PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT
2016 – 2017
UIC ALPHA SIGMA

A. Initiations

Junior and senior level undergraduates in the top 25% and 35% of their respective classes were recruited as potential prospects to join the UIC Alpha Sigma chapter of Pi Tau Sigma. The selection process began with the chapter Vice President sending out an email to the students who met or exceeded the requirements. This email was detailed with all the necessary information that the potential pledges needed to make an informed decision. The information provided included Pi Tau Sigma requirements, benefits, and the initiation process.

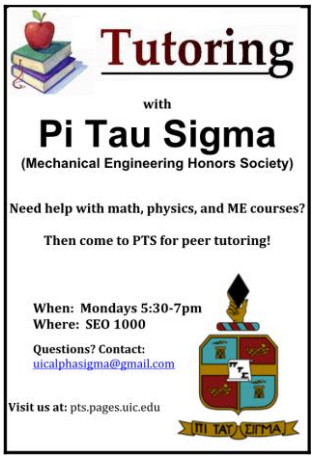
All interested prospects were scheduled interviews with current Pi Tau Sigma members. The interview process assessed each candidate's personal, academic, and professional goals. Each candidate's intended level of participation and leadership was also considered. This selection process ensured that only candidates that were believed to share and honor the values of Pi Tau Sigma were chosen to receive membership to the Alpha Sigma chapter. The interviews also allowed current members to gain service hours and form relationships with new initiates.

The initiation ceremonies were held in the last few weeks of each semester. The chapter President and Vice President sat opposite the pledges, reviewed the expectations, missions, values, and history of Pi Tau Sigma. Each pledge was required to state his or her name and promise to uphold the values expected of all PTS members. After the ceremony, a celebration dinner was held at a local restaurant. Pledges, active members, and chapter officers attended and intermingled.

B. Chapter Activities

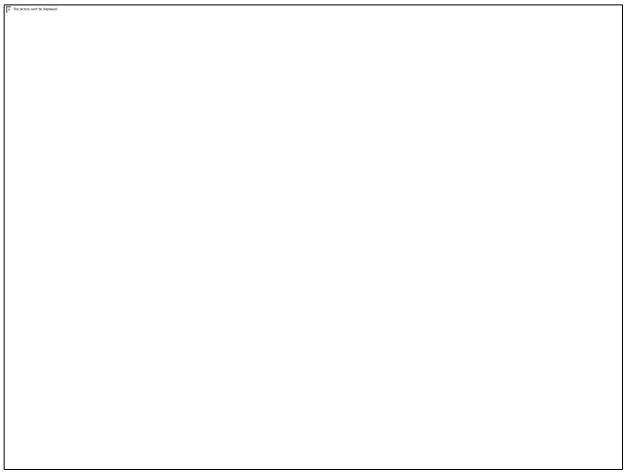
Academic & Professional Development

Tutoring: UIC Alpha Sigma hosted a tutoring session once per week, open to undergraduates needing extra assistance in math, science, and engineering classes. Officers and active members ran the sessions and anyone was invited to attend. The sessions provided not only an academic service to students, but also exposed the College of Engineering student body to learn about Pi Tau Sigma and interact with its members. Many tutoring attendees have gone on to become PTS members themselves



Software Workshops: Mechanical engineering students are exposed to a variety of modeling, simulation, and coding softwares throughout their undergraduate educations. Because these programs are not only useful for coursework but essential tools for engineering professionals, UIC Alpha Sigma established a new program of workshops designed to increase member's proficiency with various softwares. Using previous lessons plans put together in previous semesters, a SolidWorks workshop was held biweekly during the fall semester. It was led by an active PTS member who was already extensively experienced using the software.

IMTS: The International Manufacturing Technology Show was held in Chicago during the Fall 2016 semester. The Alpha Sigma chapter registered and attended as a group for all PTS members that wanted to go. The event proved to be a great exposure experience for many of the members that attended as some had not yet had industry experience. The group also participated in a hands on water jet build competition. The competition qualified the Alpha Sigma chapter to be entered in a drawing to win a water jet for the University of Illinois at Chicago's engineering department. Unfortunately it was won by another school but however, it was a great experience.



