

PSI UPSILON

Accreditation Report
2015-2016

Intellectual Development

- Psi Upsilon was ranked 15th out of 17 Interfraternity Council Chapters in the fall 2015 semester with a GPA of 2.92421, a decrease of .11252 from the spring 2015 semester. The 2.92421 GPA placed the chapter below the All Fraternity and All Greek average.
- Psi Upsilon was ranked 14th out of 17 Interfraternity Council Chapters in the spring 2016 semester with a GPA of 2.8736, a decrease of .05061 from the fall 2015 semester. The 2.8736 GPA placed the chapter below the All Fraternity and All Greek average.
- Psi Upsilon spring 2016 new member class GPA was 2.654 ranking 16th out of 17 Interfraternity Council Chapters.
- Psi Upsilon had 18.4% of the chapter on the Dean's List in the fall 2015 semester and 13.7% on the Dean's List in the spring 2016 semester.
- Psi Upsilon implements several systems to support members' academic experiences, including library hours, mentoring programs, a variety of incentives, and requirements for holding elected leadership positions, in addition to their formal academic support plan.
- Psi Upsilon continues to utilize an accountability system within their academic plan that incorporates three different types of probation. The Committee considers this to be a best practice.
- Psi Upsilon's academic plan has always been well-received by the Committee, but this year they are concerned due to the chapter's decreasing academic record. The Committee urges the chapter to do a substantial review of their practices to identify what is no longer working in their plan, and rectify any issues they find.
- 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. The chapter hosted seven faculty members for the Dinner in November.
- The Chapter unfortunately does not meet with their Faculty Advisor regularly, and the Committee recommends this be a priority moving forward with respect to academic support of the chapter and its members.
- Psi Upsilon implements many programs and events which showcase intellectual development from a non-academic focus; e.g. hosting an event in their facility in conjunction with Global Union's "International Week 2015" event.

Chapter Development Question for 2016-17:

- **How can Psi Upsilon continue to develop their academic plan and specifically their mentoring program by utilizing resources available on campus to train the mentors?**

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

Leadership Development

- Psi Upsilon continues to support members' engagement in leadership roles outside the chapter, and encourages their reflection and connection of development across experiences. Examples include members taking on roles such as Orientation Leader, LeaderShape On-site Co-Coordinator, and Break the Silence Peer Educator.
- The Chapter sends one representative every year to their Psi Upsilon Archon's Academy, which is the Inter/National Headquarters' 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.
- Psi Upsilon includes several members from varying classes in their formal leadership structure and positions. Elections occur for leadership of both Executive Board and non-Executive Board positions; elections are held every semester for non-Executive Board positions. This allows members to try on several different positions during their membership in the chapter.
- The Chapter has made a habit of inviting the standing president of the university to visit the facility for a hosted dinner. This allows time for relationship building and learning from a premier leader established on campus who understands strategic planning and visioning.
- Psi Upsilon promotes learning of the organization's core values through its New Member Enlightenment Program, with each week being focused around the theme of one of these values.
- Psi Upsilon hosts numerous events throughout the year, for the purposes of building and solidifying lasting bonds of brotherhood. These events include annual favorites like Secret Santa and the Goodale Cup tournament, and new excursions such as a go-carting, paintballing, and a trip to Sky Zone.

Chapter Development Question for 2016-17:

- **How can Psi Upsilon promote engagement as campus leaders of all its members, ensuring there is a steady presence from the chapter as a whole rather than just a few members?**

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

Community Development

- Psi Upsilon has strong connections with many alumni, and is especially adept at engaging maintaining relationships with its young alumni which can be a pivotal time in an alum's life. The chapter creates many opportunities to engage with alumni

including football game tailgates, Founder's Day events, and guest speaker invitations for workshops and programs.

- Psi Upsilon hosted its annual Pumpkin Carving Station for attendees at Lehigh's Spooktacular community event in October. This is a highlight for the community every year, and the Committee commends the chapter for their ongoing commitment to this program.
- Psi Upsilon partnered with Alpha Gamma Delta for the second year in a row to host a Tie Dye event to raise funds for both organizations' national philanthropies. Psi Upsilon donated their raised funds to the Sam Schmidt Paralysis Foundation.
- The Committee commends the chapter for continuing to develop its partnership with Fountain Hill Elementary School by volunteering for their After-School Recreation Program. As of the submission of their accreditation report, the chapter had volunteered well over 100 hours of service to this program, maintaining a regular volunteer presence upon which the School could depend.
- Psi Upsilon implemented a different approach to expectations for members' engagement in service and philanthropy this year, requiring less hours and events than years past. The chapter took a risk and lowered its expectations to only 2 hours of service per semester and no set number of event requirements. The result was a stark contrast to previous years with members completing an average of 12 hours of community service, and improvement of general attendance at a greater number of events.

