

The New York Chapter of Keramos

New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University



Annual Report
2012-2013

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I. Advisor & President Summary

For the 2012-2013 school year the New York State chapter of Keramos has been involved in many different successful events. These events consisted of outreach programs, engineering competitions, and community involvement. In addition to these events, we were also able to send many of our members to MS&T in Pittsburgh this past year. The conference was a great success for our student members as they were able to gain valuable knowledge from the various presentations. We also participated in the mug drop contest for the first time in many years. Although the students did not manage to place, they learned many useful techniques that will be used in next year's competition.

Over the past couple years participation in the chapter has dwindled. Through the guidance of the new executive board, we have been able to spark new life into our chapter. With plans to revise the chapter's constitution, there are many new positive possibilities. For example, the start of weekly study nights this past year was a great success. With these study nights, the younger students were able to have an additional resource to help them through their rigorous course loads. Aside from that, the overall increase in participation of the members alone was a great help to the success of the chapter. We plan to use this positive momentum to further increase our activities in the following year.

Overall, there looks to be a bright future ahead for our chapter, and we plan to continue on with the success of last year's progress.

Advisor

Walter Schulze

President

Eric Tower

II. Annual Plan

For the 2013-2014 academic year, the New York Chapter of Keramos plans to redraft our chapter's constitution, increase chapter involvement, and raise funds. By redrafting the chapter constitution, we plan to set a minimum required attendance to Keramos and bring other policies up to date. By setting a required attendance for Keramos meetings, we hope to raise our fraternity involvement in university and national functions. Currently, the main method of generating funds is through the two vending machines. These are owned and operated by the chapter. We wish to extend our fundraising efforts beyond this so we can increase our attendance to national conventions such as MS&T.

III. Officers

Incoming officers (2013-2014)

President

Eric Tower
1781 PCC, Alfred NY 14802



Vice President

Bradford Divine
595 PCC, Alfred NY 14802



Secretary

Peter Benoit
272 PCC, Alfred NY 14802



Treasurer

David Hepp
909 PCC, Alfred NY 14802



Herald

Peter Sowinski
1704 PCC, Alfred NY 14802



Outgoing officers (2012-2013)

President

Catherine Sahi

Vice President

Russell Pfohl

Secretary

Samuel Miller

Treasurer

James Whyel

Herald

Peter Saunders

IV. Active Members

Undergraduate:

David Baker
Stephen Barton
Peter Benoit
Kaye Bortle
Matthew Bushong*
James Cahill
Simon Chon
Patrick Cigno
Bernadette Cladek*
Elizabeth Clark
Ryan Dempsey
Devyn DeVantier
Bradford Divine*
Claire Dvorak
Kathryn Esham
Alyssa Fuller*
Seth Fuller*
Ana Fredell
Andres Garcia
Matt Girolmo
Katelyn Glass
Laura Haas
Kasey Hanson
Ryan Heckman*
Audrey Hepp
David Hepp
Cheyne Hoag
Eric Jelen*
Rigel Johnson
Kevin Keefe
Timothy Keenan

Alexander Knox
Patrick Kreski
Alec Ladonis*
Fred Langenstein*
Stephen LiVoti*
Nicole Lobur*
Sean Locker*
Ryan Mahon*
Dianne Mattar
Kyle McDevitt
Tracie McGinnity
Sam Miller
Max Modugno*
Ryan Musson
Mark Naylor
Jordan Otminski
Andrew Parsons
Corine Pettit
Russell Phfol
Stephen Rooney
Evan Roush
Catherine Sahi
Peter Saunders
Samantha Schneider-
Pollack
Peter Sowinski
Artemas Steere
Emma Storr
Eric Teller
Theodore Tomczak*
Eric Tower
Alex Turner*

James Whyel

Graduate:

Jasper Wright
Kathryn Russell
Jordan Patric
James Kelly
Brittany Higgins
Braeden Clark

Faculty:

Vasanthia Amarakoon
William Carty
Alexis Clare
Alastair Cormack
Doreen Edwards
Andrew Eklund
Herbert Giesche
Matthew Hall
William LaCourse
Garrett McGowan
Nathan Mellott
Scott Misture
Steven Pilgrim
Arun Varshneya

* - New Inductee

V. Treasurer's Report

This year due to some trouble with our bank, the actual expenditure of the chapter is unknown. We recently transferred banks and the online statements have been lost with no way of tracing them. We currently have a total balance of \$795.

