PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT
2011-2012
University of Kansas Psi

A. Initiations

Mechanical engineering students in the top 25% of the junior class and top 33% of the senior class were invited to join Pi Tau Sigma (PTS). Initiates are required to complete an associate notebook that includes: Pi Tau Sigma on the cover sheet, a complete PTS information sheet regarding the national organization and local chapter, signatures from all professors and staff members in the mechanical engineering department, and a one-page essay describing the qualities of a leader. Initiates were asked to turn the documents in prior to the formal initiation.

Each initiate is escorted to a darkened room where the PTS symbol is illuminated on a desk. The initiate is asked to take a seat at the desk. PTS professors and officers are seated in the room, unseen by the initiate. The initiate was asked to state their name before the PTS professors and officers begin questioning. Questions are primarily related to PTS history and facts, University of Kansas facts, and fundamental engineering theories. The initiate was then asked to leave the room until all initiates were through the individual portion of the initiation. All initiates were then presented with the Rituals of Pi Tau Sigma. All initiates, PTS professors, and PTS officers signed the PTS book. A celebratory dinner followed.

B. Chapter Activities

The Kansas Psi chapter aided in the organization of a tutoring program for mechanical engineering students seeking help with their required coursework. The department office advertised the program to all mechanical engineering students. Interested students' information was forwarded to our tutoring coordinators. The tutoring coordinators matched students with tutors knowledgeable in the subject area they requested. Once the tutors were matched with the students, members of Pi Tau Sigma lead a brief tutor training to prepare the tutors. We remained a contact for mediation, questions/concerns, and for administrative duties.

Tutors were selected based on performance in the classroom and desire to help. Tutors were required to attend a 30-minute tutor training prior to meeting with any students. In this meeting rules were discussed, including: meeting in a public place, respect for the student, and not completing deliverables of any type for the student. The training also included a segment on recommended tutoring methods.

C. Other

To enhance individual growth and involvement at the University of Kansas and the surrounding community, a service event is being planned for the Fall 2012 semester. The service event will involve members coming together to complete a project or help out at a local non-profit organization.