Chapter Development Question for 2016-17:

- **How can the chapter ensure members are making personal connection to their service and philanthropy engagement, and promote greater reflection and learning from these opportunities?**

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

Organizational Development

- Psi Upsilon is building a strong relationship with their new alumni advisor, a member who graduated from Lehigh University in 2013. The members are excited to have his insight and advice on chapter and organizational matters that arise.
- Psi Upsilon implements a three-pronged approach to officer transitions, which includes a period of shadowing the outgoing officer in their position, maintaining and utilizing officer position binders, in addition to mandatory meetings between the outgoing and incoming officer.
- Psi Upsilon implemented their Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) in 2012, and continues to find value in its existence and responsibility for creating and revising long-term strategic plans for the Chapter. The SPC meets about four times per semester and analyzes the strengths and weaknesses of chapter operations to inform their strategic and action plans.
- Psi Upsilon ensures the ongoing exploration of ritual by conducting ritual in both formal and informal ways, including the use of Symposia at every chapter meeting.
- Psi Upsilon continues to use their Standards Board in several ways beyond a sitting committee for disciplinary action. Examples of the Board's involvement include

oversight of chapter bylaws, auditing financial records, and evaluating the House Points system at least once every three years.

- The Chapter was found responsible for hosting an unregistered party at their facility in September, 2015, where they were distributing alcohol to their guests in an irresponsible way that violated the Social Policy and general recommendations for responsible hosting of a social event. The Chapter was placed on Disciplinary Probation for the remaining duration of the fall 2015 semester, and did not have any further violations of the Social Policy.
- The Committee commends the chapter for working proactively and productively with the Office of Student Conduct and Community Expectations through these proceedings.
- Psi Upsilon had one major life safety violation for a covered smoke detector in September, 2015.
- Psi Upsilon's common damages for year were \$89.40.

Chapter Development Question for 2016-17:

- **How can Psi Upsilon develop a culture of accountability whereby all members are aware of social expectations and risk management policies and accept responsibility for chapter actions, and the chapter likewise understands its responsibility as a group for the actions of individuals?**

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

Overall Rating

Overall, Psi Upsilon has been rated a Silver chapter by the 2015-2016 Accreditation Committee.

Psi Upsilon has continued to showcase respect for the Committee's recommendations by making appropriate improvements to their chapter operations this year. Despite a hiccup at the beginning of the fall semester, the chapter leadership showcased humility and adaptability as they worked with the Office of Student Conduct and Community Expectations. The Chapter did not miss a beat in their regular operations as they continued to grow their relationships and commitment to service, while achieving a balance of philanthropic engagement which was a challenge the previous year. Though academics are still a point of potential concern for the chapter, it is evident they are more than committed to doing all they can to ensure their members are supported as best they can be. The Committee hopes the chapter will rise to the challenges presented in this report, and know these challenges come from a place of respect and belief the chapter can reach an exceptional level of achievement.

The Accreditation committee assigns Psi Upsilon an overall rating of Silver, which is considered an high level of achievement in the Accreditation process, with all the privileges and rewards that accompany such a rating. Congratulations!

Chapter Development Questions

- How can Psi Upsilon continue to develop their academic plan and specifically their mentoring program by utilizing resources available on campus to train the mentors?

- How can Psi Upsilon promote engagement as campus leaders of all its members, ensuring there is a steady presence from the chapter as a whole rather than just a few members?
- How can the chapter ensure members are making personal connection to their service and philanthropy engagement, and promote greater reflection and learning from these opportunities?
- How can Psi Upsilon develop a culture of accountability whereby all members are aware of social expectations and risk management policies and accept responsibility for chapter actions, and the chapter likewise understands its responsibility as a group for the actions of individuals?

Best Practices

- Psi Upsilon continues to utilize an accountability system within their academic plan that incorporates three different types of probation. The Committee considers this to be a best practice.