PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

2017-2018

Maryland Tau Mu Chapter

A. Initiations

At the beginning of each semester, a list of inductees is formed by the advisors for the Mechanical Engineering Department. The list is formed for the top 25% of the Junior Class, and the top 35% of the Senior Class and Graduate Class. These inductees are contacted to attend the first General Body Meeting and sent the inductee form. Before initiation into the Tau Mu Chapter of Pi Tau Sigma, each inductee must complete all of the following requirements:

1. Attend all general body meetings
2. Obtain 10 signatures of Pi Tau Sigma Members, 5 signatures of Pi Tau Sigma Faculty, 1 Signature of the Pi Tau Sigma Advisor (Dr. Sandborn), and 10 signatures (depending on induction class size) of Pi Tau Sigma Inductees.
3. Attend 3 professional events and 2 social events sponsored by Pi Tau Sigma or approved by the Pi Tau Sigma Executive Board. Examples of Professional events include:
    - Fall or Spring Engineering Career Fair
    - Pi Tau Sigma Faculty Talk
    - Engineering Firm Information Session

    Example of Social events include:

    - Game Night
    - Scheduling Night
4. Pass the Inductee Exam.
5. Payment of $60 in dues to treasurer at initiation
6. Attend initiation ceremony.

The first 3 requirements must be completed by the induction ceremony of the semester in order to be inducted. On the induction night, the inductees will take the inductee exam during the first hour. The second hour is the initiation ceremony. Following the initiation ceremony, the new members eat dinner and socialize with the old members. This year, 2 initiations were held on December 5, 2017, and May 3, 2018. 8 inductees were initiated in December, and 5 inductees were initiated in May.

B. Chapter Activities

This year, our chapter had a variety of events under 2 main categories: Social and Professional. Here is some information about the specific events.

1. Social
    a. S'mores Night (Fall):

        i. During S'mores Night, we invite all the inductees to come to the university quad and cook marshmallows. This event was successful, because it had freed food and was near by
    b. Resume Critique (Spring):
        i. Inductees and current members were encouraged to bring their resumes to be reviewed prior to the career fair. General advice was shared about interviewing and applying for jobs
    c. Ice Cream Social (Fall and Spring):
        i. Members were invited to the Pi Tau Sigma study room to enjoy ice cream. The event was held early in the semester to serve as a first opportunity to meet other members.
    d. First Look General Body Meetings (Fall and Spring):
        i. These events were held at the beginning of the semester to preview the upcoming semester and explain Pi Tau Sigma to potential inductees.
    e. Schedule Planning Night (Spring):
        i. Inductees and current members met to discuss and recommend classes to take in the upcoming semester. This event was very popular and useful.
    f. Game Night (Fall and Spring):
        i. Inductees were encouraged to bring their own games to the Pi Tau Sigma study room. This was meant to bring members together for a fun time.
2. Professional
    a. NAVAIR Company Presentation (Fall):
        i. NAVAIR recruiters and engineers presented prior to the fall career fair.
    b. Dr. Sandborn Presentation on "Technology Obsolescence" (Spring):
        i. Faculty Advisor, Dr. Sandborn, gave a talk on Technology Obsolescence and its effect on engineering design.
    c. Dr. Sandborn Presentation on "Engineering Decision Making" (Fall):
        i. Faculty Advisor, Dr. Sandborn, gave a talk on Engineering Decision Making and the importance of planning for part failure.
    d. Stanley Black and Decker Presentation (Spring):
        i. This event was co-sponsored by ASME. SBD recruiters talked to both groups about potential career opportunities.
3. Specialty Events
    a. Initiation (Fall and Spring):
        i. Initiation was held twice this year and election of new board members occurred in the spring, as well as the presentation of 3 awards, 2 to outstanding students and 1 to an outstanding faculty member.
    b. Mechanical Engineering Department Scholarship Fundraising Golf Tournament (Spring):

i. The chapter hosts a golf tournament each year to raise money for the Mechanical Engineering Department. We reach out to different companies to sponsor the event and attend with their own team. In addition, the department sponsors one student team.

C. Other Information

This semester the Tau Mu Chapter restructured the active membership tracking system. In order to combat struggles with attendance, the number of events attended by already inducted members would lower the cost of cords at graduation. This restructuring proved to be successful and will continue to be implemented. Additionally, the Tau Mu Chapter provided written support of the Mechanical Engineering Department's efforts to secure funding for the renovation of conference rooms within Glenn L. Martin Hall.