2017 – 2018
Manhattan Sigma Tau

A. Initiations

For this academic year, the Manhattan Sigma Tau chapter has initiated 26 new members into the honors society. On December 16, 2017, sixteen members were initiated, and on April 11, 2018, ten members. The new members have been selected based on their academic achievements and chosen based on their integrity, service, and leadership. Prior to initiation, each new pledge was vetted on their extracurricular activities and ethical principles. The new pledges also had to polish and design their bents before initiation. The pledges stood in front of the executive board during the initiation ceremony led by the President and the Vice President of the chapter. During initiation, the pledges had to recite the Greek alphabet in order one by one from each pledge. If there was an error in the order, the pledges had to restart the alphabet. This was done until the full alphabet was completed. After the alphabet, the pledges partook in the "Thermo Song". This is a fun song to lift the spirits of the new pledges, lyrics were provided. Next, the initiates showed the executive board their finished bents. The ledger was signed, and the new members were inducted into Pi Tau Sigma. After initiation food and beverage was provided and the new member had the opportunity to network with the current members and the chapter advisor.

B. Chapter Activities

In the Fall, Pi Tau Sigma members volunteered their time for Manhattan College's Open House. This was a time were all the departments of Manhattan College came together and set up booths displaying what their department had to offer to prospective students. The mechanical engineering department's booth displayed research projects, presentations, and posters. Pi Taus were engaging in conversations with parents and prospective students about their experience as a mechanical engineer in Manhattan College. Also, in the Fall, some members volunteered by participating in campus tours for Engineering Awareness Day. The members took potential students on tours of the engineering computer labs and experimental laboratory to learn about engineering classes offered at Manhattan College. In the Spring, the members also gave similar tours for Accepted Students Day where accepted students were given the tours to lead them to choose Manhattan College as the college to lead them on their professional path.

The main form of volunteering for the members was tutoring. With the vigorous mechanical engineering curriculum, it is important to help all students who need it to pass their class. Our chapter email was posted for students to reach out for extra assistance with their course work. Each active member was listed on a spreadsheet where they placed the subjects they can tutor. Mathematics, general engineering, and mechanical engineering courses were offered by our members. Manhattan Sigma Tau did not limit who can be tutored by major; all majors were welcomed. This academic year, emails were received from 25 students looking for tutoring and each was matched with a tutor. Some of the students have even returned to seek help for multiple subjects. 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.

Since there was a high demand for dynamics and heat transfer tutoring not only through email but through word-of-mouth, Manhattan Sigma Tau chapter decided to host a Café Heat Transfer/Café Dynamics before finals week. This was a laid-back way for students to get tutored one-on-one or in a group setting while sipping on coffee and munching on donuts. The room was

split into two; one side for the heat transfer and one side for the dynamics. Members were helping the student with any questions they had while conducting textbook examples. Students who were taking both subjects easily could jump from one side to the other. There were extra tutors available in case anyone wanted individual attention. In the two-and-a-half-hour session, over 30 students attended the café. Below are some pictures taken during the event.

Event Photos of Café Heat Transfer/Café Dynamics