

## Lambda Theta Alpha

Accreditation Report

2023-2024

### Leadership & Member Development

- The Delta Upsilon Chapter of Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc. has a long-standing tradition of fostering leaders who have a significant impact both on campus and beyond. Each member holds at least one leadership position within the chapter, as well as leadership positions in organizations such as Future Lawyers of Color, the Caribbean Culture Club, LU Dancin', and Student Senate.
- Members are also involved off campus through participation in the Homework Club at Broughal Middle School, serving as a United Nations Youth Representative, and co-founding a mental health support system for alumni of the Arizona-based STEP program which educates high school students on out-of-state university opportunities.
- Members hold roles ranging from fundraising and mental health advocacy to community engagement and social media management.
- The chapter is part of the East Central Region of LTA and actively engages in the sorority's governance structure. Regular participation in Pennsylvania Area One (PAA1) meetings facilitates collaboration and skill-building among members.
- While there has been a shift in leadership communication with the PAA1 Board, the chapter remains committed to engaging with regional and national structures through attendance at all regional meetings. These meetings served as an opportunity for all of the PAA1 chapters to discuss things such as recruitment, philanthropy, and event planning. In the previous fall semester, PAA1 leadership was more involved, providing crucial guidance when the chapter had limited on-campus presence. Due to the initiation of new members, the chapter will no longer have to operate under the supervision of the PAA1 board.
- Participation in upcoming events such as the Pennsylvania Area One Sister Spring Conference and LTA's national convention shows the chapter's commitment to sisterhood, leadership development, and networking opportunities.

#### Chapter Development Questions for 2024-2025:

- In what ways does the chapter recognize and celebrate the contributions of its members to campus life and beyond?
- How does the chapter evaluate the effectiveness of its leadership and membership development initiatives?
- How does the chapter adapt its programs and strategies to address evolving challenges and opportunities in the campus and sorority landscape?

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

### Organizational Operations

- Lambda Theta Alpha utilizes Google Calendar and Drive for organization and communication. The Google Calendar is updated with academic, work, and chapter-related schedules while the Google Drive is used to organize crucial documents for event planning and historical records.
- The chapter has mandatory weekly meetings with well-planned agendas compiled by the President covering various topics such as upcoming events, service projects, news, social media campaigns, and Lambdaversaries.

- The chapter incorporates mental health check-ins at its weekly chapter meetings to foster a supportive environment and prioritize member well-being.
- Lambda Theta Alpha emphasizes active participation while spreading responsibilities among members to prevent burnout and promote a sense of ownership.
- The chapter has a structured transition after elections with alumni mentorship to maintain continuity and pass on knowledge.
- Chapter retreats serve as opportunities for undergraduate members and alumni to reconnect, address chapter issues, and benefit from alumni wisdom.
- Lambda Theta Alpha hosts various recruitment events and utilizes social media, campus fairs, and personal interactions to attract interests. Informationals serve to educate potential members about Lambda Theta Alpha's values, goals, and presence on campus.
- The chapter prepares detailed budgets for every event to ensure smooth execution within financial constraints.

#### **Chapter Development Questions for 2024-2025:**

- What are areas where improvements can be made in the organization of chapter documents and communication channels?
- How effectively is member engagement managed to prevent burnout and ensure a balanced approach to involvement?

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

#### **Community Service & Engagement**

- Lambda Theta Alpha is deeply committed to community service, particularly in the South Side Bethlehem area, where many families live below the poverty line. The chapter actively seeks out opportunities to volunteer and make a positive impact, aligning with their organizational purpose of carrying out charitable and educational programs.
- Service initiatives include providing healthy snacks for children at Homework Club, volunteering at the Hispanic Center of the Lehigh Valley, and participating in South Side clean-up events.
- Lambda Theta Alpha is dedicated to supporting both national and chapter-specific philanthropic causes; including St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and sexual and gender violence awareness. The chapter organizes a variety of events and campaigns to raise awareness and funds for these causes, such as the Red Hearts campaign and The Bandana Project.
- The chapter actively engages in cultural and educational programming, celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, Black History Month, and other cultural events.
- The chapter prioritizes community activism, volunteering at local organizations, and advocating for important causes, reflecting their commitment to making a meaningful impact beyond campus borders.
- As a member of the Cultural Greek Council, Lambda Theta Alpha actively participates in council events and initiatives, promoting unity, love, and respect. They prioritize collaboration with and support with other Cultural Greek organizations, recognizing the value of collective efforts in advancing their shared mission.

#### **Chapter Development Questions for 2024-2025:**

- How can the impact of community service initiatives on the South Side Bethlehem area be measured, and the effectiveness of efforts assessed?
- In what ways can the organization strengthen its relationships with other Greek organizations within and outside of the Cultural Greek Council?
- How can the chapter ensure that collaborations are mutually beneficial and contribute to its goals and mission?

