2017-2018

Notre Dame Sigma Beta

A. Initiations

Pi Tau Sigma members are chosen on a basis of sound engineering ability, scholarship, personality, and probable future success in their chosen field of Mechanical Engineering. Juniors and Seniors in the top 25% of their class are invited to join. New members initiated during the Fall October 24th initiation were treated to a presentation on the history of Pi Tau Sigma at Notre Dame, including engineering development and volunteer events that date back to 2007. New members were then welcomed during an active meet and greet to connect new and existing members by identifying where PTS members study or relax, what they do during down time, and what co-op, research, or internship experiences they could share about.

B. Chapter Activities

The Sigma Beta Chapter of Pi Tau Sigma at Notre Dame hosted several events this academic year. For our service to the community, Pi Tau Sigma served as volunteer graders for a local middle school mathematics contest called MathCounts. The members graded 5 different rounds of mathematics problems challenging the young people of South Bend as the local grade schools competed against each other. In our efforts to help the professional development of our members, the Sigma Beta chapter hosted two guest speaker events: one with graduate school experience and one with engineers in industry now. The first was a talk by Dr. Bill Goodwine, professor of differential equations and controls at the University of Notre Dame. He shared about his experience in undergraduate education, his doctoral work, his experiences at law school and his brief time as a patent lawyer. It was a great chance for Pi Tau Sigma members considering further education to learn about their options and what post-grad work entails, all while enjoying dinner catered from a local favorite restaurant. The second talk was by two engineers currently working for Textron during a career-fair campus visit. They talked about some of the projects they have worked as engineers in industry as well as answered questions from current Pi Tau Sigma members about their experiences in industry. It was a great chance for our members to learn about engineering in industry as well as network with engineers at a major company. The last event of the year was the election of new officers, facilitated by online self-nomination and

speech submission before a formal chapter meeting. A follow-up meeting of incoming and outgoing officers was held to ensure continuity in Pi Tau Sigma chapter leadership.