PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

2010-2011

MIT Pi Kappa

A. Initiations- *In this segment indicate your initiation procedure including selection process, requirements from initiates, initiation ceremony and rituals, and celebration. Include dates for all initiations held.*

Only students of Mechanical Engineering who meet the minimum GPA requirements are eligible for membership in Pi Tau Sigma, however this does not necessarily guarantee eligibility. The opinions of faculty and of current PTS members may also be weighed in the decision. For this year, we invited the top 25% of juniors and top 35% of seniors to join PTS. This list was compiled by the Registrar and then evaluated by our Faculty Advisor, Professor Peacock. Students were notified by e-mail about their invitation to join.

The requirements for membership included: a minimum of 8 hours of community service (of which 4 must have been for PTS), attendance at a minimum of 3 meetings, attendance at the initiation ceremony, and payment of the $50 lifetime membership fee.

We did hold initiation in the fall and the spring semesters, in which 14 students were initiated into the Pi Kappa chapter of PTS. The initiation ceremony included XXXXXXX and was celebrated with XXXXXXX.

B. Chapter Activities- *Include all chapter activities for the academic year. This will involve fundraisers, community services, university projects, etc. Please give sufficient details if the project involved other societies and if so what was your level of participation. To support your statements you may include photos, local paper articles, etc. Discuss your chapter meetings, banquets, convention participation and anything else that your chapter is involved with.*

Our chapter continued to have good showing on campus, and always continued having a good connection with Georgia Tech University. We sponsored an information session that gave students information about applying to graduate school programs and also focused on research areas in GA Tech. A good number of students showed up and were very active when it came to asking questions.

We also continued our tutoring program, which is mainly directed towards underclassmen who feel the need for help in the introductory classes within our major. We also set up times to help

students learn design software like Solidworks. We plan on continuing with that for the years to come.

We have also held several events to talk to underclassmen and prospective students about the major and were able to convince a good number to sign up for it or at least take some of the introductory classes.

Finally our main project for the year was holding a review session series for the Fundamentals of Engineering Exams (FEE) and provided students with information and study materials in addition to useful tips and tricks. We also were able to provide transportation to test location, and we teamed up with the department of civil engineering to transport some of their students as well. We have made a wiki page for the review materials online, and look to make it available for students in long term.

The student lounge for MechE students is finally open for use and students are utilizing it pretty well. We helped the department figuring out the needs of students, and they took our advice for it. We are in the process of obtaining text books for introductory classes, which will potentially be helpful for students working in the lounge.

C. Other

We are currently evaluating our plans for PTS participation for the upcoming academic year. We would definitely like to continue with our chapter, but realize that we must take steps to improve our participation. We struggle to differentiate ourselves from the other honors societies on campus, and also have a hard time building an executive board at a time when students have already made large commitments to other groups on campus. Three members of our executive board are rising seniors and are committed to working with PTS in the upcoming year.

On that note, our new President for the 2011-2012 academic year will be Yazan Alnahhas yzn13@mit.edu. Jean Martin will serve as Vice-President. They will work together over the summer to fill other spots on the executive board.