PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT 2012-2013
North Dakota State University Pi Upsilon

A. Initiations

Mechanical engineering students in the top 25% of the junior class and the top 35% of the senior class were invited to join Pi Tau Sigma-Pi Upsilon Chapter. Candidates were invited to an information session where the President and Vice-President gave a presentation regarding the benefits to be a PTS member; food was served.

Initiates were escorted into a dimly lit room where the PTS symbols were illuminated on an projector. The initiates were seated at the desks and the Vice-President and President stood at the front of the room. The initiates were then presented with the Rituals of Pi Tau Sigma. After the initiations, the chapter hosted a pizza party for the newly inducted members.

B. Chapter Activities

Pi Tau Sigma-Pi Upsilon chapter has been pursuing one major goal this year; a goal to become more known throughout the department. During the past couple of years, NDSU's PTS chapter has fallen to inactive status; however, last year we regained active status.

The focus of the fall semester was to introduce people to PTS. We coordinated several events through the semester including a barbeque, speaker presentations, and department events. To start off the fall semester, Pi Upsilon in accordance with ASME hosted a barbeque focused to the engineering students. This event was a success and created a community between Pi Upsilon and the local ASME chapter.

We hosted a presentation once a month in the fall for NDSU Engineering students. The fall semester's speakers were faculty members at NDSU who came to discuss their research and projects. These presentations focused on informing students about different areas of research currently being performed at NDSU. The attenders had the opportunity to discuss graduate school options and undergraduate research opportunities with the presenting professor. The other benefit of the presentations is that students had an opportunity to interact with professors outside of lectures.

At the end of the fall semester, Pi Upsilon hosted a junior, senior, and faculty event. We attended the Fargo Billiards and Gastropub and rented five pool tables. We had over 60 people in attendance and five Professors. This event grew since 2011 when we had roughly 30 people in attendance.

During the spring semester, we continued hosting presentations one a month. These presentations were not limited to faculty though. In addition to faculty, we invited a financial advisor, a representative from the career center, and a realtor to speak as well. These events were greatly appreciated and helped students understand different aspects of planning for their future.

Between the two semesters, we inducted 12 new members and lost 8 due to graduation. We continue to try to determine new ways to actively recruit new members besides simply hosting an informational meeting. The fall barbeque was helpful for the fall recruitment by having the opportunity to inform students about PTS before the informational meeting. We plan to host a similar event for next year's inductions as well.

PTS continues to give tours of the Mechanical Engineering Department to prospective students. Members appreciate the honor to be the face of the NDSU Mechanical Engineering Department to potential students and their parents. All the members agree that giving the department tours not only helps out the department, but shows us how much we have learned throughout our years here in the ME program. This academic year we have completed approximately 70 individual tours and participated in Discover NDSU as the college representatives from the ME department.

A traditional activity of Pi Tau Sigma is volunteering. This year, we agian volunteered as facilitators and co-facilitators at the NDSU Science Olympiad. Thirteen of our members participated and accumulated about 104 service hours for Pi Upsilon.

C. Other

None