

PI TAU SIGMA OUTSTANDING AWARDS
MICHIGAN PI RHO
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Traditionally, the Michigan Pi Rho chapter has been active within the campus and overall Ann Arbor community and this year has been no different. We initiated 29 new members this past year. We held weekly meetings where we brought corporate speakers, faculty and staff to talk about graduate school, lifelong learning and additive manufacturing, and had members of Pi Tau Sigma talk about their own experiences finding and succeeding at internships at companies such as Boeing and Tesla. This year we brought ten corporate speakers to campus from a diverse group of companies such as GE, HP and Whirlpool.

The Michigan Pi Rho chapter also takes pride in organizing and participating in various events within the department and on campus. This past year, we organized a pancake breakfast, where mechanical engineering faculty and staff volunteered to cook students pancakes, allowing students to bond with their professors outside of the classroom. We also worked with the ASME chapter to organize two Mechanical Engineering Undergraduate Symposiums (MEUS) where undergraduate research and sophomore through senior level design projects are displayed. During the Fall semester, the theme of the symposium was retro videogames and there were classic video games posters and emulated games, as well as a scavenger hunt based on posters of the research presented. During the winter semester, it was a tropical theme with blow up palm trees and flamingo cutouts strewn about. A Gagaball court was also constructed and enjoyed by students and faculty alike. This year we also continued selling mechanical engineering t-shirts and started selling mechanical engineering branded quarter-zips to students.

For the first time this year, we organized a Solidworks certification exam, allowing students that passed to showcase their CAD skills to future employers. We also continued organizing weekly tutoring sessions. We also helped during the an ME department career week event where alumni from diverse career paths came back to talk and advise students and members from Pi Rho helped usher students to the right alumni. We also participated in Tech Day, where prospective students explore campus. We had members represent the Mechanical Engineering department and run an egg crash test design competition.

The Pi Rho chapter has also been involved in various service events. We've taught fourth and fifth graders participating in Science Olympiad simple physics (Newton's Laws and friction), helped clean up a local childrens' science museum, collect cans for Food Gatherers, and remove invasive species at the university arboretum.

Last but not least, we held many social events, where members develop the lifelong friends our chapter is known for. We host a variety of social events including a Whirlyball outing (a mix between bumper cars and lacrosse, kind of), a scavenger hunt around town (where some initiates got to meet the university president), an Amazing Race on the engineering campus, trivia nights, and various IM sports.

The Michigan Pi Rho chapter has had a great year and we are excited to find ways to continue to grow and to thrive next year.