Pi Tau Sigma Annual Report

2013-2014

Central Florida Delta Sigma

This document outlines the initiation activities, chapter activities and other events performed by the Central Florida Delta Sigma Chapter of Pi Tau Sigma at the University of Central Florida for the 2013-2014 academic year.

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Initiations

The Central Florida Delta Sigma chapter has continued to grow in the past twelve months. The fall initiation ceremony was held on Monday, November 18th 2013 and we welcomed a total of 16 new members. The following spring initiations were held on Monday April 14th, 2014 when we welcomed 14 new members and said goodbye to 14 graduating senior class members.

These new inductees were invited to join based on the requirements documented in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Inductee requirements

	Eligible Group	Maximum Active Members
First term Juniors	Upper 25%	17%
Last term Juniors	Upper 33%	25%
First term Seniors	Upper 35%	33%
Last term Seniors	Upper 35% (upon approval process)	33%

Each qualified candidate was contacted through email, inviting them to join an initial information session about the organization, its goals and activities. These informational meetings were conducted in both the fall and the spring semesters to encourage growth and visibility for the club and make the qualified student body aware of the benefits of joining Pi Tau Sigma. These meetings included officer introductions and leadership profile presentations that introduced the leadership and organization of the club to the initiates. Articles II and IV of the chapter manual were also read to introduce the organization's function and objectives to the potential membership candidates.

Upon showing an interest in joining, after attending the information session, the following requirements were placed upon the individuals to pursue membership:

1. Monthly meeting attendance required for all initiates
    a. One excused absence accepted
    b. Multiple absences upon approval from leadership
2. Attendance to at least one of the two social activities each semester
3. Two hours of volunteer service for fundraising events
4. Learn all active members' names

Upon completing these activities to the satisfaction of the leadership, the initiates were formally invited to participate in the induction ceremony. The induction ceremony was a formal event requiring professional dress and etiquette. The ceremony was held in a meeting room with low lighting and the bent was prominently displayed via the projector, illuminating the room with gold and azure. The President and Vice President stood behind the podium as they guided the new initiates through the induction ceremony according to the rituals of Pi Tau Sigma as outlined

in the organization's documentation. The initiates were congratulated and were made aware of the honor of becoming members of Pi Tau Sigma. This was followed by the first handshake and bent ceremony where the officers passed on the secret handshake and distributed the bents to the new members.

Chapter Activities

Central Florida Delta Sigma participated and organized several events throughout the year. This was another significant area of growth for the chapter when compared to last year's activities. In particular, Delta Sigma organized two chapter fundraising events, which were held in the College of Engineering and Computer Science. By doing so, the chapter was able to raise funds and awareness for the organization as well as build its credibility in the eyes of fellow engineering organizations. Early in the year, the leadership of the chapter began campaigning to receive office space in the engineering buildings. After almost a year of campaigning, the chapter was granted office space. The new officers for the 2014-2015 years will be setting up office hours as well as providing a free tutoring service to fellow engineering students. At the end of the 2013-2014 year, Delta Sigma voted on the most effective professor and faculty advisor, and presented them with Professor and Advisor of the year awards.

Another area of key interest was the internal growth of the organization. To foster a stronger sense of friendship and camaraderie, Delta Sigma participated in two team-building activities. By engaging in a daylong, voluntary team building activity, a definite sense of community was developed and strengthened over the course of the semester. At the semester's end, there was a palpable sense of friendship and community, which had successfully been transferred to the new officers for the 2014-2015 academic year. Under the mentorship of the previous year's officers, the 2014-2015 officers have displayed energy, enthusiasm, and a desire to see Delta Sigma grow.

Delta Sigma has taken the experience of 2013-2014 and has already begun developing activities for 2014-2015. In the fall, social activities with the other engineering organizations are in the works as well as outings at school sporting events.

Chapter Growth

As discussed in the previous sections, Delta Sigma has experienced growth in multiple areas of the chapter. From enrollment, to activities, to planning for the fall, the members of UCF's Pi Tau Sigma chapter are laying the foundation for something more than just an honor society. They are laying the groundwork for an organization that is dedicated to academic excellence, sharing their knowledge and skill with their fellow students, developing a tight knit community that fosters friendship, and creating a drive to uphold all that Pi Tau Sigma represents.

Delta Sigma will continue to seek fellow engineering organizations to work with in the college of engineering. It will also strive to develop more activities in the upcoming academic year. Finally, it will continue to create non-academic related events to promote community growth and friendship within the organization as well as with other engineering organizations.

Chapter Goals

It was a goal of the chapter in the past year to establish an active alumni chapter. Unfortunately, this goal was not achieved but is a continuing goal for the next calendar year. Although we did not establish an official active alumni chapter, many of our recently graduated alumni returned and participated in chapter activities. The intent of this project is to capture a picture of the continued successes of its alumni members and to provide resources and mentoring for the current members of Delta Sigma.