2017-2018
SIUE Alpha Chi

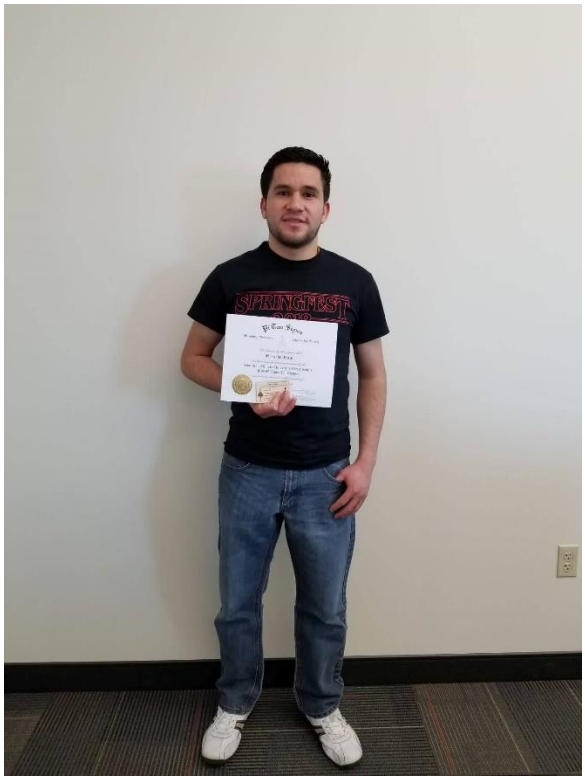
A. Initiations

In the academic year of 2017-2018 we held two initiations one of which happened in December and the other in April. We recruited total amount of 8 members, where 1 of them was recruited in December the rest in April. I would like to mention that; the ongoing honor society scams affected our efforts in Fall 2017 drastically and made our colleagues think that, someone is sending false emails by using our Presidents account. However, those emails were the invitation letters sent by our President to the nominees.

Initiation ceremonies were held professionally and with respect to the bylaws of our society. While we were embracing our newest sisters and brothers, we made sure they understand the responsibility of carrying our banner. Furthermore, we held an election during the spring initiation and elected new governing body for our chapter. The transition had happened smoothly, and the new body is more than enough to carry both our chapter and society further.

Fig. 1 Introducing the logo

(a)



(b)

Fig. 2 (a) & (b) Initiates of Spring 2018

B. Chapter Activities

In this academic year, our chapter hosted 2 high school education sessions and 1 fundraising to fund these sessions. Also, our President Mr. Erim Yanik represented our chapter during the national convention.

In Fall 2017, we visited a high school named Trinity Lutheran School. Our purpose was to introduce Mechanical Engineering as a fun and entertaining discipline while teaching the students some basics of engineering. To do that, we decided to let them construct model roller coaster. In order to achieve our goal, we decided to do a fundraising. After obtaining the required permissions we tabled on campus and hosted the event we named “Pi Tau Pizza” where the students could buy a pizza and get information about our society, who we are and what we do. With the raised funds, we bought necessary equipment spent a day at the school where we introduced Mechanical Engineering as a discipline and taught the students what kinetic and potential energy are so that they could construct their own roller coasters. The students were divided into groups and the objects were priced with certain amounts. Each group were limited with the same budget while constructing at least 1 flip and starting from a certain height. Furthermore, they were asked to stop the object provided at the end of the coaster without an external impact so that the design could be realistic. Overall, it was a very productive day for both our members and the students.

Fig. 3 Helping students to set up the roller coaster

In Spring 2018, we visited another school, West Lincoln Broadwell, and spoke with the junior high about mechanical engineering and SIUE. The classes were broken down into teams again to work on a stem project in which the student needed to build a roller coaster with pipe insulation and a marble. The students were required to record the height change of the track. The students then applied the conservation of energy equation to calculate the exit speed of their roller coaster. The designs were then judged on safety, reliability, and practicality so a final design could be selected.

Fig. 4 Evaluating the roller coaster