

RIT | Rochester Institute
of Technology

ΠΤΣ

Pi Tau Sigma Delta Pi Chapter
2020 National Convention
Rochester, New York



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Friday January 31st and Saturday February 1st, Rochester Institute of Technology's Delta Pi chapter hosted the 2020 Pi Tau Sigma National Convention. We would like to extend our thanks to the following individuals for their assistance in hosting this event:

Dr. Michael Schrlau, RIT Pi Tau Sigma Faculty Advisor

Dr. Doreen Edwards, Kate Gleason College of Engineering Dean

Dr. Risa Robinson, Department Head, Mechanical Engineering

Shane Ryan, Development and Alumni Relations

Joanne Vadala, Corporate Relations Officer

The Mechanical Engineering Department for help staffing labs.

Contents

Day 1, January 31st, 2020	3
Day 2, February 1st, 2020	5

Day 1, January 31st, 2020

The National Convention began early Friday morning with the team of volunteers working to both set up the hotel check-in table and to set up the dinner venue in the RIT Magic Center Sound Stage. Registration remained open through Friday and Saturday to allow for any last-minute attendees to receive all their promotional material and a badge. Check-in ran from approximately 10:00 am through 5:00 pm at the DoubleTree Inn. Guests then began to arrive at the Magic Center for our buffet style dinner. Pi Tau Sigma's National President Darryl James opened the convention and encouraged everyone to mingle by finding a table of people they have not met before. Our faculty advisor, Michael Schrlau, then gave a short address, thanking everyone for attending, and introducing RIT as a academic institution. After serving a buffet-style dinner, the keynote speaker, Tom Peeples Jr., took the stage to deliver his keynote address on career advancement and how to be a successful young engineer. After his excellent speech, Tom and the students engaged in an hour of productive discussion and Q&A.

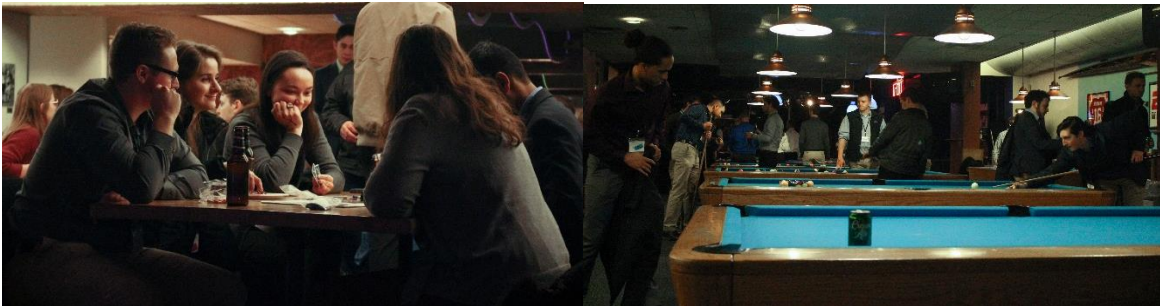


Tom Peeples Jr., describing his career path



Delta Pi Chapter E-Board, Anthony Iannuzzi, Wylie McDonald, Jason Liu, Matt Santullo, and Zachary Grguras

After concluding dinner, we hosted the Friday night social event at the RITz Sports Zone, featuring board games, billiards, and a cash bar. Mechanical Engineering faculty and chapter members loaned the board games. Shuttles ran throughout the events for retiring members.



Friday night social event featured board games, billiards, and beer.

Day 2, February 1st, 2020

Saturday opened early at 6am for chapter volunteers to help setup Breakfast. Attendees began arriving for the continental buffet style breakfast at 7am and finished arriving at 8:30am. The breakfast could have had more variety and could have been larger; however, budget restrictions forced us into that option. At 9am, all students walked to Golisano Auditorium for the Autodesk Design Seminar. This event had extraordinary success, allowing students to learn unique features of Fusion 360 without the stress of a competition. We highly recommend seminars in future conventions. Snacks and water were available at the back of the auditorium for those who were still hungry after breakfast.



