PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

2009-2010

Rhode Island Sigma Phi

A. Initiations

Initiation procedure for this year followed what was customary before: in the beginning of spring semester we have identified junior and senior students in the top quarter of their classes and who are actively participating in the departmental activities. All of them were invited to the initial meeting where we have introduced PTS society, its values, goals, and standards. All qualified applicants were asked to submit the membership fee one week before the initiations, which were held on May 3, 2010. The initiation has followed the standard practice and at the end new officers were voted into the office. Initiation was followed by the social hour and dinner. During dinner we have presented awards and congratulated new members. We also had a special invited speaker (William J. Murray, Executive Vice President, Teknor Apex Company) who has talked about the professional life after college.

B. Chapter Activities

The goals for this school year included supporting the existing members of Pi Tau Sigma in their academic endeavors, aiding extracurricular pursuits, recruiting new members. While not overly active this year, the Rhode Island chapter did pledge to help the activities of the local ASME chapter. Our chapter supported the ASME in their efforts to run a "Car Smash" event. This event was supported by members from both organizations, and provided positive press for the College of Engineering. In addition, three members of our chapter (Mike Franzblau, Alex Sherry, Anthony Ciringione) have attended 2010 PTS convention.

C. Other

The following members have graduated this academic year: Anthony Ciringione , Alex Sherry, Mike Keating, Cam Correia, Kevin Silveira, Brandon Bacon, Daniel Ouellette, Scott Carlson, Sheida Danesh, and Jarred Serpa. Alex Sherry has received University Academic Excellence Award, and Daniel Ouellette Nelson C. White Award.

In the next year, Pi Tau Sigma would like to help host a mechanical engineering career night, in correlation with the ASME chapter at the University of Rhode Island. This would be a night for junior and senior students to being considering and solidifying career plans. Professors would be able to educate students on options for graduate school, alumni invited from industry could represent various carrier paths, and also graduate and undergraduate research options could be discussed. Essentially, we would like to help ease the tension of career planning which continues to be a problem.

In addition, Pi Tau Sigma would also like to continue to increase its presence in the student body by working alongside ASME, SWE, HSPE, and other mechanical engineering involved groups to help in whichever endeavors they might choose to become involved.

Lastly, we would like to ensure that our chapter is represented at a National Conference next year, as the experience was extremely positive for the three members that attended this past year.