PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT
2012-2013
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 held 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 all of their fellow initiates sign stating their good character, performed two hours of community service, attended one social event, polished a bent, and turned in the membership fee.

Our community chair sets up an optional community service project to aid the initiates in their community service requirement, 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 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. Below is a picture of the officers and new members of the Fall 2012 initiation.

B. Chapter Activities

During the past year, we continued to sell the Mechanical Engineering t-shirts to students and faculty. We sell 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 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 Thomas Sherer. 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, Molly Arwood, planned several events this semester that provided the members and initiates with some relaxation from the usual school routine. The chapter went bowling, to several trivia nights at a local restaurant, and out to eat on several occasions during the semester.

Auburn Chi teamed up with Tau Beta Pi to provide support for E-Day, where high school students from around our region came to explore their interest in engineering. Stations for conservation of angular momentum, collision dynamics, frictional forces, and unique material mechanics were mixed with a bit of showmanship to engage young students in the possibility of entering an engineering discipline. This same event has been set up as a coordinated effort between other societies of various disciplines at middle schools as well as at a yearly robotics competition which brings young students from around the country to compete in engineering.

Our vice president John Terry and secretary Ashley Brewer attended the 2013 National Convention at The Ohio State. They enjoyed meeting fellow PTS members and found the convention to be very informative.