PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT
2012-2013
Temple Beta Alpha

A. Initiation

During the 2012-2013 academic year, two initiation ceremonies were held. One initiation ceremony welcoming nine students to the Chapter's body was held in the fall semester, and a second initiation ceremony welcoming one more student to the Chapter's body was held in the spring semester. Two out of the nine students initiated in the fall were graduate students.

B. Chapter Activities

During the 2012-2013 academic school year, multiple chapter activities were begun that each exhibited a sense of community atmosphere and togetherness focus. Establishing bonds between members and building both cross-communication and interdisciplinary skills are key to successful present and future personal and career-related endeavors.

Each member, old or new, was encouraged to create and connect via a Linked-In account. This was done in order to not only support fellow engineers, whether current students or alumni, and to facilitate any job recommendations, but also to build up Temple's College of Engineering own alumni base and connections. Establishing these accounts highlighted the importance of networking and making connections through communication. Members were expected to be persistent and to pursue professional connections.

The Chapter also started to work on a mechanical engineering design project aimed to create an automatic s'more machine. The machine would be capable of creating a variety of marshmallow "wellnesses," as well as be capable of stacking an entire s'more sandwich, which consists of a piece of chocolate and a marshmallow stacked between two graham crackers pieces. Current members were involved with both outfitting the initial ideas and approaching the design and all design constraints. Multiple weekly meetings involved focusing on the design process and different design components, as well as applying fundamental classroom concepts into the design of an efficient machine. The objective of this project was to not only ignite thinking and rational logic and reasoning, but also to develop cross-communication; to effectively work together as a team to achieve a single goal. This is a skill that will perpetuate us into our future careers and aspirations.

All members were encouraged to support and encourage fellow classmates with rigorous coursework. Whether through tutoring, working on schoolwork and assignments together, or leading study sessions, members have ample opportunity to not only share their own knowledge to help those who may be struggling, but to also work with fellow students. Working together, regardless of engineering discipline and background, encourages collaboration and creates an environment in which all feel free to share thoughts and ideas; an environment in which all benefit and learn from each other.

As can be seen, a major component of this year's focus was to create a stable foundation that will allow the future leaders of PTS to continue with bigger and even better projects and activities.