

## **Mu Sigma Upsilon**

Accreditation Report

2021-2022

### **Leadership & Member Development**

- Mu Sigma Upsilon had nine members out of 16 hold executive board positions in other organizations.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon was a programming dynamo as the chapter attended or hosted 43 events/workshops/programs throughout the year.
- The ideals, mission, and vision of the organization focus on the dedication to bringing diversity to the University, which is seen throughout their membership.
- The chapter shows the importance of supporting their other chapters at different institutions, often asked to perform or present information about the organizations to other campus communities.
- The members of the chapter are involved in over 35+ organizations on campus ranging from admissions ambassadors, Circle of Sisters, My Natural Crown, Latinx Student Alliance, Gryphon Society, The Rapidly Accelerated Research Experience (RARE), Diversity Peer Educators, Society of Women Engineers, and Lehigh University Student Scholar Institute (LUSSI).
- The chapters's new member orientation is based on empowerment and emphasizes educational workshops - Greek history, organizational history and purpose.

### **Chapter Development Questions for 2022-2023:**

- How can the chapter restructure its planning to intentionally create programming and not over the program?

In the area of **Leadership & Member Development**, the committee rated Mu Sigma Upsilon to be an **Accredited with Excellence Chapter**.

### **Organizational Operations**

- The chapter is looking to make changes for the future and is preparing for future growth with plans to add another alumni advisor due to chapter growth.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon members are extremely busy. The panels suggests that a calendar be set in place to keep the members from overcommitting themselves, and need to scale back on the number of events the chapter conducts to focus on academics.
- As a chapter, Mu Sigma Upsilon holds weekly chapter meetings and as a national/regional body, local and district meetings are held monthly.
- The chapter utilizes google drive and G-Suite for the transition of information with detailed guides on chapter operations as members transition from positions and to keep all members updated.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon has a "S.T.A.R. report", this report is the organization's point system for chapter and organization accreditation system which the chapter has received a perfect score in.
- The chapter generally bonds through virtual check-ins with alumni, gift exchanges, and themed chapter dinners.
- The chapter supported the national organization's 40th anniversary in which they had to attend various national district retreats to celebrate as well as stay updated with national guidelines and potential changes.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon expressed gratitude to be able to utilize the Student Opportunity Fund as it has greatly assisted with the chapter's growth.

### **Chapter Development Questions for 2022-2023:**

- How will the chapter implement a potential judicial/standards board as the chapter expands?

In the area of **Organizational Operations**, the committee rated Mu Sigma Upsilon to be an **Accredited with Excellence Chapter**.

### **Community Service & Engagement**

- Mu Sigma Upsilon understands the difference between service and Philanthropy, this is evident in their work within the Community Service Office (CSO).
- The chapter has conducted such events as homework snack bags, feel-good Fridays, victory house volunteering feeding the less fortunate, admissions (DAP, & D Life) as tour guides, and donating clothes and goods to the Salvation Army.
- The chapter conducted a southside cleanup, planned move-out to collect donations, and volunteered at the local animal shelter.
- The chapter philanthropies are NAACP and the March for Dimes.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon's yearly event, Dining in the Dark, is an event dedicated to living life as in someone who may have a vision disability to raise awareness.
- The chapter held Condom Bingo which is another event to promote safe sexual practices. This event was held in collaboration with Lehigh After Dark and Spectrum.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon is an advocate for various groups on campus on social, societal, and global issues.

### **Chapter Development Questions for 2022-2023:**

- How can the chapter examine the capacity of its members when deciding what service opportunities to engage in? Should there be a plan created with the Community Service Office?

In the area of **Community Service & Engagement**, the committee rated Mu Sigma Upsilon to be an **Accredited with Excellence Chapter**.

### **Academic & Intellectual Advancement**

- Mu Sigma Upsilon was ranked second out of three Cultural Greek Council sororities in the fall 2021 semester with a GPA of 2.51, a decrease of 0.16 from the spring 2021 semester. The 2.51 GPA placed the chapter below All Greek, All Sorority and All Cultural Greek Council averages.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon was ranked third out of three Cultural Greek Council sororities in the spring 2022 semester with a GPA of 3.01, an increase of 0.50 from the fall 2021 semester. The 3.01 GPA placed the chapter above All Cultural Greek Council, but below All Greek and All Sorority averages.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon's spring 2022 new member class GPA was 2.76 ranking second out of two Cultural Greek Council sororities.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon had 15.4% of the chapter on the Dean's List in the fall 2021 semester and 23.5% on the Dean's List in the spring 2022 semester.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon has an Academic Flame program, which assistant members under 2.50 GPA with resources and support to push them to achieve a higher GPA.

- Mu Sigma Upsilon has a policy where the active minimum GPA for members is 2.80. Members who are under that GPA threshold are placed on academic probation and must attend tutoring, office hours, and weekly check-ins.
- The chapter reiterated the struggle with transitioning from virtual to in-person and how it affected their mental health.
- The chapter created an academic plan for members to meet with alumni and staff advisors for monthly updates.
- The panel suggests the chapter conducts fewer programs/events to focus on academics.

#### **Chapter Development Questions for 2022-2023:**

- In terms of Chapter Finances, how is the chapter managing its funds? Alumni Support?
- Has the chapter made any effort in fundraising opportunities to support the cost of membership or organization operations?
- What would an academic plan look like if the chapter met with their academic advisor? How would that be more beneficial in the long run for the chapter?

In the area of **Academic & Intellectual Development**, the committee rated Mu Sigma Upsilon to be an **Accredited Chapter**.

#### **Overall Rating**

**Overall, Mu Sigma Upsilon has been rated an Accredited with Excellence chapter by the 2021-2022 Accreditation committee.**

Mu Sigma Upsilon has been a shining example within the Greek community at Lehigh University. Mu Sigma Upsilon has performed exceptionally well in the area of Leadership and Member Development as they remain committed to growth as their membership has expanded again, and the relentless drive for programming/events as they were a top performer chapter. The only comment will be for the chapter to scale back their efforts and focus more on their academics to raise their overall chapter GPA.

**The Accreditation committee assigns Mu Sigma Upsilon an overall rating of Accredited with Excellence, which exceeds expectations set forth by Lehigh University. The chapter excels in multiple metrics, making valuable contributions to the Greek and Lehigh communities. Congratulations!**

#### **Chapter Development Questions**

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- How will the chapter implement a potential judicial/standards board as the chapter expands?
- How can the chapter examine the capacity of its members when deciding what service opportunities to engage in? Should there be a plan created with the Community Service Office?
- In terms of Chapter Finances, how is the chapter managing its funds? Alumni Support?
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- What would an academic plan look like if the chapter met with their academic advisor? How would that be more beneficial in the long run for the chapter?

**Best Practices**

- Chapter operations, Mu Sigma Upsilon work within the community in their service efforts.
- The new member development plan, leading through values-based recruitment and membership.
- The collaborative aspect of the chapter and national/regional support.
- The community impact of Mu Sigma Upsilon membership outside of the organization and the leadership development component were multiple members hold executive board positions outside of the organization.