2019-20
Manhattan Sigma Tau

A. Initiations

The Manhattan Sigma Tau, chapter of Pi Tau Sigma held two initiations during the past academic year. The top 25 percent of juniors and top 30 percent of seniors in the Mechanical Engineering curriculum at Manhattan College are selected to be evaluated for this honor. These candidates were selected due to their demonstration of sound engineering ability, scholarship, personality and future success in Mechanical Engineering. These students have shown dedication to their work as well as service, leadership in their first two years in college. The first initiation was in the fall semester on November 19, 2019 where sixteen students were initiated. Prior to this initiation an informational meeting was held to introduce the candidates to the ideals of the honor society. Due to the unfortunate circumstances of COVID-19, the spring initiation was held over a video call. In this second initiation, eight students were initiated in the spring semester on May 11, 2020. These initiations were led by the chapter's president and vice president. They spoke on the history 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. Each member accepted these ideas and promised to uphold the ideals of Pi Tau Sigma as a fraternity and the Manhattan Sigma Tau as their chapter. These initiations ended with friendly conversations and networking.

B. Chapter Activities

During the pledge period, candidates serve as tour guides for Manhattan College's Engineering Awareness Day and Open House in the fall semester. During these events, candidates serve as tour guides for prospective students and their families. They bring them through the labs and classrooms of the engineering building. They are able to answer any questions that prospective students have on the college or engineering discipline.

The major source of volunteering in the engineering community is through tutoring. All members are required to list the subject they are comfortable tutoring in. The Manhattan Sigma Tau chapter's email is posted around the Mechanical Engineering Department for all students to use. Professors are also advised to send students to speak with members of Pi Tau Sigma for help in classes. The subjects tutored this year were dynamics, fluid mechanics, heat transfer, manufacturing, mechatronics, numerical analysis, solid mechanics, and statics. Students are advised to email the chapter's account where the vice president will pair them with a tutor. The students are advised to schedule meetings with their tutor as they feel necessary. Therefore, no students were left behind.

As part of the initiation requirements, new pledges must participate in a short interview with an e-board member a few weeks before initiation. This allows for the e-board members to get to know the candidates and confirm dedication to the society. During initiation, the new candidates

were required to have their bents polished and painted, memorize the Greek alphabet, and sing the Pi Tau Sigma Thermo Song.

C. Other

This was the first year with our new faculty advisor Dr. Lina Baroudi. She was a great new addition to the Sigma Tau Chapter. She has many new ideas for our chapter to grow.