



# SIGMA PI SIGMA

The physics honor society

## Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award Proposal

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| <b>Project Proposal Title</b>        | Usciences Future Physicists |
| <b>Name of School</b>                | University of The Sciences  |
| <b>Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Number</b> | 5619                        |
| <b>Total Amount Requested</b>        | \$500                       |

### Abstract

The University of the Sciences Sigma Pi Sigma ( $\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$ ) induction is of the highest honors our physics majors can receive and is treated as such. A dinner will be hosted for all inductees and members. A guest speaker will give a presentation as well as alumni will be invited to speak.

# **Proposal Statement**

## **Overview of Proposed Project**

This induction carries a lot of significance not only those inducted this year but those inducted previously as this will be the first in person induction since the COVID-19 pandemic hit. A dinner will be hosted in April in which all SPS and Sigma Pi Sigma members as well as alumni will be invited to attend. For those who cannot attend we will also look into streaming the event over zoom so all who want to attend have the opportunity to do so. During the dinner we are hopeful to allow alumni to reconnect with the professors as well as other SPS and Sigma Pi Sigma members. Along with the alumni, we are hopeful to get a guest speaker from the physics community to be in attendance to address the inductees as well as to speak on how physics has impacted them.

The theme of this will event be centered around perseverance and its importance not only to physics but life in general. With the devastating effect of this COVID-19 pandemic these inductees showed great perseverance to continue to excel in both academics and further promote physics throughout the community. To illuminate this theme, the guest speaker will touch on not only how physics has impacted them but how their perseverance through a hardship made them not only a better physicist but helped them in all assets of their life.

The major goal of this event is to provide a unique experience to reward those inducted into Sigma Pi Sigma for their hard work. The idea of having a prominent physicist guest speak has been used in the past and was viewed as a very rewarding experience. This provides not just the inductees but all SPS and Sigma Pi Sigma members to experience this unique opportunity. Beyond just the guest speaker, having the alumni come back to see the inducted students further builds on this unique experience. This helps promote the chapter to those just joining the university as it exemplifies that even though you have graduated you are still an integral part of the chapter.

## **How Proposed Project Meets the Purpose of the Award**

The purpose of this award is to build awareness of Sigma Pi Sigma in the local community as well as throughout the physics community. That is exactly what this event will do, specifically because of those who will be in attendance. Firstly, by having the alumni return to see the induction as well as reconnect with the professors and other students it will reinforce how important the Sigma Pi Sigma chapter is. Since the alumni have moved throughout both the local and physics community this reinforcement of the importance of the Sigma Pi Sigma chapter to them will be reflected by raising awareness to their peers. Secondly, by having a guest speaker who is a part of the physics community it will directly raise awareness of the importance of Sigma Pi Sigma not only to them, but the community.

As a by-product of having both the guest speaker and alumni return for the induction ceremony it will encourage the induction of new members. Through this very rewarding and unique experience more students will want to be accepted into Sigma Pi Sigma as they will now be aware of how rewarding it is to be inducted. This event will also create a greater sense of pride within the chapter and through that will encourage the members to run more inter-chapter activities and a desire to run fundraisers to keep the chapter running smoothly.

## **Plan for Carrying Out Proposed Project**

The personnel involved in running this event and monitoring the progress will be the SPS elective board members as well as the SPS advisor. The elective board members and SPS advisor will be in charge of planning out when the event will take place, where the event will be held, planning where the meal will come from, reaching out to the alumni, and getting a guest speaker to attend the event.

To ensure there is satisfactory attendance at the event the SPS executive board will market the event to all SPS members multiple times throughout the semester. An emphasis will be placed on the unique ability to hear from a guest speaker as well as see alumni to produce excitement for the event. The communication to the members will take place in the form of emails, as well as will be brought up each time at our monthly meetings.

The overall expected attendance will be broken down into inductees, other members, alumni, faculty, and guests. There are normally four to six new inductees each year as well as an expected four to six SPS and other Sigma Pi Sigma members to be in attendance. All alumni who can be reached will be contacted about returning for this induction and based off previous numbers around five are expected to attend. Furthermore, all physics faculty will be invited and based off previous numbers three to five are expected to attend and finally a guest speaker will be invited. To keep the event as professional as possible and to keep the experience unique the event will not be open to the public except for 2 family members of each inductee. This results in an expected attendance of around 20-30 people and will ensure that the event is professional and unique.

## **Project Timeline**

The initial invitations will be sent out before the end of February and reminders will be sent out at the end of March. A final reminder will be sent out a week prior to the event with information on how to access the event online if you cannot attend. Each invitation will state when and where the event will take place, the appropriate attire to wear, and for those to be inducted how many guests they may invite. A guest speaker will be booked before the invitations are sent to give them ample time to accept and prepare for the event. At the end of February and beginning of March a final venue as well as what food will be served will be selected.

## **Project Evaluation Plan**

Our success will be based on a few key components including: the number of attendees compared to previous years, a short survey by those in attendance of how the event went and finally the feedback of the guest speaker. These are the best indicators of success as by having more attendees that shows we were successful in our recruitment process. The short survey allows us to evaluate how the event was perceived by those who attended and what we can do better in future events for them. Finally, the feedback from the guest speaker will give us insight into how the event was perceived from their perspective and what changes may need to be made in future events for the speakers. Overall, these components will allow us to determine if the event was a success and accomplished our purpose for the event.

## Budget Justification

The listed budget contains the expected expenses for the Sigma Pi Sigma induction. The project award will be used as to fund food and decorations as well as a plaque of appreciation for the guest speaker. The breakdown will be as follows; the expected number of attendees is around 20-30 the overall cost of food assuming \$15 per plate is between \$300-450. The remaining amount of money from the project award will be used to purchase the plaque of appreciation for the guest speaker averaging around \$100. Further fundraising through SPS will need to be conducted to cover the other costs such as the reserving a venue and decorating. These expenses will ensure that the goals of the event are met as a high-quality speaker is the main attraction to build excitement and inspire more inductees into to Sigma Pi Sigma. Furthermore, reserving a venue and decorating it as well as providing food will create an overall professional and enjoyable environment for all in attendance, which will further ensure that the goals of this event are met.