PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

2018-2019

Auburn Chi

A. Initiations

This year we held our fall initiation on November 15, 2018, and inducted 28 students into the Auburn Chi chapter of Pi Tau Sigma. Our spring initiation was held on Thursday, April 18, 2019, and 7 students were initiated then. These students were all junior and sophomores who have excelled in their academic endeavors at Auburn University. Potential new members for the Auburn Chi chapter of Pi Tau Sigma are selected from the top quarter of the junior class and senior class. Only these students are eligible to join Pi Tau Sigma at Auburn University. Every student that meets these requirements receives an e-mail at the beginning of each semester inviting them to an information meeting concerning the requirements to join Pi Tau Sigma and the opportunity to impact the Mechanical Engineering department at Auburn University through involvement in Pi Tau Sigma. Each potential new member of Pi Tau Sigma must complete a set of initiation rituals in order to join our chapter. First, each potential initiate must obtain signatures from three professors in the Mechanical Engineering department who can attest to the character of the student. This encourages students to interact with their professors and gives our chapter an opportunity to judge the integrity of the individual. Additionally, one of these signatures must be our current standing faculty advisor, Dr. Williams. All potential initiates must also complete two hours of community service. Many fulfill this requirement by volunteering at E-Day, an exploratory program for middle and high school students interested in engineering. Current and future members of Pi Tau Sigma volunteer at this event as tour guides of the Mechanical Engineering buildings or manning help station booths to direct visitors to each engineering building on campus. At the end of this document, is the tour layout of the Mechanical Engineering Building. Other volunteer opportunities for members include IMPACT, Auburn's volunteering organization, The Big Event, a community-wide day of service, and Engineers Without Borders, an organization committed to helping developing countries with engineering solution. Additionally, each potential new member must polish and paint a bent. This requirement gives the students an opportunity to apply some of the knowledge they have learned in their machine classes and gives them a physical talisman to remember their initiation. It is also an effective way to deter those who regard membership in Auburn Chi as just a resume line. The initiation fee is covered by the chapter for the person with the best polished bent. Finally, the last requirement for initiation is the attendance of a social event hosted by Pi Tau Sigma. This year's social events included a trivia night, two movie nights and four bent polishing parties (two each semester) were hosted to aid potential initiates in the polishing or their bents. Once all of these requirements have been met and the students have paid the initiation fee, students can become an official member of Pi Tau Sigma. Our initiation ceremony includes a thorough explanation of the values and ideals of Pi Tau Sigma. The president and vice president also present the fraternity coat of arms and colors to explain the symbolic significance of these items. Following the ceremony, all new initiates are invited out to dinner with the current officers and our faculty advisor to celebrate their achievements.

B. Chapter Activities

We had two Bent polishing parties a semester that allowed new members a chance to use our dremels to polish and paint their Bents. Pi Tau Sigma increased its campus presence through service events this year. Many initiates and members volunteered at Auburn University's annual E-Day on February 22, 2019. Members gave tours to middle school and high school students through the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering with specific focus at the mechanical engineering building, Wiggins Hall. The mechanical engineering tour consisted of an explanation of what mechanical engineers do in the lobby, and then a tour of the Design and Manufacturing Laboratory followed by a tour of the Auburn Formula and Baja SAE teams. Pi Tau Sigma also participated in Auburn University's Big Event this year for the first time on March 23rd, 2019. Pi Tau Sigma members formed a Big Event team and helped elderly members of the Auburn community with yardwork. We racked and replaced pine needles and cut back shrubs. Two members, Chase Matthews and Elise Bauer, went to national convention this year at Colorado State University. They had the opportunity to meet several other passionate young engineers and chapter sponsors.

A main focus for the spring was to work on career development for members. We worked with Auburn's career development office and had a speaker talk about how to do an elevator speech and ways to improve your resume. The members then practiced their speeches with each other giving them constructive criticism and confidence before they speak in front of future employers. Following this event, in the same week, we had a smaller scale career event prior to the Career Fair with ASME that allowed members to have longer, more in-depth conversations with companies and gain more practice and confidence when talking to companies. Multiple job offers came from this event. We also had a trivia night that created fellowship and healthy competition among members. At the end of the semester we partnered again with ASME for a student versus professor softball game. The students unfortunately lost but it was a great opportunity to spend time with professors and other members before the end of the semester. We finished each semester with an election meeting and allowed for seniors to pick up their cords and say their goodbyes to each other. Overall it was a fantastic year.

Figure 1: Pi Tau Sigma Members Volunteering for Big Event

Pi Tau Sigma

Elevator Pitch/Resume Workshop

February 5th at 5 PM in Shelby 1120

"I've got an elevator pitch, an escalator pitch, and, just to be safe, a stairway pitch."

Do you……

- Dread awkward conversations at the career fair?
- Don't know how to randomly walk up to a company and tell them how awesome you are an ask for a job?
- Have no idea how to make a resume?

Then come to Pi Tau Sigma's Elevator Pitch and Resume Workshop Event is the place for you!

- When: February 5th at 5:00pm
- Where: Shelby 1120

AND if that's not enough reason, there will be FREE CHICK-FIL-A!!

Chick-Fil-A's core values just happen to be:

1. Make Eye Contact
2. Smile
3. Speak Enthusiastically
4. Stay Connected

That alone will get you an internship

Sometimes I'll start a sentence and I don't even know where it's going. I just hope I find it along the way.

Figure 2: Elevator Speech Flyer