2018-19
Manhattan Sigma Tau

A. Initiations

The Manhattan Sigma Tau, chapter of Pi Tau Sigma held three initiations during the past academic year. One initiation was in the fall semester on November 27, 2018, and a make-up initiation was on December 4, 2018. The third initiation was on April 23, 2019. To be selected for the Manhattan Sigma Tau chapter, candidates had to demonstrate sound engineering ability, scholarship, personality and future success in Mechanical Engineering. The top 25 percent of juniors and seniors in the Mechanical Engineering curriculum at Manhattan College were given this honor. They had shown integrity, service, and leadership throughout their first two years in college. Prior to the induction ceremony in the fall and spring semesters, informational meetings were held to give the candidates opportunities to demonstrate their commitment to the honor society. The initiations were led by the chapter's executive board. They spoke on the background of Pi Tau Sigma, the selection criteria for candidates, and the challenge and responsibility for the initiates to uphold Pi Tau Sigma's tradition of integrity and excellence in engineering. Every member responded by accepting these ideas and promising to uphold and contribute to Pi Tau Sigma as a fraternity and the Manhattan Sigma Tau as their chapter. Both initiations included a short, half-hour lunch after the ceremony which consisted of food and beverages, good conversation, and networking. During the spring semester initiation, cords, and keys were also presented to the graduating seniors.

B. Chapter Activities

During the pledge period, candidates and members served as tour guides for the Manhattan College's Engineering Awareness Day and Open House in the fall semester as well as the Accepted Students Days in the spring semester. At these events, PTS representatives served as tour guides for incoming and prospective students and their families and brought them through the labs and classrooms of the engineering building. The pledges were also available to answer any questions that students had concerning the college and engineering in general.

Tutoring is a major way members volunteer and give back to the engineering community. All candidates and current members were required to be available for tutoring in the subjects of their choosing. The Manhattan College Pi Tau Sigma email address was posted in the Mechanical Engineering Department at Manhattan College for all students. The subjects tutored this year were statics, dynamics, thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, solid mechanics, numerical analysis, heat transfer, mechatronics, and manufacturing. If a student needed help with a subject that was

not listed on the spreadsheet, a blast email would be sent out to all members to match a tutor with a student. No student was left behind.

As part of the induction requirements, new pledges had to participate in a 5-minute interview with an e-board member the week before initiation. This tradition to this year confirms dedication to society. New pledges were also required to polish and paint their bents for the initiation, memorize the Greek alphabet, and sing the Pi Tau Sigma Thermo Song.

C. Other

This year is the final year with our current faculty advisor, Dr. John Leylegian. He has given a lot of guidance over the past 10 years. He will be missed. The new faculty advisor will be Dr. Lina Baroudi. She is highly qualified and will be a great new addition to the Sigma Tau Chapter.