

## Annual Report – 2009 to 2010

The Rutgers Chapter of Keramos had a productive 2009-2010 school year. In this year we hosted and facilitated a number of social and academic events, along with providing support to attend academic events. We also strengthened bonds between the students and faculty of the Rutgers Materials Science and Engineering department and assisted in solving curriculum problems.

One of the main goals of the Rutgers chapter this year was to provide the students in our department with a more solid connection between them and the faculty and administration of the department itself. We accomplished this in a variety of ways – first, Keramos interviewed a variety of faculty members in our department, each of which we felt gave an interesting angle to both the major and the life of a faculty member. We published three of these extensive interviews near the end of the Spring semester to all of the students and administration of our department. Additionally, Keramos once again hosted an annual holiday party for students and faculty to attend, which was a great success.

Keramos continued this year in assisting the MSE department in recruitment drives and freshman meet days. We participated in Rutgers Engineering Majors Night, where freshman can meet representatives from all of the engineering departments before choosing a major concentration, as well as in the Engineering Open House during Rutgers Day, where we spread the word to people not yet attending Rutgers. Finally, many Keramos members attended our department's "MSE Night," where interested freshman can visit the department and get a personal tour of our labs and can speak to many of our professors one-on-one.

Keramos also assisted the department this year with a curriculum overhaul. Since changing from a Ceramics Engineering to a Materials Engineering department, much of the curriculum has yet to have been revamped. The Keramos membership collected notes on every core class required in our curriculum, and collectively created a message to the department about the parts of the curriculum that could be updated to more fully represent the breadth and roundness of materials knowledge now available.

On a final note, the Keramos-designed information booklet that was created last year has had almost 2,000 copies distributed throughout this school year, and has proven to be a valuable aid in recruiting new freshman to the department.