

ALPHA OMICRON PI

Accreditation Report
2018-2019

Leadership & Member Development

- Alpha Omicron Pi established two new positions to include Eco-Chair and Wellness Chair. Though the latter position was required to be established by The Panhellenic Council, the committee appreciated the forethought taken to incorporate this role seamlessly into the chapter.
- Alpha Omicron Pi adheres to its Standards of Excellence as set forth by their International Headquarters. The Lambda Upsilon chapter received the “Ruby” level, which is the highest level that can be achieved and speaks to the significant accomplishments within the following areas: Experience, Character and Dignity, Scholarship, College Loyalty, Fraternal Responsibility and Ambition.
- Alpha Omicron Pi noted that it continues to grow its new membership education efforts as a means to help everyone feel welcome and learn the importance of their chapter rituals and values. They also focused on their anti-hazing policies, developing a “Hazing Education Module” and Myth Buster for new members. The committee commends Alpha Omicron Pi’s intentionality regarding their chapter ritual and its incorporation into the daily life of members.
- Alpha Omicron Pi hosted their region’s Northeast Weekend Conference on Lehigh’s Mountaintop campus, which was an opportunity for members to gather for collective learning through workshops and speakers/presentations. The committee commends Alpha Omicron Pi’s attention to its efforts to cultivate and strengthen its relationships with its alumnae and participate in these national leadership efforts.

Chapter Development Questions for 2019-2020:

- **How can Alpha Omicron Pi be more proactive in developing strategies that address students’ overall health and wellness of its members? How are healthy habits incorporated in a member’s overall person?**

In the area of **Leadership & Member Development**, the committee rated Alpha Omicron Pi to be an **Accredited with Excellence Chapter**.

Organizational Operations

- Alpha Omicron Pi strengthened the relationship and communication with the Vice President of Standards and the Standards Board, as well as the chapter members, to include more transparency in the Standards Handbook to ensure members’ understanding of chapter expectations and requirements, as well as enforcement if standards are not met.
- The Vice President of Standards engaged members in discussions regarding her role as the Vice President and the Standards process. This resulted in members becoming more aware of their accountability to the chapter, as well as a lessening of the fear associated with this process.
- The committee commends Alpha Omicron Pi’s efforts to increase and encourage participation in career, networking and related professional development events and programs.

- Alpha Omicron Pi noted its values-based approach to recruitment and need to go beyond superficial relationships. The committee commends the chapter's approach in creating mock recruitment sessions as a means to have more quality conversations with prospective members despite the time constraints.
- Alpha Omicron Pi acknowledged recent disciplinary charges against the chapter and recommends that the chapter fully incorporate its learning from this process and experience into how it truly supports and develops its current, new and prospective members.

Chapter Development Question for 2019-2020:

- **How can Alpha Omicron Pi actively help the larger fraternity and sorority community strengthen its recruitment goals?**

In the area of **Organizational Operations**, the committee rated Alpha Omicron Pi to be an **Accredited Chapter**.

Community Service & Engagement

- Alpha Omicron Pi noted its inconsistency with service and narrowed its community service and focus to its work with LifePath, which provides programs and services to adults with special needs. Members volunteer on-site on a regular basis, which contributes to the chapter members' goals of completing five hours of service per person each semester.
- The committee recommends that Alpha Omicron Pi contact the College of Education regarding their work with individuals with autism in order to learn more about the challenges of this population with an understanding that service is a learning experience and does not always have to be funding focused.
- Alpha Omicron Pi's philanthropy goals included creating opportunities for impact and working with Greek organizations that they have not partnered with in the past as a means to expand their reach and connection within the community. More specifically, they worked with Chi Psi Fraternity and ROTC to support the Fisher House Foundation.
- The chapter partnered with Alpha Gamma Delta to co-host the "Mountain Hunk" event to benefit the Arthritis Foundation. Alpha Omicron Pi was not able to participate in Relay for Life due to disciplinary issues, but ultimately raised over \$17,000 for the American Cancer Society. Alpha Omicron Pi has supported this cause and event for four years.
- Alpha Omicron Pi noted the seriousness of hazing and built on the "Turning Tragedy into Progress" presentation in January, 2019 with a follow-up chapter discussion regarding the personal impact of the stories that were shared and how they can address hazing on campus.
- Alpha Omicron Pi wants to provide a safe environment for its members. The chapter designates a Sober Monitor, as well as a Safety Sister each night to be available as a resource for crisis and alcohol-related issues.
- The chapter is committed to strengthening and maintaining its alumnae engagement. To that end, they hosted local alumnae for their annual Founder's Day event in December, 2018 and Alumnae Brunch in April, 2019.