The interactive Autodesk seminar allowed students to follow along and learn about Fusion 360 generative design.



After the Autodesk Design Seminar, all students moved to Sustainability Hall for the group photo. This photo was stitched together in segments. The national board is located in the 2nd and 3rd row. Our chapter eboard is distributed throughout. After the photo, attendees lingered for conversations and additional photos by the plant wall.

RIT Pi Tau Sigma volunteers then led attendees to Campus Dorm Side into Grace Watson Hall for the All-You-Choose-To-Eat Buffet Lunch.



Gracie's. RIT's all you choose to eat buffet Lunch.

After lunch, attendees had the option to attend an employer panel or a graduate school panel from 1:00 to 2:30pm. Two graduate students, one new and one nearly finished, and three professors staffed the graduate panel, fielding questions from, what it's like being a graduate student to, a professor's story on their path to an academic career. Six seasoned employees from industry staffed the employer panel and answered a constant stream of questions from the audience. The panel time was extended to accommodate additional questions. Tom Peoples Jr was among the employers on the panel. Overall, these panels offered an excellent insight into students' futures.



The employer and graduate panels.

Most of the employers on the panel then moved to their booths in Erdle Commons, joined by additional recruiters and engineers from their company ready to receive student resumes and talk about their companies. RIT PTS volunteers helped set up career fair stands during lunch and the panels. The career fair offered 5 employers. During the fair, students could head back to the hotel, attend a convention planning workshop, or join a tour of RIT engineering labs, of performance teams, or of campus.



*MOOG Inc., 1 of 5 of the employers at the Fair. *

The convention planning meeting offered an excellent opportunity for chapters thinking about hosting a convention. The RIT chapter presented some financial figures, our method of planning, an overview of all the interfacing parts, and some constructive feedback for the National Board. We emphasized how essential communication is between the hosting chapter and the national board.



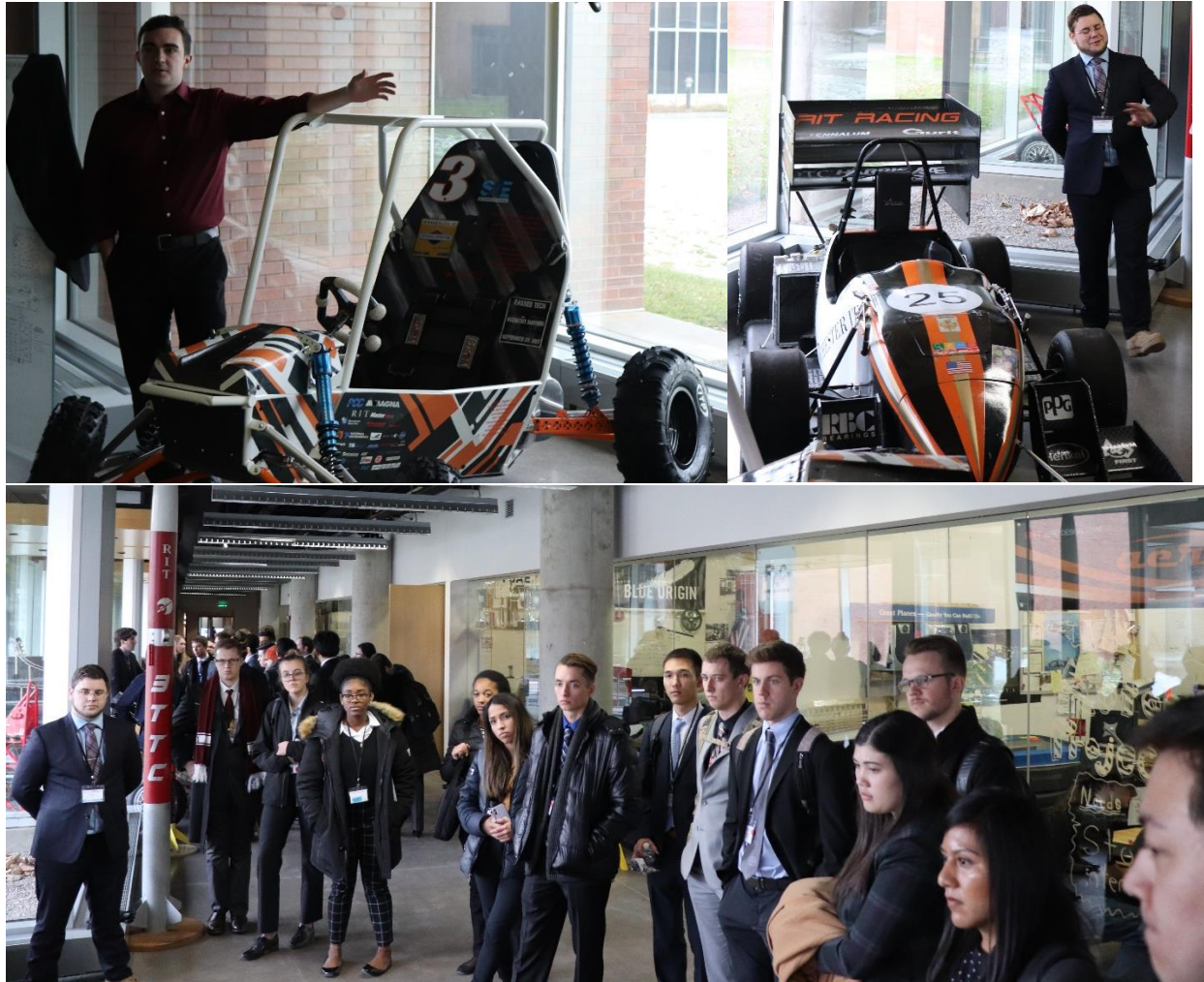
Convention Planning Meeting with Wylie McDonald leading the discussion.

