Pi Tau Sigma Annual Chapter Report
2013-2014
Northwestern University Pi Theta
Evanston, Illinois
Chartered May 14, 1943: Number 33

Initiation:

For fall initiation, our chapter selects:

- Students who are juniors this year who are in the upper 25% of their class
- Students who are seniors this year who are in the upper 35% of their class

In the spring initiation we select:

- Students who are juniors who are in the upper 33% of their class
- Students who are seniors who are in the upper 35% of their class

Fall initiation was held December 2nd, 2013. Spring initiation was held on May 21st, 2014.

Activities:

Advising Open House

PTS members participated in the engineering open house on January 9th, 2014 to discuss with first year engineers the ME major, new classes, departmental advising, and any special events that happen in the Winter and Spring Quarters.

Department Fair

PTS represented the Mechanical Engineering department at the annual engineering department fair on February 12th, 2014. Students shared their experiences as ME majors with first year engineers. Demonstrations included rapid prototyped and injection molded student projects.

Peer Advising

PTS worked closely with the Mechanical Engineering department to provide advice to a record number of rising sophomores during advising events on May 1st and May 5th. PTS members collaborated with ME professors to discuss course offerings and scheduling.

ME Advisory Board

Members of PTS were selected to sit in on an advisory board meeting to provide insight about the experience of mechanical engineering students and to comment on areas of improvement/strengths.

Other:

New Members

Fall 2013 Initiates:

Harrison Briggs
Peter Daniel Craig
Eric Elias
Phoebe Evans
Aaron Fast
Ignacio Garcia
Davin Kim
Caroline Jean Pineo
Aaron Sears
Andrew Edward Shiao
Laura Rose Sverchek
Sarah S. Toy

Spring 2014 Initiates:

Matthew Felz
Jeff Hosan
Peter Knapp
Chris Pontisakos
Erin Sosdian
Micah Benjamin Zeitz

Transfer of Responsibilities

PTS officers are elected during the fall initiation ceremony. The major transfer of responsibilities occurs during the planning of spring quarter events. The newly installed officers take on this planning as their first task consulting with the previous officers, most of whom are about to graduate.

Plans for 2014-2015

Next year, the Pi Theta chapter plans to continue to promote departmental social and professional activities. The chapter will focus on providing consistent advising opportunities for underclassmen, both academic-wise and career-wise, in an effort to provide a relatable perspective for students. We also aim to increase member involvement in these activities.

In order to achieve these goals, exec plans to meet more often and organize more events, including the following:

- Peer advising as a more casual and intimate event in addition to current rising sophomore group advising
- A panel on grad school with professors and graduate students
- Internship/career workshop for upperclassmen to help underclassmen work on resumes, practice for career fairs, etc.
- The return of more social events (in the past we have had pizza lunches and a spring barbeque)
- Design competition(s) (i.e., water balloon catapults)
- PTS service activity

In addition, the chapter plans to maintain a Google drive folder to record meeting minutes and to pass on information to future officers (and to potentially make available to all current members).

Chapter Officers

President: Aaron Fast
Vice President: Andrew Shiao
Treasurer: Sarah Toy
Secretary: Caroline Pineo

Chapter Advisor

Todd Murphey

Contact Information

aaronfast2015@u.northwestern.edu

Reporter

Caroline Pineo