Pi Tau Sigma Annual Chapter Report
2013-2014
Rhode Island Sigma Phi

A. Initiations

Initiation was held on April 30th, 2014 in Gilbreth Hall 118. Membership invitations were granted to the top 25% of the Junior MCE class and to the top 35% of the Senior MCE class. A total of 15 initiating students gathered along with the current officers, members, and advising staff/the mechanical engineering department head. Dues were collected prior to initiation.

The ceremony began with introductions from the department staff and officers. The ceremony followed the rituals in accordance with the Chapter Guide. All initiates understood the mission of Pi Tau Sigma and pledged to uphold its ideals.

Following the initiation ritual, an election was held in order to fill the positions of the departing officers. President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer positions acquired new officers. Nominations were made for each position, and a majority vote was held to finalize leadership.

B. Chapter Activities

Meetings were held somewhat sporadically, but with more regularity in the beginning and end of the semesters. With a low in membership numbers this year, attendance was easy to achieve but activities were difficult.

Efforts through this past academic year were focused on recruitment, and this effort is shown in the initiation of one of our highest numbers of students yet.

Future plans and activities were discussed immediately following the April 2014 induction ceremony. Many of these activities were ideas derived this past year, but could not be carried out due to low active member numbers.

C. Other

A successful attempt to revive the number of active members for the following year was made. Prior to initiation, a list of eligible students was compiled. Emails were sent out to these students, but we knew that this simply wouldn't attract the membership numbers we were looking for. Our meetings planned out an approach to attract the most members possible. It was decided to attend a number of the junior and senior courses to present the Pi Tau Sigma mission and personally invite the eligible students to join. The list of classes to visit was compiled in order to ensure all eligible students were reached. The mission was presented at the end of class, and officers stayed after class with members who received invitation emails and personally discussed PTS with each of them. This plan showed great success, with 15 of the 20 members arriving on initiation day and being welcomed to Pi Tau Sigma. All initiates were to be returning to the school for at least one more year. This is the largest number of students initiated in our chapter's recent history, and it offers promise for the academic year to follow.