PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

2016-2017

Cal Poly San Luis Obispo Phi Psi

A. INITIATIONS

The Cal Poly San Luis Obispo Phi Psi Chapter held one initiation in April for this academic year which added 18 new members to the chapter. We selected our initiates using the following criteria:

- Initiates are required to have Junior standing
- Initiates must be in the top 25% of their class as Juniors or top 35% of their class as Seniors

Upon pledging, new initiates to Pi Tau Sigma must complete the following requirements before being admitted into Pi Tau Sigma:

- Initiates must participate in 5 hours of community service events and/or machine shop time (machine shop time helps satisfy the 10 hour prerequisite required for Senior Project)
- Initiates must design and assemble their Pi Tau Sigma bent consisting of a key and plaque

Upon paying initiation dues, initiates are provided with the dimensions for the size of the plaque. Initiates are then asked to design and create their own plaque in order to assemble the bent. Our chapter has found that the level of effort and creativity put in by initiates to build their bent has increased significantly over the past three years as a result of allowing members to create their own plaque. We also provided initiates with 3D printed keys to finish the bent. In the future, these 3D prints could be used to create molds for initiates to cast their own keys.

A banquet dinner was then held where all of the new members and officers were invited to celebrate their admission into the honor society.

B. CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

This year the Phi Psi officer board focused on increasing our new member involvement in the chapter. We hosted a hands-on workshop, laid the groundwork for future tours, held a new initiate social event, and attended the national convention at Drexel.

Hands-On Workshop

Cal Poly Phi Psi held a hands-on CAD/CAM workshop in Fusion 360. PTS members and other students in the mechanical engineering department had the opportunity to learn about new software, gain real-world experience generating toolpaths on machine parts, and hear from Autodesk representatives about best use cases for CNC and CAM. Overall, students learned a lot and were excited to attend this event.

Future Tours
Our chapter reached out to a number of companies in order to set up tours for the coming school year. A graduated PTS member who works at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is working with our officers to get a tour set up.

Social Event
Our chapter held a post-initiation social event for our newest members so that everyone could get to know each other better. We provided food for everyone and then had the new members divide up into groups of three students. These groups competed against each other in a riddle-filled scavenger hunt to find noteworthy, but perhaps unnoticed, landmarks across campus. One such landmark was the tile pattern in the building with the Mustang ’60 machine shop, a pattern that mimicked the Fibonacci sequence. New members got to know each other and the officers much better which made the event an overall success.

Convention Participation
This year, the Phi Psi chapter sent two representatives to the annual convention at Drexel. The representatives learned much about the organization’s goals on the national level, met many PTS students from around the country, and appreciated the opportunity to hear how other chapters plan and run events.

C. Other

Figure 1. 3D Printed Key Given to New Initiates.

Figure 2. Example of Completed Bents Made by New Initiates.