The mechanical engineering faculty staffed the Nano-Bio Interface, Autonomous Robotics, Respiratory Technologies, Bioinspired Systems Engineering, and Thermal Analysis & Microfluidics labs. Lab tour groups numbered 15 convention attendees and each lab presented materials they work on for 20 minutes. Every available slot on the lab tours were filled.



Top to Bottom. The Nano-Bio Interface Lab, the Thermal Analysis & Microfluidics Lab, and the Autonomous Robotics Lab.

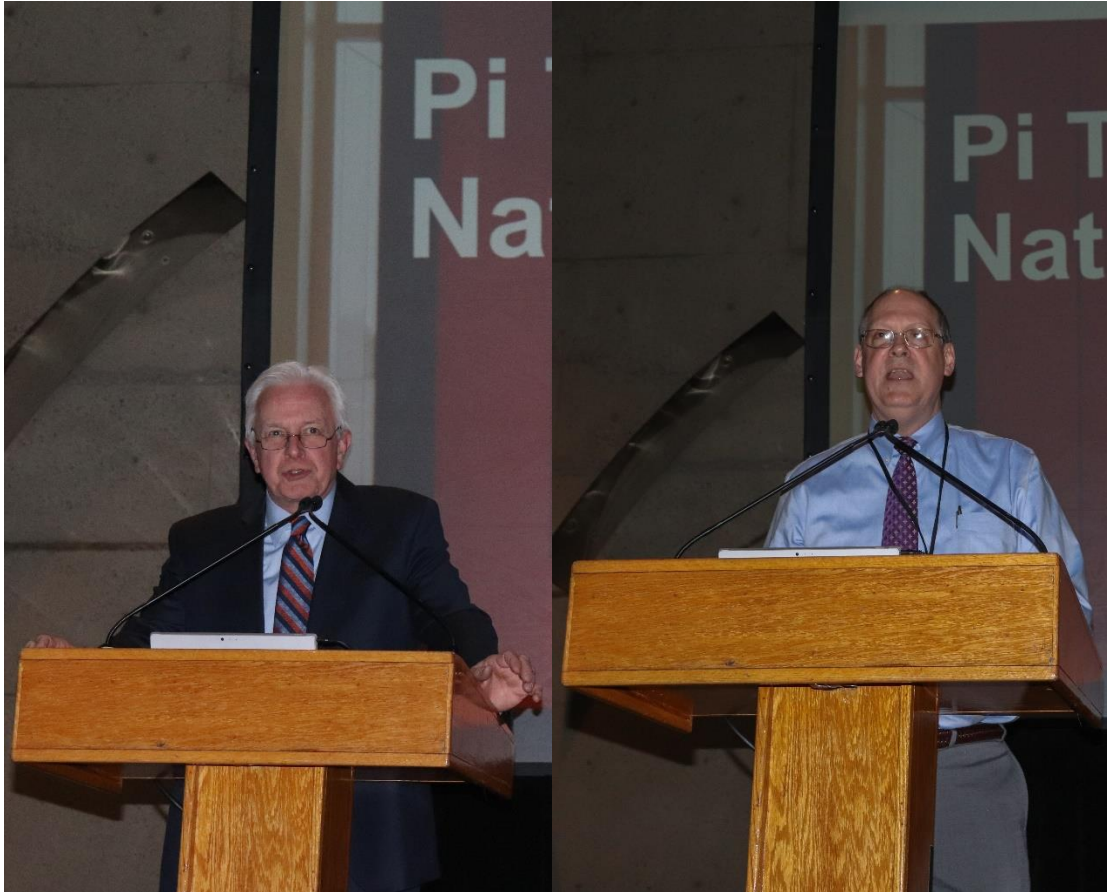
Student volunteers from The Electric Vehicle Team (EVT), Formula, Baja, and Hotwheelz presented their work to convention attendees during 15 minute presentations. The Kate Gleason College of Engineering takes pride in the dedication shown by performance team members both in and out of the classroom.



Engineering Performance Teams, Baja (left) and Hotwheelz (right) present some of their work.

The 99th National Convention Saturday Dinner began at 6pm in the Davis Room. President Darryl opened the dinner with an address, recognizing the 2019 ASME awardees. The prestigious awards recognize outstanding individuals for achievements in Mechanical Engineering. Dr. Jesse Capeceletra won the Gold Medal Award. Dr. Yong Zhu won the Gustus L. Larson Memoria Award. Dr. Pradeep Sharma won the Charles Russ Richards Award. After the awards, ASME President, Richard Laudanot, gave some remarks on the importance of ethics in engineering. Moving forward, we recommend beginning the served dinner earlier in the program.

