PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT
2013-2014
California State University, Los Angeles -- Sigma Kappa Chapter

A. Initiations

The Sigma Kappa Chapter held two initiations over the 2013-2014 academic year. The first initiation was held during the winter quarter of the school year on March 7, 2014. The second initiation was held during the spring quarter of the school year on May 23, 2014. Our chapter initiated 6 new members in the winter quarter and an additional 7 members over the spring quarter.

Candidates first had to fulfill a strict set of requirements in order to be eligible for initiation into the honor society. The initial requirement was to meet our university's GPA standard, which was set as the top 25% for juniors and top 35% for seniors in their respective class standing. After sending out invitations to qualified candidates, they were required to attend an orientation. We then provided introductory information about the honor society and deadlines for resume submission, initiation fees and community service hours. After all these requirements were met and proper verifications submitted, the candidates then received an invitation to the initiation ceremony, where we initiated the attendees.

Candidates that attended the ceremonies were professionally dressed. The president and the vice president followed the standard initiation procedures and explained the honor society's objectives, commitments, and history. After finishing, the new members took a group picture and were asked to sign an album where their picture would be placed. After all formal introductions, our chapter provided food and refreshments for all participants.

B. Activities

National Convention

The Pi Tau Sigma, California State University, Los Angeles, Sigma Kappa Chapter sent President Ernesto Covarrubias and Vice President Ethian Ting to the 2014 National Convention held at Texas A&M University. They participated in a multitude of events, including the breakout meetings, social events, laboratory tours, and career fair. They were able to network with other Pi Tau Sigma members and professionals from the field. Most importantly, both of them contributed and gained important knowledge from other developed chapters about activities, goals, and objectives to improve the Sigma Kappa Chapter.

Engineering Honor Society Mixer

Our winter quarter initiates were also required to attend our Pi Tau Sigma-sponsored Engineering Honor Society Mixer. We invited several other engineering-based honor societies, including Tau Beta Pi, Chi Epsilon, and Eta Kappa Nu. The presidents of each honor society gave a speech to the participants while the members were able to socialize and interact. A formal dinner was served and games played and required the combined efforts of engineers from all disciplines. The Mixer also

celebrated the installation of our new dean, Dr. Emily Allen, of the College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology college at California State University, Los Angeles.

Community Service

Pi Tau Sigma initiates who volunteered for the "Habitat for Humanity" event helped a nonprofit housing ministry to repair houses in the nearby Los Angeles region. Through their efforts, dozens of families that were in need of decent shelter were able to have a roof over their heads and live in a satisfactory home. Initiates who attended "Heal the Bay" helped out by spending their morning hours picking up cigarette butts, trash, and other debris off the Santa Monica Pier. They were able to make the beach much more enjoyable for themselves, visitors, and the public in general. The "Impact LA Open House" volunteer event was also a huge event for Pi Tau Sigma initiates. Volunteers helped grade-school children learn more about the STEM field, with engineering being the core focus of the event. Our initiates gave tours of all multiple engineering laboratories to the children and also held many hands-on activities to help teach and inform them. These events not only helped inspire the young minds to think about the engineering fields, but could potentially also bring more Pi Tau Sigma members into our chapter in the near future.

Board Meetings

Over the course of the year, the seven board members and officers met to organize the initiation ceremonies and examine the overall goals of the organization. These meetings were held around two to three times a quarter. The board members also communicated among themselves on a regular basis through e-mails and social media. In the past year, we have also found a new advisor, Dr. Darrell Guillaume, the department chair of the Mechanical Engineering department at California State University, Los Angeles.

Pictured Above: Winter 2014 Initiates & Board Members

Pictured Above: Spring 2014 Initiates & Board Members

ECST Engineering Honor Society Mixer

When:	**Friday, March 7, 2014 4-7pm**
What:	**Dinner plus chance to mingle and network with your fellow engineering honor society members. This is a great opportunity to make new friends and meet the newly appointed ECST Dean Dr. Emily Allen!**
Who is invited:	**Anyone! Tickets are $5 and include dinner and a raffle ticket. Spaces are limited, so please purchase as soon as possible!**
Where to Purchase Tickets:	**Please send an email to csula.pitausigma@gmail.com and we will give you information on where you can purchase the tickets.**

Pictured Above: Mixer Flyer