PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT, 2016–2017
MISSOURI EPSILON

CHAPTER STATEMENT
The functions of the chapter focus on increasing member retention, departmental coordination and involvement, service, and increasing overall chapter visibility within the College of Engineering. Of these, an emphasis on service and chapter visibility is crucial.

Initiations

The Missouri Epsilon Chapter of Pi Tau Sigma holds initiations as a high priority. It is our goal to recruit the highest caliber students at the College of Engineering's Mechanical Engineering program. The initiation criterion at the University of Missouri includes junior or senior standing in the top 25% of the class. Prior to initiation, prospective members were required to participate in all chapter events, which included social events with active members, outreach and public service events, and departmental activities. Additionally, all initiates were required to complete a faculty survey, which required them to meet with professors and discuss classes/research opportunities. This serves to increase member visibility within the department. Prospective members were also required to meet with each other and other members during the initiation process so as to further bring them into the chapter fold. Keys were given to the new members to polish, and the member who had the best finished key was given a small reward. Finally, initiates were required to complete a quiz containing important information regarding the society as a whole, in addition to chapter specific details. During the initiation, the history of the chapter was explained and the executive board led the new members through the oath. Before the new members could be initiated they had to turn in national dues. After the ceremony, we celebrated by having a pizza party so the new members could celebrate with the whole chapter.

Fall 2016
December 7, 2016

12 new members

Spring 2017
April 26, 2017

14 new members

CHAPTER/DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

The majority of our focus this year was to increase member retention, starting with heavier involvement during the initiation process, and to increase visibility within our department through outreach, volunteering, and fundraising activities.

While increasing group visibility is important, it requires that the members of the group be active and visible as well. Thus, increasing member retention, specifically in the newer members, was deemed a priority. This was done by scheduling numerous volunteering and social activities,

which allowed the new members to meet the group in a more informal setting. This proved very effective, and the chapter saw consistently high attendance at its meetings.

Other events that helped increase retention of our members included social events, such as a corn maze, pizza party, and holiday party, participation in College of Engineering team events, like High School Day, Engineering Week Dome Lighting, participation in fundraising and volunteer activities such as the Pi Tau Sigma Super Smash Bros. Tournament, the Food Bank of Central Missouri and the Kickball Tournament, and participation in the Mizzou Sand Volleyball Rec League.

Our social events were all a very big hit with our members, new and old. Not only were they planned for fun, but also strategically to help the retention of new members. We want our chapter to be a place for students to come to find meaningful friendships and ample networking opportunities. Each and every one of our social events created a great environment for these relationships to prosper.

The volunteer and fundraising activities that we took part in as a chapter, such as High School Day, the Pi Tau Sigma Super Smash Bros. Tournament, and helping the Food Bank of Central Missouri were our ways of giving back to the community and to our fellow students. They all created ample opportunity for our members to get involved in the organization and learn more about what it means to be a member of Pi Tau Sigma.

Missouri Epsilon sent four members to the 102nd national convention in Philadelphia, PA. We sent the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Activities Chairperson. Three members that were sent to the convention will be on the executive board next school year. This is imperative because it will ensure that attendance to the conference will stay high and that the information gained from attendance of the conference will be continually passed along to all general members.

Overall, Pi Tau Sigma had an extremely successful academic year. We gained more new members than we ever have in the past, and we met our goal of becoming and staying extremely involved on campus. We feel like as a chapter, over this last year, we have increased the awareness of Pi Tau Sigma to all students in the College of Engineering.

The new Executive Board of Pi Tau Sigma Missouri Epsilon Chapter is as follows:

President: Paige Compton
Vice President: Matthew Regel
Secretary: Molly Sandbothe
Treasurer: Monica Sinclair

Volunteering at the Food Bank!

Social at the Heidelberg!

Contestants in the Pi Tau Sigma Super Smash Bros. Tournament!

Winners of the Pi Tau Sigma Super Smash Bros. Tounament!

Post initiation pizza party at Shakespeare’s Downtown!