After a served dinner, the National Board presented the chapter awards and presided over our chapter's (Rochester Delta Pi) initiation. Both keynote speakers, Tom Peeples Jr. and Mike Field were initiated as honorary members of the organization. After initiation, Mike Field took the stage for his presentation "Inflection Points" which centered on "Professional Development in Leadership Roles". After an informative address, Mike took questions from the audience. University of Illinois in Chicago presented some brief slides on the 100th National Convention and President Darryl officially closed the convention.



ASME President, Richard Laudnat (Left) and PTS VP Chris Wilson (Right)



Initiates of Pi Tau Sigma for the 99th National Convention. Tom Peeples Jr. (right) and Mike Field (left from Tom) joined as honorary members.



Mike Field's Inflection Points Keynote Address



The Rochester Delta Pi Chapter of Pi Tau Sigma

Students over 21 attended Radio Social for one final social gathering. We rented out several bowling alley lines allowing attendees unlimited free bowling (and free shoe rentals). The official word from Radio Social when hosting an official event, is no members over the age of 21 could attend.



Radio Social Saturday night social activity.

We apologize to all attendees who were not satisfied with the continental breakfast, who were unable to attend a lab tour because of full capacity, and who were unable to attend Radio Social. We want to thank everyone for attending the 99th National Convention at RIT. We look forward to traveling to the University of Illinois in Chicago for the 100th National Convention.