

## Theta Chi

### Accreditation Report

2022-2023

#### Leadership & Member Development

- Theta Chi consistently incorporates the chapter's mission and values through their programming initiatives, specifically through their Sacred Purpose workshops that highlight areas of health and safety.
- The chapter is highly involved in participating in leadership opportunities offered through Headquarters by attending various conferences. Members with various leadership positions attended these and brought back new ideas and initiatives to the Beta Sigma chapter.
- New Member Education encourages members to get as involved with the fraternity as possible by either running for leadership positions or serving on various committees. New members are also educated via online modules on health and safety, mental health, and DEI.
- In order to make the greatest impact of the DEI initiatives for new members, reflection was offered during new member education to create a more inclusive brotherhood. The New Member Educator then brought this initiative to the weekly chapter meetings for brothers to share their own experiences at Lehigh.
- The Executive Shadowing Program was reintegrated into the New Member Education allowing for new members to shadow a current Executive Board member in order to learn about the responsibilities of their position. New members are encouraged to shadow as many positions as possible to gain the most exposure. This allows for a smoother transition process for Executive Board members.

#### Chapter Development Questions for 2023-2024:

- What can a more deliberate and meaningful DEI plan look like for membership development?
- How can brothers intentionally bring in skills they are learning from other campus organizations they are involved in to the chapter for the benefit of Theta Chi?

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

#### Organizational Operations

- Chapter governing documents are reviewed regularly and revised as needed. The chapter has done significant work this year on updating their documents.
- Budgeting was done for the year in collaboration with the alumni advisor for chapter dues and with the house chef to keep the cost of meal plans low. The chapter demonstrated financial transparency through presenting the budget to brothers and in turn, brothers were able to make suggestions and propose modifications. The budget was finalized by a vote of the chapter.
- The chapter's Standards Board is made up of five brothers; one from each class. The board meets weekly and holds members accountable. No members of the Executive Board may sit on the Standards Board, which creates a space for unbiased outcomes and fosters positivity amongst the brotherhood.
- Theta Chi prides itself on welcoming the largest and most diverse new member class in its chapter's history. This was done through social media, intentional recruitment events, and fostering relationships through face-to-face interactions.

#### Chapter Development Questions for 2023-2024:

- What new partners can the chapter collaborate with to assist with creating a DEI plan?
- How can social media be used to promote opportunities for advocacy?

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

### Community Service & Engagement

- Theta Chi has partnered with several organizations for service opportunities. However it is unclear if there is a standard set of hours members must participate in to hold members accountable. It is also unclear if there is a concrete community service plan for the chapter.
- The chapter is able to engage and reflect on their service opportunities and how they positively contribute to being a brother of Theta Chi in a meaningful way.
- Theta Chi has a clean conduct record and credits this accomplishment to consistently educating members on Lehigh University Code of Conduct, Theta Chi IHQ guidelines, and local laws, and state laws, the Executive Shadowing Program, and the transition program for the Risk Manager specifically.
- The chapter partnered with the St. Baldricks Foundation to raise money and awareness for ending childhood cancer. The chapter raised \$8,000 along with 11 members shaving their heads to stand in solidarity with cancer patients.
- Theta Chi has engaged with many organizations within Lehigh's Greek Life in order to contribute to other causes within the community.
- The chapter reaches out to alumni in order to connect and help current brothers secure employment, internships, and research opportunities. The chapter also sends out a newsletter keeping alumni informed and updated on the chapter.
- Theta Chi was presented with the Outstanding Fraternity President of the Year, Fraternity Chapter of the Year, and Outstanding Philanthropic Effort Awards during OFSAs 2023 Leadership Awards.

### Chapter Development Questions for 2023-2024:

- How can the chapter collaborate and partner with other organizations for service opportunities outside of Greek Life?
- How can the chapter create a meaningful community service plan that aligns with the brothers interests and the mission of Theta Chi?

In the area of **Community Service & Engagement**, the committee rated Theta Chi to be an **Accredited Chapter**.

