PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

2010-2011

Auburn Chi

A. Initiations

For this year's initiation, we selected the top fourth of the junior class and top third of the senior class to send out invitations to join our chapter. We have an initial informational meeting that gives an overview of our requirements, activities, and member benefits. Before new members can be initiated they must have three professors and fellow initiates sign stating their good character, two hours of community service, attending one social event, polish a bent, and turn in the membership fee. Our community chair sets up an optional community service to aid the initiates and also to give the current members an opportunity to participate. There are two social events scheduled to give the new initiates opportunities to meet and fellowship with the current PTS members. As a perk for the new initiates, the person with the best polished bent has their initiation fee waved. After the above requirements are met, the initiates participate in an induction ceremony. The ceremony includes a blindfolded tour of the Mechanical Engineering building followed by a candle lit ceremony where the ASME code of ethics and the PTS ideals are read by the president. The vice president then explains the coat of arms and the significance of the colors. The initiates pledge to uphold the ideals of the engineering profession as fostered by PTS and then sign the Chi Chapter's initiation book. Following the initiation ceremony, the new members are invited to a celebratory dinner with the current officers and members. See picture below of some of the students that were able to attend the dinner:

B. Chapter Activities

During the past year, we continued to sell the Mechanical Engineering t-shirts to students and faculty. We broadened the selection by getting two new colors. We sold the shirts out of the department office with the help of the department secretary. This proved effective as the shirts were more accessible to the students and were kept in a secure location.

The Community Service Chair, Jessica Norman, scheduled several community service events for the chapter. One event PTS participated in was a community service project known as The Big Event. The Big Event is put on by the university's student government association to provide students with an opportunity to volunteer in public projects around the Auburn area. Other community service activities included volunteering at the Lee County Humane Society and the Lee County Food Bank.

The chapter's webpage has been updated over the past year by our webmaster William Kirkland. It contains an announcement page, PTS history section, list of officers, service section, joining information and a gallery of pictures from PTS events.

Our Social Chair, Robert Williams, planned several events this semester that provided the members and initiates with some relaxation from the usual school routine. The chapter went bowling and out to eat on several occasions during the semester. For our end of the year party, the chapter participated in our second annual kayaking trip down the Coosa River. This trip was a fun way to get to know a few of the new members in the chapter as well as provide the members with a good team building exercise.

Once again, the chapter was involved in E-Day provided by Tau Beta Pi. William Young was our E-Day representative and he was able to get members involved by giving tours and selling our t-shirts for fundraising. E-Day is Auburn University's recruiting day for future engineering students. High school students from all over the state attend this event.

Our future president-elect Devin Kalafut and social chair Robert Williams attended the 2011 National Convention in Chicago, Illinois. They enjoyed meeting fellow PTS members and found the convention to be very informative.