PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

2010-2011

University of Texas at Arlington Sigma Rho

Initiations

The Texas Sigma Rho chapter considers juniors in the top 25% of their class, and seniors in the top 35% of their class, based on grades, to join Pi Tau Sigma. Of these, students who have at least a 3.2 GPA, and have taken at least 24 credit hours at UT Arlington are invited. Once invited, students must attend an information session, be interviewed by the president or current officers of the chapter, collect 15 professor's signatures in their favorite textbook (to encourage interaction with the faculty), and pay $85 dues to attend the initiation and banquet dinner. Two initiations took place this year; initiations were held on December 15, 2010 and on April 30, 2011.

During the initiation, the initiates are brought into a dim room with the current members. The president and vice president present what is expected of a member of the Texas Sigma Rho chapter of Pi Tau Sigma, and explain what the coat of arms and key signify. The initiates then take an oath to uphold the standards presented to them, and sign their names on an initiation form. After the ceremony the initiation banquet dinner is held.

During fall recruitment the Sigma Rho chapter was able to successfully initiate 9 new members, bringing the active member count to 22. The following spring semester the chapter pushed for recognition on campus by posting fliers, handing out pamphlets, posting messages on classroom chalkboards, and participating in certain engineering events. With the efforts of the current members the chapter was able to recruit and initiate 24 new initiates, more than doubling the chapters' size.

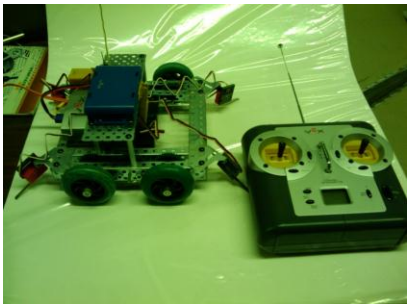
December 15, 2010 Initiation

Chapter Activities

At the beginning of each semester, members formed committees which met to plan out specific events. These committees consisted of career events, social events, meeting activities, initiation/ recruitment, and fundraising. These committees made it possible for the chapter to participate in a variety of activities throughout the school year. Chapter meetings were held once every two weeks, and consisted of activities such as resume and interview workshops, research development and tours, and internship awareness. Outside of meetings members went on field trips to two separate locations. One trip was taken to learn about the manufacturing processes required to mass produce steel and the other gave a look inside how specialty tools are created.

The Texas Sigma Rho chapter also sent its Recording Secretary to the Pi Tau Sigma national convention in Florida. A full report was submitted so that members would know what to expect and to encourage more members to consider attending next year.

The chapter also participated in Engineering Week at UT Arlington by programming a robot which could detect and avoid the edge of a table. A booth was set up in one of the engineering buildings and students were allowed to take control of the robot. This helped raise awareness of the university's Pi Tau Sigma chapter and gave members a chance to recruit new members.



Also each semester, an initiation and banquet was held for new initiates. After initiation all members in attendance, current and new, go to dinner which allows everyone to become acquainted and talk about the upcoming semester.

April 30, 2011 Post Initiation Dinner

Some of our members put together a mixer where Pi Tau Sigma and the women's engineering society on campus went out for drinks and a good time. This event proved to be successful and will be continued in semesters to come.

Other

The Texas Sigma Rho chapter congratulated nine active members who accomplished their goal of graduation this May. Each played a significant role in the chapter's development and growth throughout their membership.

Some of our May 2011 Graduates

The chapter's last act of the semester was to design and order Pi Tau Sigma shirt. The shirts will show students that Pi Tau Sigma is an active society on campus and will spark the interests of others. This will be key during next semester's recruitment period, as our goal is to once again double in size.

Some of our May 2011 Graduates