2019-2020

Texas Sigma Rho

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A. Initiations

During the fall semester of 2019, an initiation was held on December 6, 2019, and Texas Sigma Rho inducted six new initiates. All of the initiates met the requirement of being in the top 25% of their academic class, only juniors and seniors. A secondary initiation was held on December 10, 2019 where six more initiates were inducted into the chapter. Pictures from the main initiation and the makeup initiation can be seen below.

Figure 1. Picture with new initiates and officer members taken at the main initiation for the spring 2019 semester

Figure 2. Picture taken at the fall 2019 makeup initiation

During the spring semester of 2020, A virtual initiation was held on May 13, 2020, and Texas Sigma Rho inducted five new initiates. All of the initiates met the requirement of being in the top

25% of their academic class, only juniors and seniors. Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties, the pictures taken for the spring semester initiation were lost but a picture of the virtual logbook that was accepted can be seen below. Please note, although no pictures of the inductees were sent to the national organization after the initiation, the national organization accepted what is shown below to ensure the chapter remains in good standing.

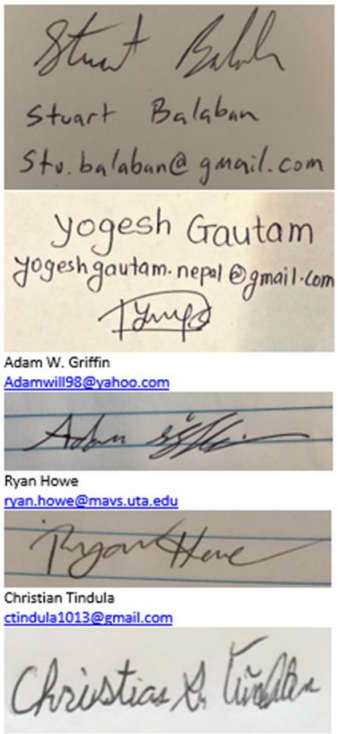

Figure 2. picture of the virtual logbook that was sent after the initiation was performed

B. Chapter Activities

During the fall 2019 semester, Texas Sigma Rho participated in both the Engineering Welcome Bash and the Explore Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering activities, in September 2019. The College of Engineering welcome bash is an event geared toward new and returning engineering students and is used as a way to begin the semester in an exciting manner. It is a way for the College of Engineering to greet engineering students upon returning or arriving to campus for the semester. Texas Sigma Rho was represented at the event, providing an info table to answer any questions that prospective initiates may have about the fraternity. The Explore Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering activity is an event held to welcome new undergraduates to the program. Students are encouraged to come so that they may interface with professors, visit Engineering research and teaching labs, and join student organizations. This event in particular is invite-only and restricted to new students. Texas Sigma Rho was again well represented at this event by providing an info table to answer questions and talk to students about the fraternity. The chapter also hosted a volleyball/cookout social event for the members at the university recreation center. Many members attended where officers grilled hot dogs and hamburgers. Unfortunately, weather was poor all day and the sand volleyball courts were unusable. Instead of volleyball, the

attending members decided to turn it into a basketball game. A fundraising event was also held on campus where the chapter sold grilled cheese sandwiches outside of the main engineering building. The fundraiser was very successful, and the chapter ran out of supplies before the end of the fundraiser. Unfortunately, pictures were not taken at every event, but the pictures that were taken at the events can be seen below.

Figure 4. Image taken at the Explore MAE event with the president (James McQuade) representing the organization

Figure 5. Picture taken at the end of the grilled cheese fundraiser with the members that volunteered for the event

The spring 2020 semester kicked off with a general body meeting in order to determine the events that the members wanted to do for that semester. The members wanted to hold more social events and fundraisers but wanted to wait until the weather got a little but warmer since the event's they wanted to have would be outdoor events. Texas Sigma Rho was able to send two officers to the Pi Tau Sigma 2020 National Convention at Colorado State University on January 31st-Februry 1st. From the national convention, our officers were able to network with other Pi Tau Sigma chapters and ask what they did to get members involved. Due to the unfortunate circumstances of COVID-19, the school cancelled all in person events and the organization was not able to hold any social events virtually due to the student adjusting to virtual learning. Due to the unfortunate circumstances of COVID-19, there are no pictures of any members at events held at the university, but a picture with the president at RIT can be seen below.

Figure 6. The president of the Texas Sigma Rho chapter posing with RIT's mascot while at the PTS nation convention in Rochester, New York

C. Other

During the spring semester of 2020 initiation, an election was held to define leadership positions for the coming year, and we are proud to announce that Keerigan Rudd was selected to succeed James McQuade as President of Pi Tau Sigma Texas Sigma Rho for the upcoming scholastic. The former officers and Faculty Advisor firmly believe Keerigan is readily anticipating his fulfillment of this honorable role and will continue to ensure that the Texas Sigma Rho Chapter at the University of Texas at Arlington will thrive and grow.