

SAN JOSE CONVENTION MINUTES March 2-4 2012

Eastern Region

- Try to give insight to incoming freshman.
- RIT:
 - Chapter in eastern region.
 - Cooperates with Tau Beta Pi
 - Pig roast where professors and seniors are invited.
- Stevens Institute:
 - High school outreach program. Meet with professors.
- RPI:
 - Kick starting programs with new officers.

Central Region - Professor Wilson

- Some chapters are less active than others.
- Dr. Dean Kim helped to kick start.
- They are trying to promote visibility.

Western Region – Professor Rob Lloyd

- Large number of vibrant chapters.
- University of San Diego – Small chapter maintaining good standing. Working on chapter continuity.
- Long Beach State University – Chapter that is a group of friends. They have specific chapter goals. Established college of engineering tutoring program.
- San Jose State University –
- Texas A&M – Maybe hosting the convention in two years.

Next Convention – Columbus, Ohio

- February 22 - 24
- Theme: Transportation
- Ohio has played a major role in transportation.
- Highlights:
 - Scott Laboratory
 - Department Research – Center for Automotive Research, Gear and Power Transmission Lab, Institute for Materials Research.
 - Ohio State University campus.
 - The Blackwell – 4 star hotel
 - The Ohio Union – conference facility
 - Ohio Stadium/ The Huntington Club
- Sponsorship:
 - Potential Sponsors: Honda, GE Aviation, Shell, Eaton, Commercial Vehicle Group.

Professor Masui – Texas A&M

- Process of selecting school for membership.
- Established in 2003.
- Tau Beta Pi chapter was rewarded to the university last year.

Altaf Khan and Bethany Davis – Recommendations from breakout session

- Knowledge of the rules is of concern. (Bylaws)
- Recommendation to amend Bylaws to include requirement of 3.0 GPA on top of percentage requirement.
- Recommendation to charge a chapter \$50 to rejoin.
- Recommendation to verify student requirements.
- Suggestion to create an online database of members.
- Suggestion to list tasks for chapters from semester to semester.
- You must be a junior or senior in order to be part of Pi Tau Sigma.
- Some chapters have sophomores that can help out but are not actually part of the club. “Honor Affiliates”

Discussion:

Delta Phi –

Eric – Bylaws in individual scales should figure out which GPA should be used because of different grading scales.

Alex (Beta Pi) – “B Average” instead of 3.0?

Jessie (Beta Pi) – Whatever changes are made, it may change perception of the society.

Unnecessary to change wording to “B Average”. Should not be difficult to change to 4 point scale.

Amendment: In addition to percentage requirement stated in the Bylaws, the GPA will be from a 3.0 to a 4.0 or equivalent. (Passed) (Against:4)

Amendment: Change percentage value instead of changing GPA requirement.

Recommendations:

- Sponsor national competition events. ie SAE Baja, Supermileage, Formula-1
- Extra Booster Class. ie engineering software, specialized equipment at your school, FE review, course review
- Offer alternative mentoring and tutoring programs.
- Technical showcase lunch and learn.

- Service projects as a requirement for chapter members.
- Multi-Chapter Level:
- Extracurricular activities
- Chapter bonding
- Involve high school and community college students in a social get together event and introduce ME to them.
- National Level:
- Provide more sponsors for scholarships so more than two students receive the award.
- Get donations for charity.
- Online open forum
- Promote Pi Tau Sigma visibility during National Engineer Week in the Spring.
- Start a National day of service during the Fall term.
- Top 25 Things to tell Freshmen/Sophomore

Convention and Site Planning (Chairman: Altaf Khan,)

- Best Practices:
- Communicate date of convention at least 3 months prior.
- Open Registration Early
- Start talking to Nationals about sponsors and companies early
- Passing down of documents from prior years convention
- Schedule:
- (2013) – Ohio State University
- (2014) – Texas A&M (Tentative)
- (2015) – University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Recommendation: The 2014 National Convention should be held at Texas A&M.
- Motion: Texas A&M should hold the 2014 National Convention. (Passed)
- Motion: Officially approve Ohio State University hosting the 2013 National Convention. (Passed) (Against:1)

New Initiatives:

- (1)Community/Social Outreach
- Mainly to incoming freshmen and younger students.
- (2)Interfacing with Mechanical Engineering Department
- New Faculty, Curriculum Improvement, Research Projects
- (3)Peer Advising/Tutoring
- Course work, Peer advising, Extra Curricular Activities
- (4)Alumni Association
- Track graduation members, Linked In, Regional, National Level
- (5)Career Advising
- Resume Workshops, Interview Advising, Corporate Networking Events
- (6)Social Events
- Encourage Socializing, Retain Initiated Members, Have Fun

Honors and Awards(Lee Bouldin, Brenda Lisitano):

- Two chapter awards:
 - o Outstanding Performance
 - o Outstanding Service
- Grading:
 - o 12 chapters present
 - o 9 applications for best chapter
 - o each chapter reviews each application
 - o applications have 8 questions with various weighting
- Comments:
 - o Points lost for excessive explanations
 - o Typical to applications: tutoring, volunteering
 - o Points gained for communicating and collaborating with other societies and department.
 - o Points gained for creativity
- Results -- Motion 1:
 - o Outstanding performance:
 - Honorable mention Chapters 2,4
 - Winner: Chapter 6
 - o Outstanding Service
 - Honorable mention: Chapter 4,7
 - Winner: Chapter 6
 - o Passed
- Motion 2:
 - o Enforce motion from 2011 convention by updating cover page for application.
- Recommendation:
 - o Split grading committee into two groups to evaluate questions 1,4,5,6,7 and 2,3,8 separately. Include cover sheet with applications for each chapter present with grid for all grades.

Vote: Approve Texas A&M Qatar chapter to be a new member to Pi Tau Sigma.
(Passed)