Virginia Tech Upsilon

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia
Chartered April 24, 1940. Number 21.

Goals for 2007-2008

The Upsilon chapter sought to improve the image of Pi Tau Sigma on campus, increase visibility of the organization, enhance membership, and seek out new funding sources. This year we have succeed in tripling membership, and are well on track to return to historical membership levels after several years in a downturn.

Activities

The Upsilon chapter has undertaken several significant changes this year in order to promote the organization and enhance membership.

After an exhaustive study of our organizational needs, we have identified several key tasks for remaking the organization and are fashioning new jobs and responsibilities to fulfill these needs.

By participating in several cross-discipline events, the Upsilon chapter has had the opportunity to create relationships with several potential sponsors and other organizations.

In particular, the Upsilon chapter has focused on fundraising as a key challenge to address this year. Having raised nearly $600 in one semester selling pizza, the organization is now able to fund several new activities for next year, and will likely continue this activity next year.

As is tradition, we organized and donated the senior composite picture to the Department of Mechanical Engineering, featuring over 187 graduates.

This year also saw the return of the firesides, and the introduction of Faculty-Candidate dinners to introduce both faculty and prospective members to the mission of Pi Tau Sigma.

The chapter worked to revamp our office and the accompanying student lounge to better accommodate our members, and to serve as an appropriate base of operation.

Lastly, the Upsilon chapter was proud to send three delegates to the National Convention at Georgia Tech, and looks forward to sending more delegates to Michigan next year.

Graduates

Matthew Cobert – Pursuing Masters Degree at Virginia Tech
Elizabeth Traut – Pursuing Ph. D. in Mechanical Engineering from Carnegie Mellon

Names of New Members

Fall 2007 Pledges

Omar Hafez
Amanda Childs

Spring 2008 Pledges

Mina Habashy	Ryan Heider
Nick Konchuba	Mark Meyer
Meagan Montgomery	Bryan Ong
Evan Smith	Robert Weidman

Transfer of Responsibilities

The chapter has been working diligently to create standard documents and to transfer relevant documents into a shared Google account accessible by all members. This initiative includes an organization-wide requirement that all events be documented and uploaded so that subsequent members can build off of our success.

Plans for 2008-2009

The chapter plans to continue the initiatives it began this year, to focus on enhancing the relationship we have with our alumni, and to seek out corporate sponsors.

Additionally, the chapter is working to rekindle faculty involvement through firesides, dinners, and breakout activities.

The Upsilon chapter will continue to work with other engineering organizations on-campus, and organize social events as a cornerstone of our strategy to enhance membership.

Lastly, the Upsilon chapter plans to organize several plant and factory tours, and to possibly recognize extraordinary faculty and members through an awards ceremony.

Chapter Officers

President	Matthew Cobert
Vice President	Parham Shahidi
	Omar Hafez
Treasurer	Craig English

Chapter Advisor

Dr. Marty Johnson

Contact Information

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Reporter
Matthew Cobert