

## A letter from the President

Dear Pi Tau Sigma Chapter Members, Officers and Faculty Advisor:

It's my great pleasure to welcome you to our website and to wish you have a happy new year. I'm very excited to begin my second year as the President of Pi Tau Sigma. In 2008, we will also welcome a new Secretary/Treasurer of PTS, Professor Alex Moutsoglou of South Dakota State University. As Dr. Moutsoglou begins his tenure, the members of the Board of Directors also wish to thank Professor Farrokh Mistree for his 12 years of dedicated service to PTS.

It's a great time to be a Mechanical Engineer. Throughout the United States, ME programs have witnessed tremendous growth in enrollment. According to the American Society of Engineering Education, ME programs graduated more students with BS degrees than any other engineering discipline. The National Association of Colleges and Employers ranked Mechanical Engineering as the 2<sup>nd</sup> most in-demand discipline for 2008. Students and employers are recognizing that Mechanical Engineering provides an excellent foundation for leadership in the future.

By now you all of you should be up-to-date with reports and transferring of names and addresses of officers to Professor Moutsoglou.

We'd like to give you a few updates and challenges:

1. The annual **Convention to be hosted by Georgia Tech on February 15 –17, 2008** should prove to be a stimulating and rewarding event. The Georgia Tech hosts have scheduled a number of Saturday afternoon events intended to be of interest to the attendees. These events are highlighted by the Career and Graduate School fair and the panel discussion on the topic "Engineering Your Success: Why the Early Years Matter." In addition there will be a distinguished group of industrial and academic representatives who will be delivering talks at the luncheons and at the convention banquet on Saturday evening. Plan for an arrival by 5 pm on Friday, February 15th. The convention business is scheduled to end by 11:30 on Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.
2. Make the initiation experience an important one for your chapter, recognizing both scholarship and service. Many chapters include an 8 to 10 week period for pledges to be involved in outreach activities, services to the department, and other activities. Chapters are expected to have two initiations per academic year and to report all names and to transfer dues to the office of Professor Moutsoglou.
3. The category of "honorary member" is now reserved for special individuals, selected and approved by a local chapter, on the basis of successful achievements in mechanical engineering. (This could be a leader and distinguished engineer in industry generally at a level of Vice President or higher.).
4. There is now a category of "honorary faculty member" that allows a chapter to recognize a faculty member (full, assistant or associate) who is not a Pi Tau Sigma member, but a special supporter of the organization. (This could be a faculty advisor.).
5. A chapter may appoint as "honor affiliates" sophomores with a declared major in mechanical engineering and a scholastic ranking above 10% of their class. Honor affiliates have voice and vote, except for the voting on new members, and are expected to attend general meetings

and to participate in special activities. They would not be members, but simply designated as honor affiliates of the local chapter. They would lose that designation in lack of participation, or by losing their academic 10 percentile ranking. There would be no fee for them, nor certificates. However, their names should be listed in the chapter's annual reports. This alternative should be a big boost for small chapters in developing new officers and having a critical mass of participants.

Pi Tau Sigma is an exciting organization. Allow me to remind you of our core values:

- Integrity: soundness of character and ethical conduct
- Service: serving the mechanical engineering profession and the community
- Leadership: being foremost and fostering initiative through example in a professional manner

I congratulate all of you on your academic performance and thank you for your strong commitment to the core values of Pi Tau Sigma.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mun Young Choi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mun Young Choi