Pi Tau Sigma Annual Chapter Report

2013-2014

University of Connecticut Pi Psi

A. Initiations

In this segment indicate your initiation procedure including selection process, requirements from initiates, initiation ceremony and rituals, and celebration. Include dates and numbers for all initiations held. No need to list names of initiates.

B. Chapter Activities

Include all chapter activities for the academic year. This will involve fundraisers, community services, university projects, etc. Please give sufficient details if the project involved other societies and if so what was your level of participation. To support your statements you may include photos, local paper articles, etc. Discuss your chapter meetings, banquets, convention participation and anything else that your chapter is involved with.

C. Other

Include anything else here that does not fit the above two categories that will strengthen your report.

A. Initiations

During the semester, the program coordinator of the Engineering Undergraduate office sends out a list of eligibles to the chapter president. These eligibles are selected based on the GPA and include the top 33% of seniors and top 25% of juniors. These eligibles are contacted through email and are invited to an information session to find out more about the honor society and our chapter activites. At the informational session, candidates are briefed on the history of Pi Tau Sigma nationally and the goals of the Pi Psi Chapter at the University of Connecticut. Eligible initiates are invited to the bi annual initiation ceremony, but are not told exactly what the ceremony will involve. For the initiation, they need to bring a mechanical engineering textbook with 3 signatures from mechanical engineering professors as well as a check for the initiation fee. We also ask that each initiate talk to a professor in the Mechanical engineering department, and discuss areas or research. The occasion is business casual and starts with each eligible showing their signed textbook. The advisor then asks them a general mechanical engineering question. After the advisor has stumped the initiate, they pay the initiation fee, and signs into a membership book. After all the eligibles have completed this, the president and vice president welcome the initiates into the society by reading their respective passages from the chapter manual. The eligibles are now officially members of Pi Tau Sigma.

There is usually a pizza party and social gathering after the initiation so that the new initiates get to know each other. In the spring, there is a general body meeting held at the same time so that elections can be held for the next year. Initiations were held on November 14, 2013 and April 1, 2014. There were 3 initiates in the fall and 14 initiates in the spring.

B. Chapter Activities

Chapter meetings are held weekly to plan upcoming events and discuss goals for the chapter. Each semester, 5 students volunteered to help with the Engineering Open House and were tour guides for the event. The students were asked to bring groups of parents and students to different stations with demonstrations as well as answer any questions they might have. In February, the chapter hosted a Souper Bowl canned food drive for a local food bank in Willimantic, CT and delivered over 5 crates of food. We also held a canned food drive for needy families around Thanksgiving. To increase funds, the chapter held a Krispy Kreme fundraiser at the library before finals week. We held a post-initiation dinner in the spring with Provost Mun Choi to welcome the new members. We have begun planning for holding national convention at University of Connecticut in the year 2016. The chapter president and another member also attended the national convention in 2014. Also, we have planned for a ‘sweat pants’ fundraiser, and also a tutoring program for first year mechanical students. We did not have time to actually implement, but will start next year. Our major goals for the upcoming school year include increasing our involvement on the campus, and becoming a very active group in the engineering school. We would also like to reach out to companies in our area, and increase the network that our PTS chapter has, so that being a member of our group has very tangible benefits.

C. Other