

Chapter Year End Report 2019-2020

Assistant Director Feedback Report

Chapter:

Yemaya Chapter of Mu Sigma Upsilon Sorority, Incorporated

Assistant Director:

Devore McIntosh

Chapter Response to Greek Pause

What did your chapter accomplish during the pause?

Please list any practices and/or procedures evaluated and any additional action items your chapter accomplished during this time.

Chapter Response:

This semester, Lehigh University decided that there needed to be a pause placed on Greek life due to the large and concerning number of hazing reports. Members of the Cultural Greek Council (CGC), along with the Interfraternity Council (IFC) and Panhellenic Council, attended a mandatory meeting that explained the consequences of the pause. The allegations that were made did not apply to the Cultural Greek Council because they did not have any reports against them. This meant Mu Sigma Upsilon Sorority, Incorporated was able to continue as usual with our events. We accomplished moving forward with our programming and recruitment.

We held informational sessions for potential interests in our organization and also continued with our recruitment for the semester. We made it a priority to make all potential members aware of what the Greek pause meant for our organization, but also how it was affecting our fellow Greeks. During the pause we increased our communication with the affected organizations by offering them to meet if they needed our help and support. This pause also raised a serious conversation between the Cultural Greek Council about how we can further communicate with the other councils at Lehigh to avoid this in the future. It also led to our evaluation to make sure each current member fully understood what the reports were about and what led to them so that it will not be something we have to ever deal with in the future.

We tabled with Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc during the pause on the Red Hearts campaign and also managed to organize and deliver the Yard Show as a Cultural Greek Council, which was a huge success. This allowed us to showcase our unity as a council but also hopefully inspire unity amongst all three councils after the pause is lifted.

Due to the mandate, we took a look at our practices and potentially helped other organizations if they were interested in learning about our practices and traditions.

OFSA Assistant Director Feedback:

I see that the pause did not affect your organization directly as you were able to still operate. What you were able to do was assist in the implementation of new ideas moving forward through the cultural Greek council as a body, in support of the president at the time Gaby Montes.

Chapter SWOT Analysis

In order for OFSA to have a clear understanding of the current celebrations and challenges our chapters face, OFSA is expecting chapters to evaluate their current state by conducting a SWOT analysis. This does not have to be lengthy, but should include a snapshot so that Assistant Directors are able to offer specific and clear feedback and action items moving into the 2020-2021 academic year.

Chapter Response:

<p>Strengths: Our strengths as a chapter include planning and programming, balancing leadership and coursework, communication within the chapter, great reputation on Lehigh's campus, collaboration, and alumni involvement.</p>	<p>Weaknesses: Our weaknesses as a chapter include recruitment, fundraising, supporting nearby chapters, overworking ourselves, and small chapter size.</p>
<p>Opportunities: We can continue to collaborate beyond the Council for Cultural Organizations for instance, the Interfraternity and Panhellenic councils regarding fundraising, and centers like the Center for Academic Success.</p>	<p>Threats: One of our weaknesses as a chapter includes overworking ourselves, holding at least two exec board positions within the chapter while also holding executive board positions in various clubs/organizations and the Cultural Greek Council. Adding on, Lehigh is a predominantly white university which makes it difficult for us to recruit individuals with similar core values and principles. We fear not being to hold in person intake activities due COVID 19 for the Fall semester.</p>

OFSA Assistant Director Feedback:

<p>Strengths:</p> <p><u><i>I concur, and with that how do you build on those past successes; especially with a completely new member class?</i></u></p> <p><u><i>Is there accessible documentation set in place for the new members?</i></u></p>	<p>Weaknesses:</p> <p>I would suggest a master calendar to plan out the academic year as well as spacing out events as to not burn the chapter out as well as holding more interactive sessions with nonmembers to increase recruitment efforts.</p>
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<p>Opportunities:</p> <p>Use of campus resources is key for the success of the chapter. Continue to utilize the resources both within the chapters network and outside of it.</p>	<p>Threats:</p> <p>COVID-19 has cast doubt on the majority of our greek-affiliated organizations. Plans must be set in place during the summer as to how the chapter will operate during several different capacities.</p> <p>The fear of growth opportunities is a real thing, so think of ways to combat that. One way that I have seen already was having prior connections with students who were interested as well as interacting with incoming students on programs set up by the admissions department.</p>
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Concluding Summary

Mu Sigma Upsilon has shown itself to be an upstanding chapter that crosses boundaries, has tough conversations, and connects with multiple offices and organizations. In order to ensure the survival of the organization, recruitment efforts must be ramped up. As can be seen from their supplementary documentation, the members were constantly working. This work ethic has led to the chapter introducing three new members into the organization, members who will uphold the traditions and build on their own for Mu Sigma Upsilon. Overall Mu Sigma Upsilon is a shining example on campus and an organization who understands what it means to be a part of something greater.