PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

2016-2017

West Virginia Delta Theta

A. Initiations

Selection Process: To be inducted into the West Virginia Delta Theta Chapter of Pi Tau Sigma, the induction requirements must be met (listed below) and the list of those who qualify are then brought to the current members at a meeting. There, they determine if each candidate upholds the character and integrity expected of a member of Pi Tau Sigma.

Requirements from all Initiates: The top 35% of the senior class was considered for induction. In the fall the top 25% of the junior class was considered for induction. In the spring the top 33% of the junior class was considered for induction. It was also confirmed that potential inductees were at least halfway through the mechanical curriculum. This had to be added because in more than one case, transfers to the department who had not passed any MAE courses technically met all the other academic requirements. In our case, potential initiates who met these criteria also met the additional requirement of a 3.25 GPA.

Ceremony and Rituals: The ceremonies for this chapter take place in a classroom in the evenings. The inductees are required to meet in the Mechanical Engineering Lounge and are then led to the room where the lights are off and candles have been lit. We used dim florescent bulbs to light up posters showing the key and coat of arms. The current members are lined up at the front of the room while the inductees sit facing the front. Once they are seated, the Pi Tau Sigma rituals are followed and the inductees become members. An induction fee of $60 was collected from each initiate.

Celebration: After the ceremony, the chapter pays for a meal for all to attend. Pizza, chips, and drinks was served after both inductions this academic year

Fall Induction: The Fall induction took place on November 29th, 2017 at 5pm. Four new members were inducted in the fall.

Spring Induction: The first Spring induction took place on April 5th, 2016 at 5pm where three members were inducted. The second Spring induction took place on April 9th, 2016 at 2pm where one member was inducted. A total of four new members were inducted in the spring. This is the first induction where a roll book was kept and logged.

B. Chapter Activities

At West Virginia University Institute of Technology, the members of Pi Tau Sigma meet every other week to discuss campus events, engineering news, and plan activities meant to improve the development of our fellow classmates. Listed below are the activities the chapter was involved in during the 2016-2017 school year.

Ice Breaker: This year the chapter continued a previous initiative where members presented a new technology or design they learned about recently. It can be about any current going on in the world of engineering (new tech, failures, career tips, etc.) When there were no volunteers to present, this part of the meeting was replaced with an interesting video form Destin Sandlin, a mechanical engineer from Alabama who operates the Smarter Every Day You Tube channel.

https://www.youtube.com/user/destinws2

Convention: We secured school funding that allowed us to attend the national convention using very little of the honor society's money. This allowed us to use the money collected from new initiates to provide a meal after the initiations, polos to our members, and cords to our seniors at no charge. The dean of the college of engineering provided funding for a rental vehicle and the Student Government Association helped cover our other expenses. Six members attended the convention. We learned many best practices from the convention and came back to campus ready to make our chapter better.

Group Pictures: The tradition of taking a group picture was continued. Members donated their photography skills as well as a print to display.

Letter from Previous President: Brett Floyd, the previous president of our chapter was invited to come back to speak about his duties in the automotive industry. However, the travel time was too long, so he wrote us an excellent letter describing his current duties instead. The letter was read as part of our March 30th, 2017 meeting.

Design Exposition: WVU Tech's ASME and Pi Tau Sigma organizations collaborate on a big event at the end of the year where all engineering students showcase their senior projects to

members of the industry, community, and university. The third annual event took place April 13th, 2017 and nearly 200 people attended.

http://www.wvutech.edu/news/2017/04/18/student-design-expo-highlights-research-and-design-efforts-of-more-than-50-golden-bears

ME Luncheon: Pi Tau Sigma took a leadership role in the annual mechanical department luncheon. The event was held on April 18th, 2017. The luncheon was highly supported by the department chair and he helped us get the word out. At this year's luncheon, we honored Dr. Puttaiah, a former PTS advisor and beloved professor of mechanical engineering. He is retiring after nearly 50 years at WVU Tech. We invited all mechanical students and professors to the event, so it was a great networking opportunity for students to get to know their peers and professors. Pi Tau Sigma received a mini grant from the student government association to provide pizza, drinks, and cake to those in attendance. The grant also allowed us to purchase a plaque for Dr. Puttaiah.