PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

2011-2012

Colorado State Tau Psi

A. Initiations

The Colorado State University Pi Tau Sigma group held formal initiation meetings twice during the academic year, once in the fall and once in the spring. The selection process for the potential members is competitive (top 25% for juniors and top 35% for seniors). Eligible students were sent invitational emails to join the society with a grace period of ~two weeks to make their decisions. Fall initiation took place on October 10, 2011 (16 new members) and spring initiation was done on March 28, 2012 (10 new members), totaling 26 new members. As part of the formal initiations, new members were required to recite necessary sections of the *Pi Tau Sigma Rituals* document found on the official Pi Tau Sigma website. With completion of these vows, new members were officially part of the CSU Pi Tau Sigma organization.

B. Chapter Activities

At the beginning of the academic year, a showcase of various engineering clubs was on display by the College of Engineering for new engineering students. Pi Tau Sigma was requested to participate in this booth display. In response to this request, vice president Chelsey Lewis created and presented a poster session detailing the history of CSU Pi Tau, benefits of joining and membership requirements. This poster will likely be usable for future officers in anticipation of future club showcases.

To uphold the traditions of the Colorado State University Tau Psi chapter, all members of the organization were required to dedicate two hours weekly in service of tutoring underclassmen engineering students. Tutoring sessions were largely assigned to students based on academic interest and time availability. The focus of the tutoring was directed toward undergraduate core engineering classes (thermodynamics, heat transfer, etc.) and not toward prerequisite engineering courses (such as calculus, physics, etc.) Typically 2-3 students were available to tutor for each core class, creating a large number of opportunities for underclassmen to receive assistance. The tutoring initiative set forth by CSU has received much praise from the engineering faculty and will likely continue to be an active area of participation for future Pi Tau members.

In addition to the traditional tutoring initiative, Pi Tau Sigma held an informational meeting about the Order of the Engineer society. During this meeting, Dr. Fred Smith (Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering) gave an informal presentation about the order's history as well as membership information.

Lastly, a special project was undertaken by a Pi Tau Sigma member, Darryl Beemer, in collaboration with the President's Leadership Program to develop a '2-pronged' outreach program by:

1) Engineering a physical object for educational purposes and advertisement
2) Coordination of student-driven outreach for local youth as part of STEM initiatives

The results of this project were showcased during the officer election meeting.

C. Other

Officer elections were conducted at the beginning of April to passover Pi Tau Sigma responsibilities to the new officers. Elections were done by having each interested member volunteer for available positions and, if necessary, provide a brief summary of previous applicable experience to being an officer. After elections, new members began to share some ideas regarding new goals for the 2012-2013 year including:

1) Maintaining tutoring responsibility
2) Improving overall recruiting rates
3) Allow for much more interaction between tutors and underclassmen by implementing new internet-based communication tools

New members were then given access to all necessary information for a smooth transition of officer duties. The new members include:

President: Allison Kotewicz
Vice President: Kevin Westhoff
Treasurer: Darryl Beemer
Secretary: Yijun Wang
Community Service Chair: John Whitmore

Advisor –

Dr. John D. Williams

Reporting Officers –

President: Andrew Kustas
Vice President: Chelsey Lewis
Treasurer: Alex Dean
Secretary: Steve Sewell
Community Service Chair: Paul Bujanovich