Pi Tau Sigma Annual Chapter Report
2017 -2018
Worcester Polytechnic Institute Tau Tau
Prepared by Rachel Huntley, President // twirlgirl96@comcast.net

A. Initiations

The WPI Tau Tau Chapter of Pi Tau Sigma begins the initiation process by receiving a list of the top 10% of juniors, seniors, and graduate students in the Mechanical Engineering Department from the club's faculty advisor. These eligible students are then contacted via email, and those interested in joining PTS are asked to complete the initiation requirements. These requirements are, in addition to being in the top 10% of their class, to attend a PTS social, receive a letter of recommendation from a Mechanical Engineering Professor, pay dues ($60), complete two hours of PTS tutoring or some other community service, and agree to a review of their academic integrity.

Eligible students that complete the initiation requirements are then inducted in either the fall or spring initiation ceremony. This ceremony, which is attended by current PTS members and run by the executive board, includes a description of PTS' origin, values, and role. By pledging to uphold the values of the organization, the eligible students officially become members of Pi Tau Sigma; they sign their names in the role book, then are joined by the other members of the club for a small social. Certificates, keys, and ID cards are handed out at a later time.

The two initiation ceremonies this year are summarized as follows:

a. Fall- 11/29/2017, 10 new members
b. Spring- 2/20/2018, 8 new members

B. Chapter Activities

a. General body meetings
    i. Held at least two GBMs per semester to communicate with the members of the club, hold votes/elections, socialize, etc. We also started each meeting with members presenting on what they did for internships and coop's over break.
b. Tutoring
    i. At the request of the Mechanical Engineering Department, PTS established a tutoring program for statics, stress analysis, dynamics, and thermodynamics. At the beginning of each term, PTS exec reached out to the professors teaching the courses to receive a list of exam dates and material being covered. The tutoring sessions were then planned around the exam schedule for students to drop by to discuss their upcoming tests. This was only the second year of the tutoring program and will likely get more refined in the future.
c. PhD Information Session
    i. Members of PTS were invited to attend an event organized by the ME department faculty to learn more about the opportunities available to further their education at WPI.
d. Freshmen Course Selection Mentor Event
    i. Students in the freshmen class were invited to come talk to PTS members about their schedules for the spring and their four year plan. The event was very well attended and helped students get the guidance they needed to start their college journey off on the right foot. Current PTS members helped the students to determine which classes should be taken together, what order classes should be taken in, and which professors they should favor.

e. Various socials with food
    i. Throughout the year, socials were held for members of the club to allow members a chance to network and connect. These events typically had some kind of food (ex. - pizza).
f. Honor Society Social
    i. PTS joined several other honor societies on campus to do a Minute-to-Win-it game night. Each chapter provided a different game and there was friendly competition and bonding across majors.
g. Went to Nationals
    i. Two senior members of WPI Tau Tau attended this year's National Convention in Miami. They learned about the club's national presence, leadership, and new rules, as well as met with members of PTS from around the country. They had a good time and reported back to the club with what they learned.
h. End of the Year Breakfast with ME Department Faculty
    i. In keeping with tradition, at the end of the year a breakfast was held for the members of PTS and the Mechanical Engineering Department faculty. This allowed the club an opportunity to reflect on the year and say goodbye to the seniors. Stoles were distributed at this time.

C. Other

a. Improved club record keeping
    i. The overall organization of the club was improved this year, mostly due to records of all members and eligible students (attendance, dues, participation, etc.) were kept in one spreadsheet. This document was readily available to all of the executives, which made it easy for them to answer any of the members' questions.
b. Improved transition documents
    i. Official transition documents were created. In the past the information was scattered and passed by word of mouth, which became problematic when the previous executive board graduated. The new documents outline everything required to keep the club running smoothly each year.