PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

2015-2016

Rutgers Tau Iota

A. Initiations

The chapter's initiation selection follows the Pi Tau Sigma's constitution for grades and class performance for juniors and seniors. We also look for students leaders who are very involve with the school and the community who are successful engineering students at Rutgers. Depending on what year the student is invited, the required percentile varies for junior and senior as stated in the constitution. Every semester, our advisor provides us with a list of members that fall under those ranges and thus we invite these students to join one of our 3 networking events, held every semester, to give them a presentation about our Honor society. Unfortunately this past year our advisor had a heart attack and was unable to be as involved as he normally is in the society. As a society the minimum required GPA that we look for is 3.2 as well as being in the required top percentile of the class. Since we have a competitive class, this past year the society decided to make two exceptions to students who had great GPA but did not fall in the required percentile of the class because they showed interest and were even very involved and present helping our chapter succeed this past academic year.

The initiation ceremony for the fall semester was held Sunday December 6th, 2015 in the Busch campus center at Rutgers University and was opened to the Inductee's family and friends. Following PTS regulations and with a presentation, we inducted 8 members. A small banquet was held for the new inductees and their friends and family to enjoy. The initiation ceremony for the spring semester was held April 22nd, 2016 in the Busch campus center at Rutgers University. The ceremony was held alongside the induction of other Honor Societies and at the very end, a banquet was held for all new inductees with an alumni guest speaker who was also a former astronaut (see Chapter activities). The society inducted 12 new members this past semester.

B. Chapter Activities

Chapter Meetings
Bimonthly chapter meetings were open to members to attend in order to find out what was going on in the society and to help younger students tutoring or for mentorship. All eboard members were required to attend all meetings. Very competitive elections were held early April where any eligible member was able to present their new ideas for the society.

PTS Engineering Mentorship:
This program/event aimed to mentor incoming first-year students, recruited during the Freshmen Networking event in early September, in order to ease their transition to Rutgers. All eboard members were eager to participate. The invitation was extended to other PTS members as well. Members were encouraged to meet with their mentees at least once every two weeks for the whole school year.

PTS One-on-one Tutoring:
PTS members were encouraged to help their peer by tutoring underclassmen.
Weekly sessions were held for one-on-one tutoring and also group studying for both semesters.

PTS AutoCAD workshop
Workshop held in early February 2016 cosponsored with the Society of Hispanic Engineers in order to increase the knowledge of computer drafting in students. Very successful event that was led and taught by a Rutgers Alumni.

PTS Resume Workshop:
A small workshop was held in early September for preparation for the big Career Fair opened to all Mechanical Engineering students.

PTS Community Service:
PTS members were encouraged to volunteer at local church in New Brunswick by distributing food and other necessities during the month of December.

PTS meets an Astronaut
PTS members and inductees were invited to join the induction banquet in the spring semester where Mr. Terry Hart was the guest speaker. He is a Rutgers alumnus who was also a former NASA astronaut. This event was cosponsored with the Rutgers Honors Council in order to get more engineering students more involved.

PTS CoGen Plant Tour:
One of our biggest events this past academic year. PTS members had the opportunity to take a personal tour in the Cogeneration Plant located at Rutgers this past December. There the students were given a private lecture in how cogeneration plants are run and the theory and ideas behind it and more about Energy systems thanks to Chief Engineer Robert E. Williams.

PTS National Convention and Fundraising
The Rutgers chapter was able to successfully send one student to represent the chapter in the PTS National Convention held in California this year. The chapter was able to fundraise enough money doing grocery bagging in a nearby church to send the student to the convention. The student was able to explain and update some information given at the convention for the society to take notes. New ideas shared with other chapters were also implemented in the school such as more regalia to ensure campus presence and some new rites of passage for the upcoming inductees.

C. Other

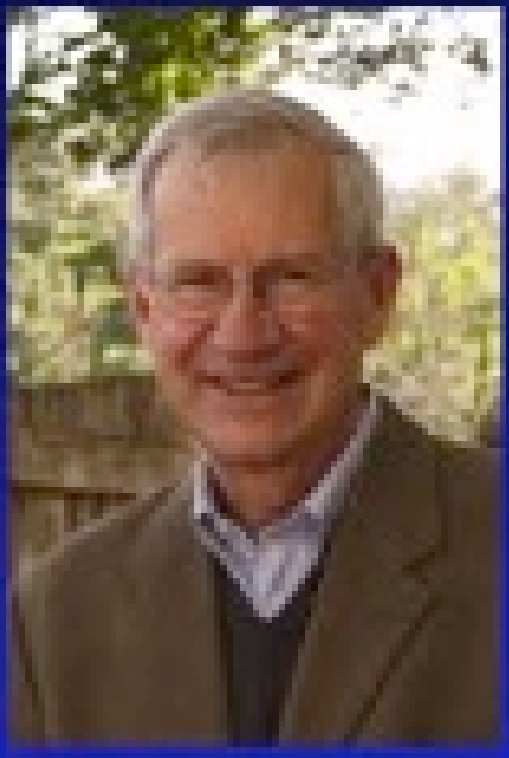
Few notes worth mentioning is that the chapter is still in a bit of a rebuilding process since campus presence has been down for the last 2 years. The number of members being inducted was satisfactory and one of our biggest goals next year is to increase these numbers and become a more influential society on campus.

The Rutgers Engineering Honors Council Proudly Presents:

The 5th Annual Honors Induction Banquet

Featuring Keynote Speaker Terry Hart

Engineer, Professor, Rutgers alumnus, Pilot, and former NASA Astronaut



Friday, April 22nd, 2016
3:00 – 7:00 PM
Multipurpose Room, Busch Campus Center