

Pi Tau Sigma Annual Chapter Report: Summary

2016 – 2017

Purdue Beta

A. Initiations

Candidates that were eligible based on their cumulative GPA were emailed directly by our Vice President of Pledges and approved by our faculty advisor for an informational meeting outlining the requirements of the process to becoming an active member. Potential members were required to acquire signatures from the chair and officers (~40 members) to learn how the society is run; moreover, initiates had to conduct five interviews of their choice of chairs and officers to provide further info of the leadership positions available. Initiates also volunteered in the ME lounge for an hour each week, while also participating in a community service event for the Lafayette community. Once requirements were met and the chapter approved the initiates. As tradition, the initiates are awarded full membership during Initiation; a semi-annual banquet occurs immediately after to celebrate the semester's achievements and the new members.

B. Chapter Activities

Year-long activities of Purdue Beta include tutoring for students in need and a lounge service to provide snacks and supplies at reduced prices; moreover, the chapter provides access to students to buy old test files that may be needed to study for exams. For sophomore level classes, Purdue Beta provides hour long review sessions for students to attend; active members run through old exams with students and answer any questions that students may have, while also providing tips to succeed on the exams. Weekly tutor nights were also held once a week, in which active members volunteered to answer any questions that students may have regarding coursework.

Purdue Beta held the first Annual Research Creativity Seminar (RCS). The event invited Mechanical Engineering students to participate in a day of idea generation with a professor in the hopes of increasing exposure to research topics.

During the fall semester, Pi Tau partners with the School of ME to help ballot for the Sollberg Teaching Award, which is given to a student chosen Faculty member that has made an impact in their learning at Purdue.

Each semester, Purdue Beta hosts the ME Forum to allow students to voice their opinions about the classes and facilities of the School of Mechanical Engineering. Students and faculty are invited to join in order to gain perspectives on the critiques that have been made by students. As such the faculty can utilize the constructive advice to reformat courses to help students to learn and succeed at higher rates.

Each semester Pi Tau partners with the Boys and Girls Club of Lafayette to provide a carnival of inflatables and carnival games to the children attending the club. Similarly Pi Tau volunteers for both Winterization and Boiler Blast, which are campus wide events to help

residents of the Lafayette Community prepare for the winter or the summer in various landscaping projects. Finally, Purdue Beta members partnered up with St. Boniface Elementary School as part of outreach of STEM activities and completed a STEM related activity with the students in an effort to gain exposure in such fields.