PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

2013-2014

Alabama Delta Upsilon

A. Initiations

At the beginning of the fall and spring semesters the faculty adviser reviewed the standings of all upper division University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) Mechanical Engineering students. All students with Junior standing were evaluated to determine if their standing was in the upper 25% of classmates, while all students with Senior standing were evaluated to determine if their standing was in the upper 33% of classmates. The transcripts for those students meeting the above criteria were then reviewed to ensure that student has achieved proper standing within the Mechanical Engineering program. Those students who completed coursework was consistent with their class standing were sent invites into the chapter.

Students who respond to the invitation are welcomed to attend the initiation ceremony. Two initiation ceremonies were held during the 2013-2014 academic year hosted by the chapter President, Vice President and faculty adviser. The ceremonies begin with the new initiates lead into the room by the Vice President. Upon having the new initiates being seated the President begins the ritual. A slideshow is presented as the Vice President and President follow the Rituals of Pi Tau Sigma. After completing the rituals the new initiates are welcomed as members.

The fall ceremony, held on November 27th, saw 12 students inducted into the chapter. A second ceremony, held on March 5th, had 19 students that were inducted. During the spring initiation ceremony an honorary member was initiated, Dr. Nicholas Lynn. As a member of the department's faculty he displays the high ideals and promotes the ideals consistent with Pi Tau Sigma. In addition Dr. Lynn has agreed to serve as faculty advisor for the chapter.

B. Chapter Activities

During the beginning of the spring semester of 2014, Pi Tau Sigma made significant steps to raise their level of involvement at the UAH. To start, the president approached the UAH Director of Student Affairs, Ms. Nikki Goode, to inquire about the necessary process of becoming an official RSO (Registered Student Organization). Ms. Goode instructed the president that Pi Tau Sigma would need to first adopt a constitution and have a minimum of 5 officers lead this honor society.

The Alabama Delta Upsilon Chapter's faculty adviser, Dr. Donald Wallace, retired during the fall semester of 2013. This left Pi Tau Sigma with an additional responsibility of initiating a new faculty adviser. Dr. Nicholas Lynn stepped up to the challenge and became initiated as an honorary member on March 5th 2014.

The previous 2013 leadership and the new faculty adviser, Dr. Lynn, immediately began working to ensure Pi Tau Sigma became an RSO. The Alabama Delta Upsilon Chapter created and

adopted a Constitution and Bylaws in January 2014. Further, three additional officers were elected to serve for the 2014 term. Pi Tau Sigma's 2014 leadership is now comprised of a secretary, a treasurer, and an activities coordinator in addition to the already filled president and vice president positions. As a result of all these actions, the Alabama Delta Upsilon Chapter of Pi Tau Sigma became an official registered student organization formally recognized by the University of Alabama in Huntsville at the beginning of March 2014.

The University of Alabama in Huntsville Pi Tau Sigma graduates of this past spring 2014 ceremony were ordered cords and stoles for the first time within several years. This was encouraged by the 2014 leadership and faculty adviser as a way to enhance recognition of Pi Tau Sigma throughout UAH and increase an overall academic interest in the discipline of mechanical engineering.

Although Pi Tau Sigma has not had the privilege of sponsoring a volunteering activity this year, several members individually took the initiative to volunteer on their own with various community programs. A few of these volunteer events were through the Red Cross, the 2014 UAH Science Olympiad, and Charger Express (UAH new student orientation). The activities coordinator developed a new form in order to more easily document each student's volunteer hours with the intent to recognize and reward Pi Tau Sigma members who volunteer the most.

C. Other

Our new Alabama Delta Upsilon faculty adviser, Dr. Nicholas Lynn, saw a way for Pi Tau Sigma to become more up to speed with technology already available for every UAH student. Google is the domain under which all UAH students are given their own email account. Dr. Lynn developed a Pi Tau Sigma Google group page to better improve communication with all active status UAH Pi Tau Sigma members.