***FULL ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT***

2018-2019
Missouri University of Science and Technology Tau Lambda

A. Initiations

In the fall 2018 semester, twenty-three initiates were inducted on December 3, 2018. The spring 2019 semester inducted nine initiates on April 30, 2019. The selection process, headed by the Vice President included receiving a list of mechanical engineering students within the department. This list was then narrowed down by the criteria set forth by the National Pi Tau Sigma requirements. Those that qualified were invited to join the organization.

Once contacted about eligibility, the pledges needed to complete four total service hours, including at least one that directly helped the mechanical engineering department. The pledges were also required to construct their plaque, and pass two quizzes based on our constitution and the history of Pi Tau Sigma.

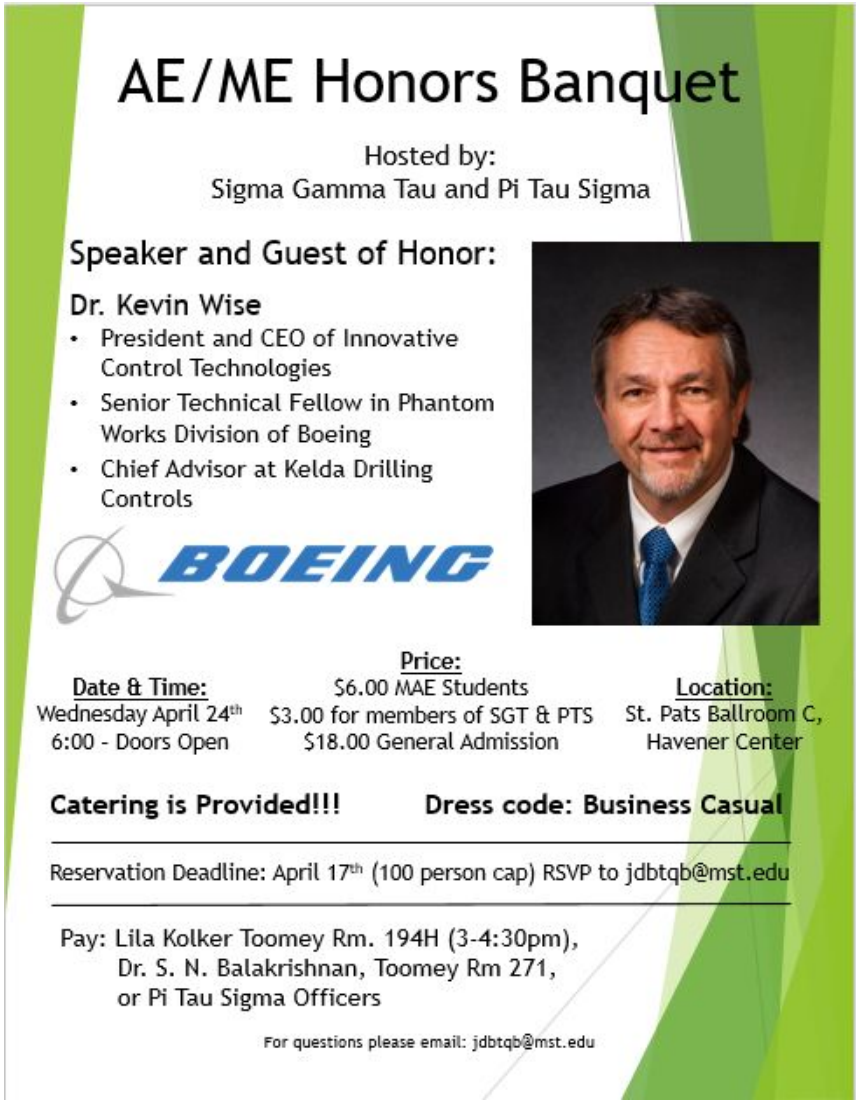
During the initiations, dinner was provided to start the event followed by the readings of the rituals by the President and Vice President. A blindfolded trust walk around the building followed which was finished by signing the Roll Book. Any business from Nationals was presented after, such as voting for the 2021 Convention location in the spring semester. Elections for new officers for the upcoming semester finished out the nights.

B. Chapter Activities

For the fall semester, we tried a new activity for pledges and members called Lunch with Professors. This included a group of students sitting down and eating lunch with professors from the mechanical engineering department while getting the opportunity to ask any questions they had and get to know that professor a bit more personally. We also inquired about interest with the local public schools about starting STEM days, hosted by our chapter. This idea was inspired from attending the 2018 National PTS Conference in Miami. The idea would be to bring in local students for one evening or weekend day each month for three months each semester. During this time they would be led in hands on activities explaining and teaching a concept or principle of engineering. The initial groundwork was placed, but more work is still required to gain approval from the university.

For the spring semester, we were fortunate to work with our aerospace honor society, Sigma Tau Gamma, to co-host a Mechanical and Aerospace (MAE) Department Honors Banquet. This was an inaugural event for our society which required ample planning and discussion to ensure participation from both societies and the department as a whole. This was exciting because it was a way to get our name known on campus while also giving back to our department. The speaker we brought in was Dr. Kevin Wise, a senior technical fellow at Boeing. He presented on Autonomous vehicles and how controls were active in the fields of mechanical

and aerospace engineering. The event ran smoothly and it is our hope to continue to host it in the coming years, to grow the event and continue to bring high level speakers.




We also had pledges volunteer at our new student days on campus to help out the MAE department. We have been working on expanding our presence on campus by keeping our signs updated including a key display in our mechanical department building that displays the executive board names and newest pledge class so other students can make connections to members and ask any questions about the organization they have.

At our meetings we brought in various speakers to present to our actives and pledges such as Missouri S&T professors and Boeing employees. For one of the meetings, with the Boeing speakers, we invited the ASME Organization on campus to attend so we could get a larger audience and more exposure throughout the mechanical department. Outreach was a big goal this semester and we hope to continue it in the following semesters. We also had professors

come speak about their research, including rechargeable batteries with car applications, and about their personal experiences in industry before they came to work as a professor.

Our fall 2018 president, Austin Renwick, attended the National Convention in Colorado this year and reported back to the chapter the events of the conference. From discussing with other chapters at this conference, several ideas for future improvements to the chapter were proposed including increasing member benefits, organizing more service events that are hosted by our chapter, and attempting to incorporate the university and local community in what our organization and chapter does to spread the honor and recognition of being a member of Pi Tau Sigma.