# PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

## 2009-2010

## Missouri Tau Lambda Chapter

### A. Initiation

Missouri Tau Lambda has a rigid selection process for who is allowed to join our chapter. This begins with the selection process. Each semester, the list of the students from each class that is in the top percentages of their class as specified in our constitution. While these members are eligible to be invited, we have a strict cut-off level at the 3.5 GPA. Once invitations have been sent out, a barbeque is held to invite the newly pledged members to meet theactive members and hear first hand of the advantages that the organization can provide. After this, they are required to attend each meeting, after which is a plede meeting. At the pledge meeting, they discuss any questions that they might have with the Vice President in charge of them. They also take a quiz to show their knowledge of our constitution and traditions. They are required to also do six hours of service for the ME department. When all has been completed to the satisfaction of the reuirements stated in our constitution, they attend an initiation ceremony at the end of the semester (November 17, 2009 and May 4, 2010). At this initiation, they are spoken to in a manner such that they unerstand the meaning of our crest, our shield, and our traditions. This is followed by their actual activation and signing of a book to acknowledge their oath to be professionals. This is traditionally followed by a dinner at Matt's Steakhouse with our faculty advisor and the rest of the department faculty invited to attend and congratulate the new members of this prestiged organization.

### B. Chapter Activities.

This semester started with a kick-off barbecue that is designed to let the actives meet the invited pledges and vice versa. Its catered by a local smokehouse and typically has a total attendance of approximately 50 people. Following this are our three semesterly general meetings. Each of these meetings has a speaker chosen based on their career experience. This year's speakers included an engineer from Ameren (MS ME, NE) who spoke to us about the opportunities inside both the company and in power generation in general after giving us an overview of the inner workings of a nuclear power plant from an engineers standpoint. The next speaker was from a subsidiary of Boeing (MS AE ME). He spoke to us about his experiences from the airline industry, including his story about creating his own startup personal airliner business and his experience inside he biger companies. The third speaker came to us from the COC (Career Opportunities Center) to speak to us about interviewing hints. This was especially beneficial to the members as the time of this mmeting was at the same time as many members were in the process of interviewing for jobs, internships and co-ops.

The next meeting was the intiation process that was spoken about in the previous section.

Following this was our officer election meeting. This year we decided to have a barbecue in the park to encourage both more attendace and more participation. Thi was a stunning success, with members participating tripling the previous election meeting. There were three p[lus members vying for each position with speeches and discussions as all elections should have. I believe it was extremely beneficial to use this kind of meeting and will be pursing its use in the future for election meetings.

After this meeting, there was an officer transition meeting, where each officer met with the newly elected member to his/her position, and gave them a file that included their own report on how to do the job. This includes a summary of their overall position, the responsibilities that it holds, what is expected of them, as well as their duties as an executive member of the organization. Also within the file, are similar entries from previous members dating back for twenty years. This helps the officr get an appreciation for the

development of their position over the organizations history. We are looking at possibly going electronic in this aspect in the future.

The last item on our schedule is the ME department banquet. In this we are both participants ad supporters. While ASME does the majority of the work, we always attempt to provide at least ten workers for this occasion.

The national Pi Tau Sigma convention was also attended this semester by our top two executive members, our president and vice president. Expenses were paid by the organization, and both came back with positive reports that were given to the membership at the meeting directly after their attendance, as well as the officers meeting after their return.

Officers meetings were held at monthly intervals to allow the officers to give reports on their activty within the organization, questions about things that needed done, as well as discussion about the upcoming events and planning for its success. The faculty advisor chooses when to be present at these meetings, but is generally present as well.

**C. Other**

Not mentioned above is the active discussion about the fuure of the organizations finances. We had sold stoles as our main source of income, but due to the take-over of this activity by the national organization, we are forced to look elsewhere for finances. This will be both a challenge and an opportunity for us. Current ideas ranges from traditional fundraisers (car washes, etc) to fundraisers that require our particular talents (ie paid tutoring). This topic will be further discussed at the opening officers meeting and will be the primary focus of change within our organization.

Sincerely,

Luke Jones

Missouri Tau Lambda

President