

## PI TAU SIGMA OUTSTANDING AWARDS

### Michigan Pi Rho

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The Pi Rho chapter has historically been active throughout campus, department, and Ann Arbor communities and this past year was no different. We initiated a total of 25 new members this year, hosted info sessions with over 20 companies (including Lockheed Martin, BASF, Whirlpool, GE, Nexteer, and Marathon Petroleum), and hosted a College of Engineering faculty member and former recruiter, Joy Adams, to give a talk each semester in the peak of recruiting season: in the fall on Acing Second Round Interviews and in the winter on LinkedIn.

We have been involved in numerous community service events, including: creating a physics demonstration for elementary school children, boxing food for homeless shelters, cleaning up our campus during a day of service, and cleaning up a local children's science museum. Attendance usually varies from 5-10 members, and this year we had 11 volunteering events. Our largest event this year was for the inaugural CARE (Cost Assistance for Resilient Engineers) Scholarship fundraiser. We grilled food to help raise money for students facing emergencies, such as a death in the family, that place an unexpected financial burden on the student. The carnival had upwards of 100 people and raised \$700 for the scholarship. Some PTS members even got to meet Michigan head football coach Jim Harbaugh as a thanks for helping out!

For the first time in the history of the Michigan Pi Rho chapter, PTS worked with ASME and the ME Department to plan the end of semester Mechanical Engineering Undergraduate Symposium (MEUS). PTS helped plan the theme (Star Wars) and decorate the Galleria it was held in. We also worked with ASME to create a Jeopardy game at the Symposium where the winner won a trophy laser cut and 3D printed by PTS and ASME members. Our chapter also tutors ME students throughout the year; we work with the ME department learning center to block out a couple hours a week so students can walk in and get free tutoring by PTS members.

Additionally, we advertise to the College of Engineering directly and through other societies and departments to offer one-on-one tutoring to students in need, all for free! Our members also grill bratwursts and burgers in the center of campus as a fundraiser to our chapter, weather permitting, and often members wear brat hats or a brat suit! Last but not least are our social events, where PTS members develop the lifelong friends the Michigan Pi Rho chapter is known for. We hold numerous social events throughout the semester, including a scavenger hunt across campus, whirlyball (a mix between bumper cars, lacrosse, and basketball), movie nights, trivia nights, potlucks, and many other fun activities. For instance, this past semester we had 12 people participate in our first PTS golf outing, and we are currently planning another one for actives and alumni in the fall. Overall, the Pi Rho chapter was active in the community, department, and school and we are excited to see how we can continue to thrive next year!