Rochester Delta Pi

Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY
Chartered May 14, 1977. Number 113.

Goals for 2008-2009

The main goal for this school year was to clean up all of the administrative gaps left from previous years of leadership in the Rochester Delta Pi chapter. We were on the verge of being de-activated by the national organization because of this lapse, and the goal set by the incoming chapter officers was to raise our chapter back to being in good standing with the national office.

Secondary goals were to raise awareness of Pi Tau Sigma within the Department of Mechanical Engineering at RIT and to also raise awareness of Pi Tau Sigma within the Rochester community. We also wanted to encourage more activity between chapter members.

Activities

Our annual events are the fall and spring induction, a trip to the National Pi Tau Sigma Convention, and the RIT Mechanical Engineering Spring Pig Roast for Seniors. The chapter president organized the induction ceremonies and also the pig roast, and the chapter treasurer and secretary jointly planned the trip to Nationals. We also presented awards at the Annual RIT Mechanical Engineering Banquet. "Best Mechanical Engineering Professor" was awarded to Dr. Jeffrey Kozak for his tireless effort in helping students, and "Rookie of the Year" was awarded to Dr. Tuhin Das for the impact he has made on the student body in his short amount of time among the RIT faculty. These two faculty members will be made honorary members of the Rochester Delta Pi chapter.

Our chapter fundraising this year was done solely through RIT Pizza Sales. Engineering clubs at RIT rotate selling pizza during lunch time in the engineering building. Papa John's gives RIT engineering students a discount for this purpose, and pizza is then sold either by the slice or by the whole pie for club profit. This fundraiser is jointly managed by all the engineering clubs, and it meets all Monroe County, New York, health code standards. All chapter members who assist in the selling of pizza are trained to these standards ahead of time.

In addition to these regular activities, our club participated in two service projects this year. The chapter vice president organized a community service project on February 14, 2009, to a local homeless shelter where chapter members helped prepare and serve dinner to the homeless in the Rochester community. The date for this project was far from ideal, but the chapter members who were able to participate all got a lot out of it, and those who were unable to make it said they hoped that service projects like this were something our chapter would be able to continue with in the future. The other service project we partook in was organized by the chapter secretary and occurred on April 30, 2009. Chapter members volunteered at the local E3 fair, an engineering and technology fair for local grade school children. Publicity regarding these service projects definitely raised awareness of Pi Tau Sigma among the general RIT mechanical engineering student body and helped to attract students to our chapter's spring induction.

Though it did not completely come to fruition, we were able to compile a list of faculty members at RIT who are members of Pi Tau Sigma. Hopefully this list can be used in the future to plan joint faculty and student events for all Pi Tau Sigma members. Potential ideas were a picnic in one of the local parks, a partially subsidized dinner at a nice restaurant, a partially subsidized bowling night, a volleyball or dodgeball game, or an afternoon at the local go-kart track and miniature golf establishment.

From a chapter organizational standpoint, the main goal set by the chapter officers was met by submitting the year-end report regarding the previous year's activities and also going through all of the chapter's old records about previous inductions. Through a lapse in proper transfer of responsibilities, there were a few missing registrations for new members, and the chapter president worked with the national office for most of the fall and winter to straighten out all of the paperwork in this area. Once this was complete, membership cards and membership certificates from these previous initiations needed to be sent out to those who have become RIT alumni. The chapter president wrote a letter to accompany these materials in the mail, and the addresses

collected were used to start an alumni contact information database.

Graduates

Eva Ames – Automotive Body Design Engineer at Honda R&D Americas
Joseph Ferrara – Engineer at Xerox
Matthew Greco – Associate Engineer, Engine & Control Systems at Hamilton Sundstrand
Jonathan Guerrette – Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering candidate at the Rochester Institute of Technology
Mark Livelli – Plans yet to be determined
John Matrachisia – Plans yet to be determined
Aaron Nash – Engineer at Boeing

Awards & Recognition

Dr. Jeff Kozak – 2009 RIT Mechanical Engineering Professor of the Year
Dr. Tuhin Das – 2009 RIT Mechanical Engineering Rookie Professor of the Year

Names of New Members

Fall 2008 Pledges

Alex Frechette	James Reepmeyer
Jonathan Guerrette	Jeffrey Ryan
John Matrachisia III	Evan See
Alexander Matson	

Spring 2009 Pledges

Michelle Bailey	Andrew Komendat
David Hatch	Cody D. Rath
Young Jun Jun	Christopher J. Rinauto
Andrew Krall	

Honorary 2008-2009 Inductees

Dr. Tuhin Das	Dr. Jeffrey Kozak

Transfer of Responsibilities

Unusually, only half of this year's chapter officers are graduating, and this year's chapter secretary has been elected to be chapter president next year. Much of the important information from this year is contained in email format, and all of that has been forwarded to next year's chapter president as well as the chapter advisor. All of the other files from this year have been transferred to the new chapter president as well.

As per tradition, the election of a junior officer and that person's subsequent efforts for the chapter lead to that person holding a chapter officer position for the next year. The junior officer shadowed the chapter president extensively regarding all of the year-end planning in order to absorb as much information as possible. There was also a year-end meeting between the outgoing chapter president and the incoming chapter president and incoming chapter vice-president to go over procedures for submitting paperwork such as the new member registration form and the year-end report to the national office.

Plans for 2009-2010

The main goal for this coming year is to keep the momentum going in regards to attracting new members to this chapter and to also continue the good trail of paperwork submitted to the national office. This chapter currently has the largest number of active members that it has had in the last five years, and there is much more interest growing. In order to continue this trend, next year's chapter officers should continue to spread awareness of the chapter's activities. One under-utilized method for doing so would be to update the display case in the engineering building and to request that a better lighting fixture be placed over it for better visibility to those walking by. It was suggested this year that a large white backdrop be purchased and that each new class of initiates sign their names to it.

In order to maintain the growth and development of the chapter, it is also advisable that the new chapter officers send out welcome letters to potential new initiates' home addresses. In the past, doing so encouraged parents to talk to their students about the importance of joining organizations like Pi Tau Sigma, but somehow this practice got lost with several changes of leadership. In addition, these previous leadership changes combined with some administrative changes at the Rochester Institute of Technology have lead to the disablement of the Delta Pi chapter's website and email address on the university server space. Next year's leadership is going to work to get this functional again.

Now that the chapter is back in good standing, it would be nice to be able to apply for funding to help with travel expenses to the National Convention so that we could afford to send more than just one person. General chapter interest and activity is also going to be increased through the offering of more social events for members.

Outgoing Chapter Officers

President	Eva Ames
Vice President	Sylvan Hemingway

Treasurer	Aaron Nash
Secretary	Nicholas Schneider
Junior Officer	Evan See

Incoming Chapter Officers

President	Nicholas Schneider nms0286@rit.edu
Vice President	Rebecca Wagner rnw5483@rit.edu
Treasurer	Evan See ejs3330@rit.edu
Secretary	Lowell Smoger lms4498@rit.edu

Chapter Advisor

Dr. Wayne Walter (wwweme@rit.edu)

Contact Information

(no current website)
wwweme@rit.edu

Reporter

Eva Ames