Strategies That Work: Recognition of Chapter Excellence Through the Chapter Key Award
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Delta Omega Chapter at the University of Akron

Background
• Established in 1991, the Chapter Key Award acknowledges Chapter excellence
• Delta Omega Chapter has successfully attained multiple Chapter Key Awards

Strategies
Leadership development
• Intern and Extern leadership program
• Financial support of leaders, students and members to attend conferences

Membership engagement
• Community service

Recognition
Dorothy Garrigus Adams
Founders Award
Excellence Awards recipients
Cameos of Caring
Nurses Week Practice Awards
to nurses at area hospitals

Committee Participation
• Leadership Succession
• Governance
• Program Planning
• Induction
• Research Grants & Recognition Awards

Chapter Operations
• Designate a responsible person or group to collect data throughout the biennium:
  • In our chapter the president is responsible with help from the Board and committees
  • Review at monthly Board meetings:
    • Chapter Key Award criteria
    • Committee work is reviewed annual reports at our transition meeting
    • Monthly committee meetings are used to review Key award criteria
  • Aligning the Chapter Strategic Plan with the Key Award criteria:
    • Using available Sigma resources
    • Developing processes to sustain and expand successful programs
    • Developing new programs to address changes in the Key Award criteria

Challenges may include
• Lack of internal expertise to develop processes that can be sustained
• Changes in Chapter leadership and activity level of members
• Not compiling and submitting the annual report in a timely manner
• Gaps in meeting officer responsibilities
• Lack of sufficient detail in the narrative on the Chapter Key Award application
• Not recognizing overlaps that may lead to using the same program or activity for multiple categories
• Reluctance to incorporate social media as a communication approach
• Resistance to moving from face to face meetings to embracing online video and web conferencing to increase participation of Board and committee members
• Not responding quickly enough when updated criteria and forms become available after the biennial convention

Contact information
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Professional Development Programs and Publicity
• Ensuring chapter activities are advertised and documented in quarterly newsletters and multiple communication formats
• Programs increasing community awareness of health promotion and prevention of illness

Biennial Convention
Region 10 Conference

Membership engagement
• Community service

Recognition

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