### Academic & Intellectual Advancement

- Theta Chi was ranked third out of eleven Interfraternity Council chapters in the fall 2022 semester with a GPA of 3.35, an increase of 0.12 from the spring 2022 semester. The 3.35 GPA placed the chapter above All IFC, and above All Fraternity averages.
- Theta Chi was ranked third out of ten Interfraternity chapters in the spring 2023 semester with a GPA of 3.39, an increase of 0.04 from the fall 2022 semester. The 3.39 GPA placed the chapter above All IFC, and above All Fraternity average, and equivalent to the All Greek average.
- Theta Chi's spring 2023 new member class GPA was 3.36 ranking second out of ten Interfraternity chapters.

- Theta Chi had 42% of the chapter on the Dean's List in the fall 2022 semester and 32% on the Dean's List in the spring 2023 semester.
- Senior members volunteer to be mentors for specific colleges where they gain mentees within the same college. Senior mentors provide guidance to their mentees regarding study habits and assisting them in preparing for common hour exams.
- Theta Chi reached their goal of securing a faculty advisor for the chapter. The chapter plans to utilize their faculty advisor to offer academic and professional workshops for members.
- The chapter's Professional Development Chair provided a workshop on Handshake for members to assist them in securing jobs and internships. The chapter's Professional Development Committee also hosts workshops for new members to review cover letters, resumes, and provide access to the Theta Chi Beta Sigma LinkedIn Group to connect with alumni.
- The chapter hosted the Center for Career and Professional Development to prepare members for their first round interviews for jobs and internships.

#### **Chapter Development Questions for 2023-2024:**

- How can the chapter utilize Lehigh University and other external resources to assist them in their scholarship plan?
- How can brothers celebrate one another who are academically and professionally achieving outside of scholarship granting?

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

#### **Facilities Management**

- Theta Chi had no common damages for 2022-2023.
- Theta Chi had no issues with openings or closings for 2022-2023.
- Theta Chi did have a Major Life Safety Violation by covering the emergency lights in the party room and dining room. The chapter hosted the local fire department to educate members of fire and safety, following the violation.
- Theta Chi communicated effectively with Housing Services and completed tasks in a timely manner.
- The chapter collaborated with their house chef in attempts to eliminate the usage of disposable paper cups, thus reducing the purchase of paper cups by 50% and switching to reusable cups.
- There were repeated water leakages with the washing machines in the facility. Members collaborated with their alumni advisor to purchase new, eco-friendly washing machines, using less water when doing laundry.
- Eco-Reps came to the facility to educate the members how they can increase their sustainability efforts and reviewed water usage and how to properly recycle.

#### **Chapter Development Questions for 2023-2024:**

- How can Theta Chi continue to increase their sustainability efforts?
- How can the brothers incorporate a sustainability plan that is meaningful and personal to them?

In the area of **Facilities Management**, the committee rated Theta Chi to be an **Accredited with Excellence Chapter**.

## Overall Rating

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

Theta Chi continues to be an exemplary chapter in Lehigh's Greek community and strives to provide a meaningful membership experience for its members. The members continue to be leaders in the Greek life community through taking on various leadership roles in OFSA and IFC Executive Board. Theta Chi promotes a brotherhood consisting of leadership and service to its new members, which has positively impacted the chapter's reputation and growth. Theta Chi is on the right direction with their initiatives leading to success, but the chapter would benefit from implementing more structured plans with their DEI and service initiatives.

**The Accreditation committee assigns Theta Chi an overall rating of Accredited with Excellence, 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

- What can a more deliberate and meaningful DEI plan look like for membership development?
- How can brothers intentionally bring in skills they are learning from other campus organizations they are involved in to the chapter for the benefit of Theta Chi?
- What new partners can the chapter collaborate with to assist with creating a DEI plan?
- How can social media be used to promote opportunities for advocacy?
- How can the chapter collaborate and partner with other organizations for service opportunities outside of Greek Life?
- How can the chapter create a meaningful community service plan that aligns with the brothers interests and the mission of Theta Chi?
- How can the chapter utilize Lehigh University and other external resources to assist them in their scholarship plan?
- How can brothers celebrate one another who are academically and professionally achieving outside of scholarship granting?
- How can Theta Chi continue to increase their sustainability efforts?
- How can the brothers incorporate a sustainability plan that is meaningful and personal to them?

## Best Practices

- The Executive Shadowing program is considered a best practice.
- Quickly implementing member education following a Major Life Safety Violation is a best practice.
- Senior mentors assigned to a specific college and assigning mentees to those seniors, to set up members for academic success is a best practice.