

### Leadership & Member Development

- The Yemaya Chapter of Mu Sigma Upsilon Sorority, Incorporated continues to take an intentional and inclusive approach to leadership development and member recruitment. This academic year, the chapter hosted purposeful and inclusive recruitment efforts, including at least three Ladies Night informational events per semester, fostering transparency and multicultural engagement.
- A structured and evolving New Member Education (NME) program included six themed weeks of empowerment, organization history, multiculturalism, leadership, and siblinghood.
- Chapter members attended regional retreats and trainings focused on unbiased recruitment, marketing, VP management, and effective leadership strategies.
- Shared leadership was encouraged by splitting key roles, like the Vice President of Recruitment, to promote equitable participation and better workload distribution.
- A strong emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion is embedded in all programming, with respect for all identities, including gender and ethnic backgrounds. DEI is not confined to a single position but is woven throughout the chapter's ethos, events, and educational workshops provided during NME.
- Chapter members are involved in 27 different student organizations across campus, including cultural, academic, service, and athletic groups, exemplifying diverse leadership.
- Regular alumni involvement, including an active alumni advisor and engagement through a shared GroupMe and newsletters, reinforces leadership development and mentorship.

### Chapter Development Questions for 2025-2026:

- In what ways might the chapter enhance its leadership training to prepare members for responsibilities at the national, district, and campus levels?
- What reflective practices could be introduced post-retreat or post-event to assess growth in individual and group leadership?
- How might the chapter better assess the long-term effectiveness of its New Member Education curriculum in fostering leadership competencies?

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

### Organizational Operations

- Mu Sigma Upsilon hosts weekly chapter meetings following a structured agenda with reviews of past events, officer updates, and planning for future programs, with minutes shared on Google Drive.
- Event planning is delegated to committees that include both experienced members and new members to ensure mentorship and sustainability.
- Semester retreats are held for team bonding and detailed business planning, including event idea generation, flyer creation, and goal setting for all executive board members.
- A culture of accountability is maintained through transparent finances, fines for misconduct, and regular updates from the Treasurer on PayPal and University Index balances.

- The chapter meets and exceeds both national (S.T.A.R. Report) and university expectations, having hosted and attended 42 events in a single semester.
- Effective use of communication platforms (GroupMe for business, iMessage for personal) keeps chapter operations professional and streamlined.
- Chapter governing documents, including by-laws and recruitment plans, are reviewed and updated each semester to align with evolving needs and compliance standards.

#### **Chapter Development Questions for 2025-2026:**

- How can chapter retreats be further developed to increase member accountability for individual and chapter-wide goals?
- What systems could be put in place to better support financially burdened members and increase awareness of internal and external financial aid resources?

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 exceeded national requirements by participating in diverse community service events beyond the four mandated per semester.
- Collaborations with the Community Service Office included campus-wide initiatives such as Spooktacular, Holiday Hope Chests, and Blood Drives.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon demonstrated a great commitment to philanthropic work through their contributions to the national and local philanthropies. The organization's national philanthropy, the NAACP, is supported through fundraising, educational workshops, and active member participation in NAACP events. March of Dimes serves as the chapter's local philanthropy, with campaigns like "Wear Purple for Prematurity Day" and interactive social media trivia raising awareness.
- Signature programming such as "Dining in the Dark", "That Time of the Month", and "Condom Bingo" provided experiential learning about visual impairments and disability advocacy and integrated health education and stigma reduction into engaging, interactive formats.
- Reflections on service experiences during chapter meetings ensure continuous learning and intentionality in engagement strategies.
- Members consistently serve on panels, collaborate across councils, and engage in advocacy on issues like immigration and intersectional identities.

#### **Chapter Development Questions for 2025-2026:**

- In what ways might the chapter deepen its collaboration with university departments and external organizations to enhance the quality and reach of its programs?
- What opportunities exist to expand chapter engagement in advocacy-based service and educational panels addressing social justice issues?
- How can the chapter measure the long-term impact of its service events on the Bethlehem community?
- What partnerships could be expanded or initiated to diversify service opportunities beyond traditional campus-sponsored events?

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 in the fall 2024 semester with a GPA of 2.97, a decrease of 0.08 from the spring 2024 semester. The 2.97 GPA placed the chapter below the All CGC, All Sorority, and All Greek averages.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon was ranked first out of two in the spring 2025 semester with a GPA of 3.41, an increase of 0.44 from the fall 2024 semester. The 3.41 GPA placed the chapter below the All Sorority and All Greek averages and above the All CGC average.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon's fall 2024 new member class GPA was 2.71, ranking first out of one chapter conducting fall recruitment.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon's spring 2025 new member class GPA was 3.36, ranking first out of two chapters conducting spring recruitment.
- Mu Sigma Upsilon had 25% of the chapter on the Dean's List in the fall 2024 semester and 27.3% on the Dean's List in the spring 2025 semester.
- Monthly "Study with the MUs" events using Pomodoro techniques foster academic discipline and collaborative learning environments for all Lehigh students.
- Plans are underway to formalize academic support within the executive structure, potentially expanding the VP of Communications role to monitor academic standing.
- The chapter recognizes challenges faced by students in STEM and low-income backgrounds and provides institutional resource connections like the Center for Student Access and Success.

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

- What additional roles or responsibilities could be created or expanded to support members' academic accountability and resource access?
- How might the chapter build a more formalized academic support system, especially for members in high-stress or STEM fields?
- How might collaboration with Lehigh academic departments and student support offices be enhanced to reinforce academic success?
- What strategies could be implemented to ensure academic excellence remains a consistent and visible pillar of chapter life?
- How can the chapter further incorporate academic skill-building into regular programming or workshops open to the larger student body?

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 2024-2025 Accreditation committee.

The Yemaya Chapter of Mu Sigma Upsilon Sorority, Inc. has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to leadership, service, operational excellence, and cultural engagement, earning accreditation with excellence in the categories of Leadership and Member Development, Organizational Operations, and Community Service and Engagement. These areas reflect the chapter's robust recruitment processes, strong campus leadership presence, effective chapter governance, intentional program planning, and impactful community service rooted in cultural awareness and advocacy. The chapter's dedication to inclusivity, equity, and collaboration further distinguishes their work as a model for other culturally-based chapters. While the chapter met the standards for Academic and Intellectual Advancement with a satisfactory rating, this area presents opportunities for growth. Although members are clearly engaged in academic enrichment and maintain transparency through district-level reporting and peer-led study sessions, the chapter lacks a formalized structure for academic support and consistent accountability measures. By developing a more strategic and proactive approach—such as assigning an academic chair, enhancing mentorship, and establishing early academic interventions—the chapter is well-positioned to achieve excellence in this area in future accreditation cycles.

**The Accreditation committee assigns Mu Sigma Upsilon an overall rating of Accredited with Excellence, meaning 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!**

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