



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
PI sigma PI
Minority Academic Engineering Society
"PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE"

Description of Events 2020-2021

"Pi Sigma Pi strives to unite and increase the number of minority engineering students who succeed academically, lead professionally and contribute passionately to their communities."



Pi Sigma Pi Minority Academic Engineering Society

The University of Texas at Austin ♦ Cockrell School of Engineering

Overview

HISTORY

In the summer of 1973, a small group of minority engineering students founded Pi Sigma Pi Minority Academic Engineering Society at The University of Texas at Austin in an effort to unite fellow minority engineers and support them in their academic and professional endeavors. It was the first and only organization of its kind in the Cockrell School of Engineering, and it remained so for nearly ten years. At that point, the UT chapters of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) and the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) were founded and Pi Sigma Pi became the umbrella organization for both groups. In 1994, Pi Sigma Pi, NSBE, and SHPE became three separate entities. However, Pi still serves as the premier organization for the unity of all minority engineers at UT Austin.

MISSION STATEMENT

Pi Sigma Pi Minority Academic Engineering Society strives to unite and increase the number of underrepresented minority engineering students who succeed *academically*, lead *professionally*, and contribute *passionately* to their communities.

Vision Statement

Pi Sigma Pi Minority Academic Engineering Society has a vision to empower its members through academia to become influential leaders, contributors, and innovators.



Pi Sigma Pi Board of Directors for 2020-2021

Elected Officers

President: [Alé Moreno](#), 4th year Environmental Engineering

Vice President Internal: [Andre Rodriguez](#), 4th year Mechanical Engineering

Vice President External: [Eduardo Hernandez](#), 3rd year Aerospace Engineering

Secretary: [Alyssa Garza](#), 3rd year Aerospace Engineering

Treasurer: [Fernando Martinez](#), 4th year Mechanical Engineering

Academic Excellence Coordinator: [John Acabado](#), 5th year Architectural Engineering

Appointed Officers

Community Service Coordinator: [Oddie Garcia](#), 4th Mechanical Engineering

Social Coordinator: [Angel Hernandez](#), 4th year Chemical Engineering

Social Coordinator: [Caitlin Dubay](#), 2nd year Mechanical Engineering

Athletics Director: [Emma Louis](#), 2nd year Mechanical Engineering

Pre-College Outreach Chair: [Johan Gonzalez](#), 4th year Aerospace Engineering

First Year in Pi Chair: [Enrique Velasquez Morquecho](#), 3rd year Mechanical Engineering

Corporate Liaison: [Alex Martinez](#), 3rd year Aerospace Engineering

Corporate Liaison: [Christian Douglas](#), 3rd year Civil Engineering



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Publicity Chair: [Calista Asher](#), 2nd year Architectural Engineering

Media Chair: [Juan Garcia](#), 3rd year Aerospace Engineering

Advisor

Academic Advisor: [Shawntal Brown](#), Equal Opportunity in Engineering Program

Contact Us

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Annual Events

Notice: Due to COVID-19, all events will be hosted virtually out of the safety for our members

General Meetings Pi Sigma Pi (PSP) hosts seven general meetings throughout the school year, three in the fall semester and four in the spring. The Pi officer board uses these general meetings to provide members with current information on Pi-NSBE-SHPE, the Cockrell School of Engineering and campus-wide events, while encouraging interaction with corporate representatives and fellow members. Members are informed of the resources available to help them succeed academically, such as free one-on-one tutoring, our online test bank, and peer mentoring information. Our average attendance is around 75 people at each in-person meeting.

3.0 Dinners Pi Sigma Pi members who receive a 3.0 GPA or higher from the previous semester or who have maintained a cumulative 3.0 GPA or higher are rewarded with an invitation to a dinner to recognize their achievements. Typically supported by corporate partners, industry representatives are invited to attend the dinner and network with our members. The 3.0 dinner encourages students to attain and maintain a high GPA throughout the year.

PSP Kick-off, Ladies Night, and Pi Day These three events each offer the opportunity for corporate representatives to connect with Pi members in a social, interpersonal environment. At each event, corporate representatives are welcome to give a presentation about their company and answer questions. They are then invited to network with our members through our scheduled activities. Past activities include water balloon fights, relay races, self-defense courses, roller-skating, and video-gaming. Moving forward, events will be altered for an online environment. PSP Kick-off is an event hosted annually to kick off the school year. Both current and prospective members are introduced to the year's upcoming events, followed by team-building activities afterward. Ladies' Night provides members with a social outing to empower and celebrate women in engineering with an opportunity to meet successful female professional engineers and faculty. Pi day is March 14th and is celebrated on the closest Friday every year with a joint community service and social event; corporate representatives are invited to help members give back to the community while networking in a casual setting.

Lunch and Learns, Corporate Tours and Corporate Socials These events allow our members to hear representatives' present topics that can contribute to their leadership and professional development. It is a great way for our members to get to know companies and their representatives in a smaller setting. Lunch and learns provide the opportunity for members to listen to a company representative talk about leadership or professional development.



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Corporate tours provide members the opportunity to tour and witness first-hand the company's facilities. Corporate Socials allow members to network with corporate representatives in a fun professional environment. At these events, members are given the chance to ask any questions they may have about the industry. Events in the past have included Top Golf, go-karting, and mini-golfing. Average attendance is about 15 people.

YES/LTE Day Young Engineers and Scientists (YES) Day and Liberation Through Education (LTE) Day are outreach events hosted at the end of every semester. Middle school students are invited to visit the Cockrell School of Engineering at UT Austin to learn about various STEM Fields and to receive information about the importance of a higher education. Student volunteers teach middle schools about the different majors in engineering and engage them in an engineering challenge competition. YES Day and LTE Day are designed to excite young students about engineering with a hands-on approach and motivate them to pursue a college education.

Community Service, Socials & Athletic Events The purpose of these events is to provide members with a relaxed social atmosphere, while bonding, developing teamwork skills, and giving back to our community. The friendships that are formed during these events are valuable for the development of a support system that will carry them throughout the year. Members will meet new people and participate in various friendly competitions. Pi Sigma Pi members work hard throughout the academic year, so our events are designed to provide them with an enjoyable break and leave them with memorable experiences.

Pi Study Nights Weekly study nights provide an evening for members of SHPE/NSBE/Pi (SNaP) to come together and study in a comfortable setting. Members have a friendly and fun atmosphere where they can enjoy a sense of community at the university while developing a stronger academic foundation. In addition to the tutors we provide, study groups formed at the Pi Study Nights help our members develop effective and efficient study habits with others. The purpose of study nights is to create an academic family that allows our members to study, grow and succeed together. Snacks are also provided to stimulate the mind and encourage members to strive for academic excellence. We serve an average of 40 students each Monday.

Mindful Moments Biweekly events for members of Pi to come together for positive mental health activities, meditation, and discussions. Hosted by the Academic Excellence chair, our members will have a safe and welcoming environment for students to destress and talk about issues that affect our member's well-being and daily-life over activities like guided meditation and painting. Industry representatives are invited to join us in the activities and provide insight on mental wellness in the workplace. PSP stresses the importance of living a healthy student life, which includes balancing your physical, mental, and social well-being.