In the area of **Community Service & Engagement**, the committee rated Lambda Theta Alpha to be an **Accredited with Excellence Chapter**.

### Academic & Intellectual Advancement

- Lambda Theta Alpha was ranked first out of three CGC sororities in the fall 2023 semester with a GPA of 3.12, a decrease of 0.32 from the spring 2023 semester. The 3.12 GPA placed the chapter above the All CGC average and below the All Sorority and All Greek averages.
- Lambda Theta Alpha was ranked first out of three CGC sororities in the spring 2024 semester with a GPA of 3.3, an increase of .18 from the fall 2023 semester. The 3.3 GPA placed the chapter above the All CGC average and below the All Greek and All Sorority averages.
- Lambda Theta Alpha's fall 2023 new member class GPA was 2.96 ranking 1 out of 1 CGC sorority conducting fall intake.
- Lambda Theta Alpha had 9.1% of the chapter on the Dean's List in the fall 2023 semester and 27.3% of the chapter on the Dean's List in the spring 2024 semester.
- Lambda Theta Alpha places a strong emphasis on academic achievement and the holistic well-being of its members through initiatives such as "No Business Saturdays", which gives members a day with no chapter events or meetings to focus on their academic and personal needs.
- Throughout the academic year, the chapter organizes a diverse range of programs aimed at facilitating academic success. These include recurring events like "Get As with the LTAs," which provide structured study sessions for students to collaborate and learn together.
- Lambda Theta Alpha understands that each member has unique preferences and needs when it comes to studying. During retreats, the chapter takes the time to listen to individual preferences, ensuring that each member feels supported in their academic journey.
- The chapter implements Lambda Theta Alpha's national Academic Support Plan, which provides structured support for academic improvement and success. This plan helps chapters create a feasible timeline for academic success through the use of various resources such as office hours with professors, time management workshops, tutoring centers, and guidance from academic advisors on campus.

### Chapter Development Questions for 2023-2024:

- How does the chapter utilize Lambda Theta Alpha's Academic Support Plan to enhance academic success among its members?
- What mechanisms does the chapter have in place to promote accountability and prioritize academic responsibilities while balancing other commitments?

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

## Overall Rating

**Overall, Lambda Theta Alpha has been rated an Accredited with Excellence chapter by the 2023-2024 Accreditation committee, 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!**

The Delta Upsilon chapter of Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc. continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to excellence through its exceptional Leadership & Member Development and Organizational Operations. Lambda Theta Alpha recognizes the importance of developing strong leaders on Lehigh's campus, with systems in place to ensure that members feel empowered and able to take on positions of leadership both within the chapter and in other student organizations. The chapter's strong organizational operations provide a structured experience where members are able to grow as individuals with the guidance of alumni and area leadership while still maintaining agency over their work on campus. Furthermore, Lambda Theta Alpha's commitment to community service and engagement has been a crucial part of its chapter identity, contributing positively to the South Side Bethlehem community and fostering meaningful connections with local organizations. Academic and intellectual advancement also remain as central priorities for the chapter, with programs and resources aimed at supporting members' educational goals. Overall, Lambda Theta Alpha's performance is a testament to the hard work and dedication displayed by members throughout the academic year, cementing the chapter's place as leaders in the Lehigh community.

## Chapter Development Questions

- In what ways does the chapter recognize and celebrate the contributions of its members to campus life and beyond?
- How does the chapter evaluate the effectiveness of its leadership and membership development initiatives?
- How does the chapter adapt its programs and strategies to address evolving challenges and opportunities in the campus and sorority landscape?
- Are there any areas where improvement or optimization can be made in the organization of chapter documents and communication channels?
- How effectively is member engagement managed to prevent burnout and ensure a balanced approach to involvement?
- How can the impact of community service initiatives on the South Side Bethlehem area be measured, and the effectiveness of efforts assessed?
- In what ways can the organization strengthen its relationships with other Cultural Greek organizations within the council?
- How can the chapter ensure that collaborations are mutually beneficial and contribute to its goals and mission?
- How does the chapter utilize Lambda Theta Alpha's Academic Support Plan to enhance academic success among its members?
- What mechanisms does the chapter have in place to promote accountability and prioritize academic responsibilities while balancing other commitments?

## Best Practices

- The chapter's focus on academic excellence, evidenced by initiatives like study sessions, academic workshops, and incentives for high academic achievement.
- The chapter's emphasis on the general well being of members through policies such as "No Business Saturday's", building in time for members to cater to their own personal needs.
- The chapter's structured transition process provides a clear guide for new members who are taking on leadership roles, also giving members the opportunity to learn from the mistakes and successes of alumni & former officers.
- The chapter's philanthropic and service efforts, including support for national causes like St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the South Side Cleanup, and local initiatives addressing sexual and gender violence, demonstrate a commitment to making meaningful change in the lives of others.