Miami Sigma Upsilon

University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida

Chartered January 22, 1977. Number 93.

Goals for 2013-2014

For this academic year, the goal of the Miami Sigma Upsilon chapter of Pi Tau Sigma was to improve the tutoring experience during final exams. The number of tutors available was increased as well as the total amount of time for which sessions were held. A large group session was organized for the most demanded course as well.

Activities

Two groups of new members were initiated; one in the fall and one in the spring. Tutoring sessions were held for finals in both the fall and the spring. Members devoted two hours each to tutoring. Pi Tau Sigma members also held active positions in many other engineering organizations such as ASME, AIAA, and SHPE. The President and Vice President also attended the national Pi Tau Sigma conference.

Graduates

Mark Agate – PhD in Aerospace Engineering at Georgia Tech University

Katherine Haefner – M.S. at Stanford University

Nicholas Masotto – Working for Lockheed Martin Missiles & Fire Control, Orlando

Sarmad Chaudry – PhD in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Florida

New Members

Benton Patterson
Silvana Lopez
James Johnston
Gabriel Soto
Weiqi Wang
Brian Jozefat
Andres Casas
Charles Pecora
Sarmad Chaudhry

Plans for 2014-2015

For the next academic year the chapter is making the transition to a new faculty mentor. We also plan to attend the centennial Pi Tau Sigma conference. The number of members attending will be dependent on funding with selection of attendees being based on participation in chapter activities. Tutoring services will continue to be offered with an attempt at improving the quality of said services based on feedback from students.

Awards

Stenning Award for Top Mech. Eng. GPA - Nick Masotto

Stenning Award for Top Aero. Eng. GPA - Kathryn Hefner

Anderson Award for Best Contributions to MAE Dept. - Nick Masotto

PTS Service Award (from UM Honors Dept.) - Nick Masotto

PTS Award for Best GRE scores 2014 - Sarmad Chaudhry

Chapter Officers

President - Benton Patterson

Vice President - James Johnston

Chapter Advisors

Dr. Kau-Fui V. Wong – Outgoing

Dr. Ines M. Basalo – Incoming

The Miami Sigma Upsilon chapter of Pi Tau Sigma would like to thank Dr. Wong for his 30+ years of service as chapter advisor. We also wish to welcome our new advisor Dr. Basalo.

Contact Information

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Pi Tau Sigma National Convention

The Pi Tau Sigma National Convention was held at Texas A&M University from February 21-23. The Pi Taus from the Sigma Delta Chapter proved to highly coordinated and dedicated to ensuring the success of the annual convention. Each chapter was briefed well in advance to guarantee travel plans were not a problem and were provided with a well-organized itinerary upon arrival. The University of Miami Sigma Upsilon Chapter was represented at the convention by Chapter President Nicholas Masotto and Vice President Kathryn Haefner.

Upon arrival to the Hilton Hotel in College Station, Texas on Friday evening Pi Taus were provided with a welcoming dinner, sponsored by BP. An introduction and roll call was provided by PTS National President Dr. Mun Yung Choi who later introduced the Keynote Speaker, Dr. Polycarpou, Department Head of Mechanical Engineering at Texas A&M. After dinner, three breakout meetings were scheduled to provide students with information on convention planning, history and best practices for PTS, and Master's Degree for Industry. Friday nights events were wrapped up with a Friday Night Social consisting of bowling, laser tag, mini golf, and pool.

Saturday morning all Pi Taus were shuttled from the Hilton to the Memorial Student Center on campus and provided with breakfast and a preview from Illinois-UC for the 100th PTS convention in 2015. Shortly after, the chapter of North Texas Beta Eta of the University of North Texas was initiated to become the 175th chapter chartered since the founding of the association on March 16, 1915. Seeing the ritual for the first time is truly a great experience and exemplifies what it means to be a member of Pi Tau Sigma. Members were then privileged to gain insight into the work industry from a Mechanical Engineering perspective by a company panel consisting of BP, Halliburton, and Schlumberger. After breaking for lunch, sponsored by Schlumberger, a video was shown to highlight Schlumberger and their role in the Energy Services Industry. Following the presentation, members had the opportunity to interact with each other in a fun group trivia event.

For the later part of the afternoon, members had the opportunity to choose from attending the career fair and find potential employment with companies such as BP, Halliburton, National Instruments, Schlumberger, and Chevron Phillips or to attend various tours of the research laboratories on campus. Some of the laboratories included bipedal experimental robotics, advanced engine research, turbomachinery, shock tube and advanced mixing, and plasma research. The convention was concluded with a dinner and presentation sponsored by Halliburton. For a final farewell all students gathered for a Saturday social event.