Annual Chapter Report

2019-2020

South Carolina Delta Tau Chapter

A. Initiation

Current policy for initiation into the South Carolina Delta Tau Chapter is to identify (a) undergraduates who have completed their 2nd semester and are in the top 25% by institutional GPA, (b) undergraduates who have completed their 3rd semester and are in the top 30% by institutional GPA, and (c) graduates who have at least a 3.5 GPA for their graduate classes. Eligible nominees received an email from the president of Pi Tau Sigma which discussed the initiation process, the history of the organization and chapter specifically, initiation fee, and the induction dates. On top of the academic achievements the nominees need for eligibility, the new and existing members dedicate their time and efforts to the local community through service activities. Spring semester 2020 we were forced to initiate our nominees over a ZOOM call due to COVID-19. We captured a picture of the cabinet members as well as the new initiates at the conclusion of the ZOOM call.

The cabinet members and new initiates.

B. Chapter Activities

B.1. Student Leadership Elections

At the conclusion of the spring semester, the chapter took a vote on positions with more than one nominee. The majority vote decided the new positions and those with only one person running did not require a vote. We decided to add in a community service position to emphasize our efforts to help in the surrounding Columbia area. We also added a veteran officer position to increase our alumni ties and help ease the transition for cabinet members. The leadership cabinet this past 2019-2020 year was as follows:

- President: Chase Murray
- Vice President: Mason Williams
- Secretary: Kiersten Crouse
- Treasurer: Trevor Janssen
- Webmaster: Megan Brickwedde

As voted by the chapter, the leadership team for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year will be as follows:

- President: Megan Brickwedde
- Vice President: Mason Williams
- Secretary: Kiersten Crouse
- Treasurer: Trevor Janssen
- Community Service Officer: Caroline Evans
- Veteran Officer: Chase Murray

The responsibilities for each position on leadership team overall remain similar over the years with minor changes. The president is responsible for organizing events, planning and contacting speakers, and identifying initiates. The vice president handles the communication with initiates as well as the initiation process and attendance, while the secretary generally documents the meeting information, organizes meetings, and writes the annual reports. The responsibilities of the treasurer included managing and recording new member dues, fundraising, and ordering t-shirts for members. The community service officer will be responsible for organizing service events and possible fundraiser ideas. The veteran officer will help the transition for cabinet and help oversee operations.

B.2. Spring and Fall Induction Ceremonies

Our induction ceremonies in both the fall and spring followed the Pi Tau Sigma ceremonial traditions. We had twelve new members inducted during the fall semester and four new members inducted during the spring semester. A new list of eligible members will surface after final grades are in the system and we will send out invitation letters during the first few weeks of the fall 2020 semester. We will congratulate these nominees on their successes and potentially welcome them with membership.

B.3. Speakers

Pi Tau Sigma Delta Chapter was lucky enough to hear from extremely successful engineering companies about potential career opportunities. Presentations form International Paper, Pure Power Technologies, and Shaw Industries allowed our members to kickstart their networking skills. We also had a UofSC graduate student share his career endeavors with Atlas Copco. Hearing from potential employers helped open doors for our members into possible internship opportunities. We were able to hear from recruiters about what they look for and what to expect in a normal day for an intern.

B.4. Convention Participation

This 2020 spring semester we were able to send our chapter president, Chase Murray, to the Convention in New York to network with other Pi Tau Sigma members. He learned a great deal about other chapter leadership teams and came back with awesome ideas on how to improve our

own. The students attended a career fair where they were able to meet potential employers and strengthen their networking skills. Chase attended a Keynote Speaker presentation on career advice. He also learned about a new application called Autodesk Generative Design Workshop.

Chase Murray at the Convention.

B.5. Fundraising

During the 2019 fall semester, we held a Krispy Kreme donut fundraiser to raise money for the chapter. This fundraiser money goes towards refreshments at meetings as well as t-shirt funds for each semester.

B.6. Community Service

Our chapter had tons of ideas this spring semester, however, we only had enough time to carry out one of the ideas due to COVID-19. We had the opportunity to help our University of South Carolina Engineering department in our E-Week Open House where kindergarten through 12th grade students were immersed in different hands-on activities. Our members ran the Segway rides allowing participants to learn the mechanism behind it as well as rise the Segway. Other events we had planned such as teaching a science class about pushes and pulls at Rosewood Elementary School were cancelled. We hope to have the opportunity to teach the class this upcoming fall and/or spring semester. Now with our new community service officer, we will hopefully have many more service opportunities. We hope to work with other engineering organizations at UofSC in service activities to show that we are all united.

Some of our nominees and members volunteered on their own time assembling 3D-printed face shields at our engineering department during the COVID-19 mask shortage doctors faced, UofSC service Saturdays, UofSC Dance Marathon, etc.