

Phi Sigma Chi

Accreditation Report
2022-2023

Leadership & Member Development

- Phi Sigma Chi begins their leadership development opportunities for their members at the very beginning of their membership within the organization by allowing new members to lead and facilitate a program based on one of the organization's philanthropic missions.
- Through the chapter's "each one, teach one" initiative, members share their leadership experiences outside of Phi Sigma Chi. This brings new ideas and skill sets into the chapter.
- Phi Sigma Chi takes advantage of leadership workshops and opportunities offered to officers through their participation in OFSAs LAUNCH and Summit for Greek Excellence.
- The chapter holds a structured transition process for officers where outgoing officers must provide the incoming officers with reports consisting of responsibilities, duties, finances and program status of the position. This is followed by a shadowing process throughout the spring semester, consisting of ongoing support through biweekly meetings with their predecessor.
- The chapter's new member education plan creates spaces for open communication amongst new members to discuss self-development, multicultural awareness, and professionalism. The chapter also reviews hazing and harassment education with their new members as well.

Chapter Development Questions for 2023-2024:

- How can attending any possible headquarters professional development opportunities benefit the chapter?
- What does a concrete membership development plan look like for the chapter?

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

Organizational Operations

- The chapter meets regularly and runs their meetings efficiently with chapter minutes being sent out previously for officers to fill out their reports before-hand.
- Bylaws are reviewed on a semesterly basis. Amendments can be made via vote.
- Stepping is practiced each week to ensure the brothers are prepared for events coming up throughout the year such as Lehigh's and neighboring universities Yard Shows and F.U.S.I.O.N.
- The chapter is financially responsible and transparent through reviewing their budgeting and spending on a weekly basis with brothers. The chapter utilizes an excel spreadsheet to break down their spending costs.
- As per recommendation last year, Phi Sigma Chi has implemented a fully functioning standards board through The Minister of Brotherly Conduct. Fines and social probation are imposed on members who do not follow the chapter or Lehigh University policies.
- Members who have not violated any policies receive high recommendations of obtaining more popular officer positions; this method is used to utilize positive incentives amongst the chapter. The panelists encourage members to think if this is a best practice.
- Phi Sigma Chi is extremely engaged with the Cultural Greek Council, as brothers sit on the Executive Board as well as fully participating in OFSA leadership programs and regular meetings with OFSA staff.

- Phi Sigma Chi had members who were residents of the newly opened CGC House. Members followed procedures with openings and closings and maintained a level of professionalism and respect amongst the other organizations who also resided in the facility.

Chapter Development Questions for 2023-2024:

- How can the chapter use positive incentives for brothers?
- As the chapter continues to grow, what does a formal plan of accountability look like within the chapter to ensure members are meeting the required expectations?

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

Community Service & Engagement

- Phi Sigma Chi continuously partners with the CSO and other organizations outside of campus resources to participate in service opportunities such as hosting a blanket drive for Victory House and volunteering at Spooktacular.
- The chapter offers programs and opportunities to promote advocacy for not only their brothers and the entire Lehigh Community through programs such as their event "Homophobia in Greek Life" where the chapter partnered with the Pride Center to have open dialogue about the stereotypes around the LGBTQIA+ Community in Greek life.
- The chapter prioritizes collaboration through hosting events not only with other Greek organizations, but also partnering with other campus organizations such as Lehigh After Dark, the Pride Center, and the Office of Student Engagement.
- Alumni Engagement is promoted through the chapter hosting their Founder's Day Formal where members of other Phi Sigma Chi chapters, members of Lehigh's community, and the Founders of the organization came together in celebration.

Chapter Development Questions for 2023-2024:

- Now that the chapter will be growing their alumni network, how does the chapter plan to implement regular alumni communication and engagement?
- In order for the growth of the chapter, how will members ensure brothers will be held accountable for participating in community service events?

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

Academic & Intellectual Advancement

- Phi Sigma Chi was ranked fourth out of four chapters in the Cultural Greek Council in the fall 2022 semester with a GPA of 2.88, an increase of 0.06 from the spring 2022 semester. The 2.88 GPA placed the chapter below All Greek, All Fraternity, and All Cultural Greek Council averages.
- Phi Sigma Chi was ranked fourth out of four chapters in the Cultural Greek Council in the spring 2023 semester with a GPA of 2.98, an increase of 0.10 from the fall 2022 semester. The 2.98 GPA placed the chapter below All Greek, All Fraternity, and All Cultural Greek Council averages.
- Phi Sigma Chi's fall 2022 new member class GPA was 3.01 ranking second out of two Cultural Greek Council chapters.

- Phi Sigma Chi's spring 2023 new member class GPA was 2.96 ranking third out of three chapters on the Cultural Greek Council.
- Phi Sigma Chi had 7% of the chapter on the Dean's List in the fall 2022 semester and 11% on the Dean's List in the spring 2023 semester.
- Phi Sigma Chi secured their Faculty Advisor in the spring 2023 semester, Professor Ochs who the chapter intends to utilize for academic based education within the organization.
- The chapter promotes The Lingo Scholarship, which grants \$400 to a brother who excels academically and has a minimum of a 3.0 GPA.
- The chapter hosts professional development opportunities for members such as their Tie a Tie with Phi.

Chapter Development Questions for 2023-2024:

- How would a scholarship development plan be useful for brothers of Phi Sigma Chi?
- How can the chapter not only build in steps for members who are struggling academically, but positive incentives to celebrate members who are thriving academically as well?

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

Overall Rating

Overall, Phi Sigma Chi has been rated an Accredited with Excellence chapter by the 2022-2023 Accreditation committee.

Phi Sigma Chi has done fantastic work this year to grow their membership and put roots down on Lehigh's campus. This is an exemplary chapter in terms of their community service and engagement efforts. The brothers truly go above and beyond to serve Lehigh and Bethlehem's community. The chapter has put in the work to grow in specific areas that the panel has recommended through the establishment of their Minister of Brotherly Conduct. In order for Phi Sigma Chi to continue to grow in a positive direction, and with the anticipation of the membership growing every semester, the chapter should now begin looking into how they are developing concrete plans and requirements for members in terms of service and membership development in order to hold brothers accountable. Through Phi Sigma Chi's Accreditation presentation, it was evident that members genuinely hold themselves to the mission and values of Phi Sigma Chi. Phi Sigma Chi continues to expand their reach and become a positive force on Lehigh's campus.

The Accreditation committee assigns Phi Sigma Chi an overall rating of Accredited with Excellence, the chapter 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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- What does a concrete membership development plan look like for the chapter?
- How can the chapter use positive incentives for brothers?
- Now that the chapter will be growing their alumni network, how does the chapter plan to implement regular alumni communication and engagement?
- In order for the growth of the chapter, how will members ensure brothers will be held accountable for participating in community service events?

- How would a scholarship development plan be useful for brothers of Phi Sigma Chi?
- How can the chapter not only build in steps for members who are struggling academically, but positive incentives to celebrate members who are thriving academically as well?

Best Practices

- “Homophobia in Greek Life” should be considered a best practice and the panelists encourage the chapter to host this annually.
- Reviewing chapter spending on a weekly basis should be considered to be a best practice.
- Allowing new members to run programs should be considered a best practice.