PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

2018-2019

GEORGIA SOUTHERN BETA IOTA

Initiation:

Student eligibility was based on academic standings required by the national Pi tau Sigma guidelines. The top eighth of the junior class and top fifth of the senior class based on GPA ranking and credit hours earned received invitations to join the Beta Iota chapter. Members who decided to join paid a $70 membership fee which included a chapter t-shirt. The fall induction ceremony was held on September 9, 2018, and the spring induction was held on February 19th, 2019 at the Skybox at The Clubhouse, a local and popular bowling alley. Members were invited to enjoy free food and two hours of bowling after the initiation ritual was upheld. All members were registered with the national chapter.

Table 1. 2018-2019 Academic year Initiations

Semester	**Undergraduate**	**Graduate**	**Honorary**
Fall 2018	16	0	0
Spring 2019	17	0	0

Figure 1. Spring 2019 Induction

Community Service:

Each member was required to complete volunteer hours. Volunteer hours are defined as any service through the university or community in which the member does not get paid. For fall 2018, members were required to complete 5 volunteer hours, with new members required to complete 3. The requirements were increased for spring 2019 so that active members were required to complete 8 volunteer hours with new members required to complete 5 volunteer hours. These requirements are being gradually increased to increase the participation of our members throughout the department and community. The past school year we had

approximately 15-20 active members who were involved throughout the year, with 3 to 5 students who were out due to internships or Co-Ops who were excluded from the community service hour's requirement. This school year we offered many new opportunities to complete volunteer service that have not been promoted in the past. During the fall semester, we held a pizza fundraiser in which members could volunteer to sell pizza slices, and a canned food drive competition between PTS and our sister society Tau Beta Pi. Students that donated a certain number of cans were awarded volunteer credit. In total, we were able to collect 421 cans that were donated to the local Statesboro Foodbank. During the spring semester, we sold coffee in the mornings from 7:30-11, Monday through Thursday, for five weeks. Members were given the opportunity to volunteer to help sell coffee, tea, and hot chocolate in between classes. The profits of this fundraiser were split between Pi Tau Sigma and Tau Beta Pi to fund meeting activities throughout the semester. We also coordinated with Habitat for Humanity to designate a build day in which our members could work with the leaders from Habitat on local construction. Six members volunteered for that event. Our next big opportunity for volunteer was to sell tickets for the end of the semester BBQ. Five weeks before the scheduled date for the BBQ, we hosted sessions 2-3 times a week for members to sell tickets to the BBQ and promote the Blue Shaft Professor Gag award. Volunteers were also need on the day of the event to serve food, collect tickets, and man the dunking booth.

Figure 2. Fall 2018 Canned Food Drive

Figure 3. Volunteers at Habitat for Humanity

Chapter Meetings:

Each member was required to complete volunteer hours, attend a minimum number of meetings, and attend one wings point event. Meetings were defined as the bi-weekly held meetings or special events designated as a meeting such as a career fair, guest speaker event, or fundraiser event. Wings points are required by the university to ensure that clubs are involved in the university and community and offered seminars on topics such as leadership skills to interview tips. Regular meetings were held bi-weekly to present students with information on upcoming events, meetings, and fundraisers, with some meetings including small activities such a Wii night or food.

Guest Speakers:

This school year we hosted three different guest speaker sessions, one in the fall and two in the spring. In the fall, a representative and Georgia Southern Alumni from Southern Company came and spoke to members and other students about various topics that included co-op rotation to career and salary negotiation. This same speaker returned in the spring and brought two other engineers, one from nuclear and one from transmission, and hosted an information panel in which students could ask the panel questions regarding life after college. Our final guest speaker were representatives from Kiewit Construction. They held a career fair in which they offered an informational session and held interviews the next day for potential candidates. Furthermore, in the fall semester, we partnered with ASME and IEEE to host research presentations from professors in the Mechanical Department to promote different research opportunities available for students. This event was opened to the all students of the ME Department. Approximately 60 students attended this event.

Fundraisers:

This year we hosted multiple fundraising events to raise funds for the chapters to host activities for the members throughout the school year at no additional cost to them. A percentage night was held at a local pizzeria, Nonna Piccis, where students were encouraged to attend and bring

friends and family where a percentage of the earnings would go towards Pi Tau Sigma. An additional pizza fundraiser was hosted in which pizza slices were sold at the Rotunda on campus. In the spring, we hosted a regular coffee table at the beginning of the semester that quickly became a customer favorite. Approximately $200 in profits were raised from the coffee sales. Later in the semester we hosted the annual sweatshirt fundraiser in which over 20 sweatshirts were sold with profits around $200.

Figure 4. One of Four Colors for the ENGR Sweatshirts

ENGR BBQ:

The originally named “ME BBQ” was renamed to the “ENGR BBQ” to promote inclusivity within the different engineering departments. The purpose of this event was to close out the academic year and celebrate the accomplishments of our graduating seniors, while making some time for relaxation in the midst of the end of the year reports and exams. This year the food included pulled pork, green beans, mac and cheese, and baked beans, all fresh and home cooked. Members woke up early on the morning of the event to start smoking the meet and setting up tables, tents, and the dunking booth. To promote more participation and attendance for the event, the location was moved to just outside the engineering building and a dunking booth that professors from every department volunteered to be in. Event specific t-shirts were also created and sold to raise more money at the event, with our shirts selling out. This event was a huge success, resulting in over $900 in revenue, with $200 in profits being donated to Habit for Humanity. The dunking booth was so loved, it is being rumored that it will be made a project in our senior design class to have a dunking booth specifically for the engineering department for charitable use.

Figure 5. ENGR BBQ and Professor Dunking Booth featuring our Academic Advisor, Dr. Calamas