2018-2019
Nevada Reno Beta Nu Chapter

A. Initiations

As outlined by the Pi Tau Sigma constitution, initiates were selected from a list of mechanical engineering students who are within the top twenty-fifth percentile of the student's respective classification with a grade point of at least 3.25/4.0. An invitation email was sent to all eligible students for an informational session about Pi Tau Sigma. Those expressing interest in joining were initiated in the Nevada Reno Beta Nu Chapter. The chapter obtained funding from the Associated Student of the University of Nevada (ASUN), the Engineering Leadership Council (ELC), and the Mechanical Engineering department for initiation fees which were paid to the national office for all initiated students.

The initiation was conducted according to the rituals specified on the Pi Tau Sigma website. The officers chose to follow the traditions described first. The Crest and Insignia of Pi Tau Sigma were displayed via a projector. The new initiates were led into the dimly lit room after which point the President and Vice President followed the initiation proceedings outlined in the booklet. At the conclusion, the secret handshake was shared individually with each student by the current officers. In addition to the initiation, future plans and goals for the chapter were discussed. The same process was repeated for both the fall and spring initiations. The fall initiation was held on November 15th and 2 new members were initiated. The make up initiation was held on November 19th at which an additional 2 new members were initiated. The spring initiation was held on March 5th and 12 new members were initiated. Everyone was able to attend the first initiation, so a make-up initiation was unnecessary.

B. Chapter Activities

One of the main priorities for the Nevada Reno Beta Nu chapter in 2018-2019 was to increase membership as a new chapter that was started in spring 2018 since many of the founding members recently graduated. Greater membership will provide the chapter more opportunities to put on events. Prior to both initiations, an information session was held as a way for students to learn more about the chapter and meet current members. In spring 2019, a game night was also held as a social event to encourage more membership. The initiation in the spring resulted in a significant increase in members with the hope of continuing to grow in the future.

Our chapter held several seminars over the course of the fall and spring semesters. The chapter organized a resume workshop with Tesla recruiters on October 16th. Another resume workshop with Lisa Frisch of Q&D Group Construction was held on October 30th. This was held in conjunction with a seminar on KG Walters Engineering Projects with Raymond Bush. In the spring semester, John Naphan was the guest speaker for a seminar on the "Engineering Opportunities in the Upstream Oil and Gas Sector" on

March 5th. Finally, Joel Blumenthal was invited to speak on April 17th about what employers are looking for in engineers.

In an effort to become more involved in volunteering, Nevada Reno Beta Nu worked with the Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) program and the College of Engineering to coordinate volunteering opportunities. Our chapter would like to host events in the future, but with the low initial membership for this new chapter, these partnerships provided the necessary support. Current members partnered with MESA for a presentation on how to succeed in college to a group of local high school students. Members of the chapter also helped with Fall Call and Engineer's Day for local students from the surrounding counties.