The chapter's main source of funds comes from the two soda pop vending machines, owned and operated by the chapter, placed in the McMahan engineering building and Scholes library. The two machines typically sell between 180 and 200 cans of soda pop every two weeks. At the current selling price, approximately \$0.40 per can is generated, and the majority of this profit is used to purchase more cans of soda pop. The profits of the vending machines have not been deposited during this academic year. Approximately \$200 in coins has accumulated between the two machine's lockboxes, with paper bills being used for the purchase of more soda pop.

Chapter expenditures include food during meetings, the potential inductee luncheon, hot dog day booth, and "play with clay" events.

VI. Chapter Activities

The chapter meetings were held weekly. We often talked about participating in demos and fun events to get more members involved. This year we decided to increase activity in the chapter by having weekly study nights after the meetings. They were very successful with and often had a large turnout. Many of our chapter members found these to be very helpful, because the older members were able to pass on their knowledge and teach the younger members.

Two inductions were held this year with one in the fall and the other in the spring. Before we selected the inductees, we held a get-to-know-you luncheon with pizza and snacks. This was a great opportunity for the potential inductees to get learn about Keramos's history and why it is such a beneficial fraternity to be a part of. Once the new inductees were selected, we held the actual ceremony. After the ceremony was completed, everyone enjoyed a pasta dinner made by the current members. Both inductions went very well with 9 members being inducted in the fall and 8 being inducted in the spring.

We also held an engineering barbeque in the fall. It consisted of grilling hotdogs and hamburgers with the additions of various side dishes. There was a large turnout and the hungry masses ate all of the food rapidly. It gave the students an opportunity to mingle with current Keramos members. This was an especially beneficial event for the freshmen.

This year we presented a liquid nitrogen demonstration to an invited group of top ranking high school girls. The demonstration was very typical and consisted of breaking a racket ball, freezing marshmallows, and other various fun tricks.

The first time in many years we had a fundraising booth at our annual Hot Dog Day Festival. The booth included a game where the player had to throw a pong ball into various ceramic pot pieces which were made by art students at Alfred University. If they made it in they would receive a prize. We also sold salt dough pendants and comical engineering t-shirts at the booth.

One night we had a play with clay event in which more artistically inclined students taught the others how to throw on a wheel. This was a great event because it gave many people a chance to do something new. It was an overall great success with a large turnout of 15 people participating.

To follow tradition, Keramos continued to give awards at the Alfred University honors convocation. As usual, the recipients were nominated by and voted on by Keramos members and a plaque was donated by Keramos for the John F. McMahon Ceramic Teaching Excellence Award. This year's awards are outlined below:

- John F. McMahon Ceramic Teaching Excellence Award
 - Dr. Nathan Mellott
- Dr. Richard C. Martin Outstanding Senior Scholarship
 - Catherine Sahi
- Dr. Richard C. Martin Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award
 - Dimple Pradhan
- Advancement of Women in Engineering Award
 - Devyn DeVantier

Congratulations to this year's winners!

VII. Summary of Participation

<u>Activity</u>	<u># of times</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>People</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Meetings	11	1	15	120	
Vending Machine	10	1	3	40	(Regular maintenance)
Officer Meetings	4	1	5	16	
Demos	2	4	4	32	
MS&T	1	4	3	12	
Study Nights	21	2	8	336	
Fall Inductions	1	8	2	16	(Planning)
	1	3	20	60	(Ceremony)
Spring Inductions	1	4	2	8	(Planning)
	1	3	20	60	(Ceremony)
Engineering Barbeque	1	7	6	42	(Shopping and Cooking)
	1	4	6	24	(Event)
Engineering Week	1	2	4	8	(Planning)
	1	4	4	16	(Set-Up & Event)

Total: 790

Active Members - 61

Average Hours of Participation Per Active Member **12.95**