Chapter Development Question for 2019-2020:

- **How can Alpha Omicron Pi continue to make strides in service to the local Bethlehem community?**

In the area of **Community Service & Engagement**, the committee rated Alpha Omicron Pi to be an **Accredited Chapter**.

Academic & Intellectual Advancement

- Alpha Omicron Pi was ranked fourth out of eight Panhellenic Sororities in the fall 2018 semester with a GPA of 3.46, a decrease of 0.02 from the spring 2018 semester. The 3.46 GPA placed the chapter above the All Sorority and All Greek average.
- Alpha Omicron Pi was ranked second out of eight Panhellenic Sororities in the spring 2019 semester with a GPA of 3.48, an increase of 0.02 from the fall 2018 semester. The 3.48 GPA placed the chapter above the All Sorority and All Greek average.
- Alpha Omicron Pi's new member class GPA was 3.19 for spring 2019 ranking fifth out of eight Panhellenic Sororities.
- Alpha Omicron Pi had 38.8% of the chapter on the Dean's List in the fall 2018 semester and 33.6% on the Dean's List in the spring 2019 semester.
- The chapter implemented an in-house tutoring system as a means to improve sisters' academic success by identifying those sisters who earned a B in a specific course as peer tutors. The committee recommends that Alpha Omicron Pi consider the Center for Academic Success as a resource for tutoring support and strategies for academic success.
- Alpha Omicron Pi also utilized peer support through the Alpha Advising Program, which matches new members with upper-class members as a way for the latter to provide guidance and support both academically and personally.
- Alpha Omicron Pi hosted Lynn Mull from Redwood Leadership and Christine Russell from the Center for Career and Professional Development to present on internships and job interview preparation. The chapter found this to be very valuable.
- Alpha Omicron Pi is proactive in supporting members' intellectual development. Members' involvements include the Martindale Student Associates Program, membership in Beta Gamma Sigma (College of Business Honor Society), and recipients of the Iacocca Internships and Williams Prize.
- Alpha Omicron Pi seeks fun ways to encourage and recognize a strong record of class attendance and achieving the Dean's List through the "No Skippy Jar" and "Smart Cookie Award" recognitions.
- The committee recommends that Alpha Omicron Pi continues its efforts in the area of diversity and inclusion as it relates to their chapter membership.

Chapter Development Question for 2019-2020:

- **How can Alpha Omicron Pi encourage and sustain the academic success of its members through their tenure in the organization?**

In the area of **Academic & Intellectual Advancement**, the committee rated Alpha Omicron Pi to be an **Accredited with Excellence Chapter**.

Facilities Management

- Alpha Omicron Pi's common damages for the year were \$125.00.
- Alpha Omicron Pi managed openings and closings with no issues.
- Alpha Omicron Pi passed all life safety inspections and fire drills with zero violations.
- The chapter successfully met the 90% occupancy standard for the fall 2018 and spring 2019 semesters at 138% and 136% respectively.
- Alpha Omicron Pi had made significant investment in updates to the house in order to ensure a positive living environment for the membership, including the installation of a new kitchenette, the purchase of new plates and bowls, as well as a dining set.

Chapter Development Question for 2019-2020:

- **How can the chapter continue to ensure that members' living experience is both positive and one that will encourage them to continue to make strides in this area?**

In the area of **Facilities Management**, the committee rated Alpha Omicron Pi to be an **Accredited Chapter**.

Overall Rating

Overall, Alpha Omicron Pi has been rated an Accredited chapter by the 2018-2019 Accreditation committee.

Alpha Omicron Pi continues to make great strides in all areas of Accreditation. The work and impact the chapter has made for its members and larger Greek community is notable. The chapter's recognition for its adherence to the Standards of Excellence from Alpha Omicron Pi International Headquarters speaks to the chapter's commitment to continuing success.

The Accreditation committee assigns Alpha Omicron Pi an overall rating of Accredited, which meets expectations set forth by Lehigh University. The chapter is successful and is an active contributor to the Greek and Lehigh communities.

Chapter Development Questions

- How can Alpha Omicron Pi be more proactive in developing strategies that address students' overall health and wellness of its members? How are healthy habits incorporated in a member's overall person?
- How can Alpha Omicron Pi actively help the larger fraternity and sorority community strengthen its recruitment goals?
- How can Alpha Omicron Pi continue to make strides in service to the local Bethlehem community?
- How can Alpha Omicron Pi encourage and sustain the academic success of its members through their tenure in the organization?
- How can the chapter continue to ensure that members' living experience is both positive and one that will encourage them to continue to make strides in this area?