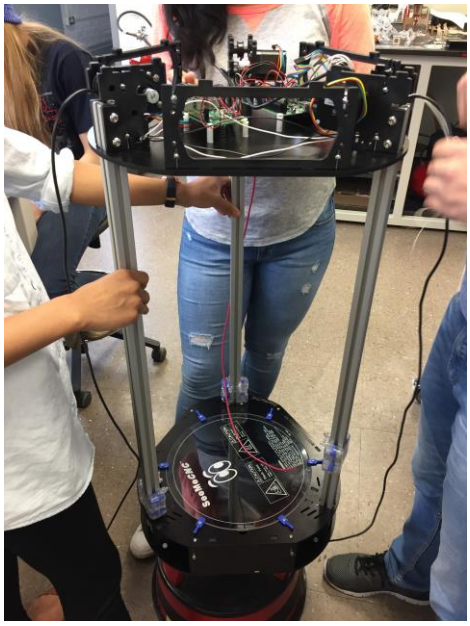
Fermilab Tour: Another professional development event we hosted was a Fermilab tour for members interested in pursuing a career in research outside of academia. The event took place on Saturday, April 15, and since the attendees enjoyed the tour we will host another one next year for our members.

Pi Tau Sigma National Convention: This year we managed to send 8 of our members to

attend the national convention with the help of PTS national and UIC funding. It was a great opportunity for our members to network with other engineering students, learn more about the engineering profession and current issues in it, as well as have a great time! We hope that next year we will send even more members and have an even better time in Miami.

3-D Printer Building: This semester, the chapter decided to purchase and build a Rostock

Max V3 desktop 3d Printer in order to assist our members in building technical skills and provide a resource for them to become familiar and learn about additive manufacturing. We will also explore opportunities to form competition teams and start projects which will make use of the new printer.



Departmental Volunteering

Often throughout the semester, the College of Engineering and other engineering societies on campus reached out to PTS members to volunteer at their events. The MIE Open House, ASME Luncheon, and Engineering Expo are some of the events UIC Alpha Sigma members volunteered at this year. Members gained service hours for their participation in addition to the valuable networking experience.

Social Gatherings

Bent & Plaque Polishing: A bent polishing event is held every semester in the weeks following initiation to ceremonially welcome new members into the society and renew the honor of continuing members. Due to the team-bonding nature of the ceremony and the casual, creative workshop environment where it is held, the polishing ceremony consistently has one of the best turnouts of all the social events.

Bar Crawl: Both semesters, UIC Alpha Sigma hosted a bar crawl in the fall targeted at all engineering students. The event was open to everyone including PTS Alumni. To participate, students purchased wristbands that were to be worn during the event rather than t-shirts that had been sold in the past. Switching to wristband sales proved to be more profitable and seemed to be preferred by the students. The chapter also hosted another bar crawl in the spring and reverted back to t-shirts to have increased visibility for those part of the bar crawl.

Pi Tau Sigma's

UIC Engineering

Bar Crawl

★ PTS BAR CRAWL ★

Wristbands:
$5 for official PTS members
$8 for non-members

The Bar 10 Doors 6:00-7:30pm
- $6 PBR pitchers
- $2 Bud/PBR drafts
- $3 Well cocktails
- $4 Jameson & Rumchata shots
- $3 Fireball shots

Hawkeyes 7:30-9:00pm
- $2 Miller Lite
- $3 Well cocktails
- $2 Budweiser bottles
- $3 312 cans
- $5 Jose Cuervo Shots
- 10% off all starters
- (Dining room reserved for us)

Vintage Lounge 9:00-10:30pm
- $3 Domestic drafts
- $4 Well cocktails

Drum & Monkey 10:30-∞am
- $3 Domestic bottles
- $4 Well cocktails
- $4 Jäger shots
- $6 Hamms can & Jameson shot combo

Friday October 7, 2016

Chapter Meetings

Officer Meetings: PTS officers met weekly during the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 semesters. The officer meetings ensured accurate and timely communication about events and chapter goals. The President ran each meeting and the secretary took notes which were distributed to all officers at the end of each meeting via email.

General Body Meetings: The purpose of our general body meetings is to communicate information about PTS events and member expectations. These meetings also serve as an opportunity for the members to socialize with each other. Attendance is taken at each meeting and recorded by the secretary. Five meetings were held each semester. During one of the general body meetings we surveyed our members for the location of the 2019 PTS national convention and our members chose Colorado as the location.