



The Omicronicle

*Theta Tau Omicron
The University of Iowa
Fall 2015*

Regent

Looking back at my final semester as Regent, I am given an opportunity to reflect on the Omicron Chapter. A group of people that, I am proud to say, have truly become my family. From my Freshman Year of joining to my final semester Senior Year, this chapter has undergone so many ups and downs but somehow still continues to grow.

Over the past 3 years, the chapter has overcome losing large numbers of people due to a primarily older chapter, overcome a declining morale and overcome a decrease in overall participation. Every committee has increased involvement, our numbers are the highest

they've been in the past 5 years and we have become an organization that the College of Engineering now feels that they can depend on.

Through these successes we have been able to hold a larger Homecoming Pig Roast, volunteer at multiple Habitat for Humanity events, recruit a new class of 11 members, attend larger brotherhood events and work side by side with the college's Professional Development Department to develop our members to be successful engineers in the work force. The one thing I am most proud of this semester, is that that almost every committee chair is a younger and newer member. These brothers were able to learn exactly what to do with their position and add to the growth of the chapter.

With all of these changes and growth from when I first joined, I am happy to step down and allow Tyler Harken to now take over as Regent. With his new board and committee chairs, I am excited to see where this chapter will go. Congratulations to our newest board!

In H&T,

Sailahari Ponnaluri



Regent: Tyler Harken

Vice Regent: Cecilia Wolf

Scribe: Annabel Seeling

Inner Guard: Jerald Lombardo

Outer Guard: Anda Shi

Marshall/Risk Management: Sailahari Ponnaluri

Alumni Relations: Renae Kurpius

Philanthropy: Athena Nicklaus

Rush Pledge: Anna Seydel and Emily Moore

Brotherhood: Carrie Lindberg

Fundraising: Tyler Chlystun and Samir Khoda

Marketing: Nicole Tatro

Professional Development: Riley Deutsch

Alumni Relations

This semester was a success for the Alumni Relations Committee. We hosted our annual Pig Roast on October 10th before the homecoming football game where Iowa defeated Illinois 29-20. This year's Pig Roast had the highest attendance we've had yet, with over 20 active members and alumni in attendance.



We were recently contacted by the granddaughter of one of our chapter's first members. She provided us with the photo adjacent of members of our chapter in front of the Old Capitol building. This spring we are hoping to plan more events for the alumni to participate in and to help our alumni and active members to socialize and to build and maintain stronger connections with each other.



Pictured: Some of the earliest members of our fraternity around 1925 provided by the granddaughter of Henry W. Fink. Fink majored in Chemical Engineering while at Iowa and can be seen in the back row on the far right.

Brotherhood

This semester has been very busy for our chapter. In September, we competed in a kickball tournament as a part of the Late Night Intramural Series. While we lost our first game, we had a ton of fun hanging out and competing together. Shortly after, we took a field trip to Wilson's Apple Orchard where we got our fill of apples, apple cider and apple doughnuts.



In early October, we gathered together to watch the Iowa vs. Iowa State rival game with a lot of delicious food and friends. Following our Thanksgiving break, we also enjoyed our first Bros-giving potluck and holiday movie night. These events, along with many spontaneous

dinners and study sessions have brought us closer together as a chapter.

Professional Development

This past semester the Professional Development Committee worked very hard to keep our chapter up to date with the latest tips and tricks, whether it was posting different articles online, hosting presentations at meetings, inviting companies to come speak with chapter, or even talking one on one with fellow brothers when advice was sought.



As with every semester, our biggest event was the Professional Development Luncheon. This semester we decided to spice things up a little. Hosting the event at Blackstone Iowa City for a brunch buffet was an enormous success! We had about 10 company representatives join us this event, which is typical, but we are always looking for more! The morning was filled with good food, great company, and much knowledge was gained. The Professional Development Committee is so excited to see one of our committee members step up as committee head this upcoming Spring Semester, and we can't wait to see what is in store. Stay tuned!

Philanthropy

Last semester the Philanthropy committee served the community by helping build a home for a family in need and working the ReStore at Habitat for Humanity, raising money and awareness for pediatric cancer at the Halloween Hawk Walk, and volunteering time and dressing up to entertain the youth of the community at the Creepy Campus Crawl. This semester we will be dancing and volunteering at the Big Event for Dance Marathon, competing in the Tropical Triathlon that benefits Dance Marathon, walking for Relay for Life, and participating in Dodgeball for Dreams.



Rush Pledge

This fall began with a week of rush events. These events included informational sessions, Airliner pizza and Buffalo Wild Wings meet and greets for the potential pledges to get the chance to meet and socialize with our members. These events were a great success. At the end of rush we conducted interviews for the first time ever to help us decide who to give bids to. This worked out very well and allowed us to have a better gauge of the interest and intent of those rushing.



Overall, our chapter had a very busy, and successful fall semester. We could not be where we are today without the continued support of our donors. If you would like to contribute to our organization and help us to continue to maintain and promote our professional and fraternal development, you can send donations to:

The University of Iowa
3100 Seamans Center for the Engineering Arts and
Sciences
Iowa City, IA 52242

Following handing out bids, we held weekly meetings for the pledge class to learn about our fraternity and to get to know each other better. We also had three rounds of PAABB (Pledge Active Alumni Brotherhood Bonding) events where groups of three pledges were paired with three active members and met up together to hang out and get to know each other better. The pledges held a pledge event at Forbidden Planet Pizzeria & Video Arcade and it was a big success.

Please make checks payable to Theta Tau. We greatly appreciate your support.



At the end of the pledge process, 11 new members were initiated into our fraternity.

Fundraising

This fall we put together a fundraiser that sold and distributed University of Iowa College of Engineering sweatpants. The fundraiser was a huge success, and we raised ~\$400 for the chapter! We are also in the process of putting together Buffalo Wild Wings and Yotopia fundraisers for the spring semester. We hope to raise even more money so that the chapter can continue to have professional development, brotherhood, and other events.