Clarkson University Tau Gamma Chapter End-of-Year Report

The Clarkson University Tau Gamma Chapter of Pi Tau Sigma had a good year inducting dozens of new members and honoring a dedicated and beloved professor. During the spring initiation dinner, we announced that we were recognizing Dr. Brian Helenbrook as our Mechanical Engineering professor of the year. Dr. Helenbrook always works hard and puts in extra time outside of his office hours as a professor and advisor. He cares immensely about all of his students and is an amazing teacher. We also had Clarkson's Dean of Engineering Dr. Jemison attend our annual dinner. Dr. Jemison spoke about how innovation is becoming more prominent in the engineering industry. He informed our chapter of plans to build an innovation hub in the engineering building on Clarkson's campus as well. This innovation hub will be useful in senior design projects, and for students to pursue their ideas further than a class in their curriculum.

During the past year, Pi Tau Sigma has been working with other honor societies on campus to spread awareness about the opportunities available to students if they work hard and get exceptional grades. A few examples of this would be presenting to freshman and sophomore 100 level engineering classes about what the honor societies have to offer. We have found that in doing this, the interest in joining Pi Tau Sigma has gone up. We discussed going to freshmen orientation classes to talk to them about the different honors societies and the benefits of joining them as well, which will be implemented next year. Starting in the fall semester, representatives from each honors society will attend freshman classes to help show them how working hard to be in the top of their class can benefit them. Finally, we are proud to announce our new executive board. The new e-board is as follows:

President - Andrew Carter

Vice-President - Samantha Denning

Secretary - Christopher Nicolella

Treasurer - Christopher Rust

Activities Chair - Brianna Sczech

Clarkson also sent two Pi Tau Sigma officers to the annual convention in Miami, Fl. The attending officers shared their experiences and new knowledge of how to effectively run an honor society, and how to promote community service within the society as well as holding events on campus for mechanical engineering students. We held a de-stress event during finals week for mechanical engineering students. This involved movies and games to help students take a break from studying for their finals. This event will hopefully be continued in coming years, as there was a good turnout and it had a positive impact on students' stress during a tough time of the year.