee is certainly concerned by the lack of care the members had been showcasing for their facility. They expect the Chapter will continue to strengthen the members understanding of the privileges and responsibilities associated with on-campus living. The Chapter will need to ensure all members continue to develop greater respect for their facility, particularly through standards actions as necessary.

Chapter Development Question for 2015-16:

- **How can Theta Chi develop and sustain a greater level of respect from members for their living facilities?**

In the area of **Facilities Management**, the Committee rated Theta Chi to be a **Bronze Chapter**.

Overall Rating

Overall, Theta Chi has been rated a Bronze chapter by the 2014-2015 Accreditation Committee.

Theta Chi has made some good structural changes to their operations, with hopes to improve productivity and general morale for its membership. The Committee would like to see the Chapter continue to explore additional ways to develop their general members, beyond those with positional leadership status. The Chapter should additionally spend time strategically determining how to continue its strong partnerships and events, while exploring new opportunities. The Committee is concerned the Chapter has become complacent and stagnant in its activities, and hopes this is only a momentary stop on its way back to being a high-performing Chapter.

The Accreditation committee assigns Theta Chi 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 Theta Chi intentionally infuse more curiosity and intellectual development with all chapter members beyond those who naturally gravitate to these experiences and conversations?
- How can Theta Chi be more intentional in creating avenues for general members to build leadership capacity?
- How can Theta Chi create opportunities for members to explore the rational and reasoning behind why they participate in service and philanthropy and how it connects to their values and purpose on a deeper level?
- How can Theta Chi utilize the opportunities and resources available to them to evolve given the changing university climate?
- How can Theta Chi develop and sustain a greater level of respect from members for their living facilities?