Constitutional Amendment

Ballots Due: May 2, 2018

For more details, visit:
https://www.spsnational.org/about/governance/national-council/nominations-elections
The following amendment to the SPS and Sigma Pi Sigma Constitution has been proposed by the Governance Committee to the SPS Executive Committee and presented to the National Council. This amendment was discussed during the SPS National Council meeting, carried by the National Council on September 23, 2017, and ratified by the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Physics (AIP) on November 11, 2017. The elected representatives of National Council voted overwhelmingly in support of the proposed amendment 33-2-1, as these changes will help the functioning of the organization.

The full constitution and bylaws can be found at SPSNational and the proposed constitution changes contain the following revisions over the current version:

- Constitution language has been revised to conform to changes in the organizational structure of AIP, specifically the Board of Directors.
- Clarify SPS National communication methods
- All elected officers of SPS must be current members of the Society of Physics Students

Final approval requires a favorable vote of a majority of all the Society of Physics Students Chapters or, failing that, of two thirds of the Society of Physics Students Chapters which return a ballot within one month after ballots are mailed. We hope you can see clear to vote approve these changes, as they make the Society of Physics Students stronger and put us in agreement with AIP, which financially supports SPS and Sigma Pi Sigma.

ARTICLE III. OFFICERS

Section 1. Elective Officers

Clause 1. The elective officers of the Society shall be the President of the Council, the President of Sigma Pi Sigma, one Councilor from each of the geographic Zones, and one Associate Councilor from each of the geographic Zones. Elective officers may not serve more than two consecutive full terms on the Council in the same office. All elective officers must be current members of the Society of Physics Students.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS TO THIS CONSTITUTION

Section 1.

Amendments to this Constitution, with the exception of Articles VII and IX, may be proposed by any member of the Council, by petition endorsed by at least five percent of the Society of Physics Students Chapters, or by petition signed by at least one hundred members of the Society of Physics Students. Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the Executive Committee, through the Director of the Society of Physics Students, for presentation to the Council. Copies of a duly proposed amendment shall be sent to the Council within fifteen days after it is received by the Director of the Society of Physics Students. A duly proposed amendment shall be presented at the first Council meeting held thirty or more days after its submission to the Executive Committee. A proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Society of Physics Students Chapters for mail ballot if (a) a majority of the Council so votes or (b) it
is endorsed by at least ten percent of the Society of Physics Students Chapters or (c) it bears the signature of at least two hundred members of the Society of Physics Students. The mailing shall include a statement of the Council’s position regarding the proposed amendment. Adoption of a proposed amendment shall require (a) a favorable vote of a majority of all the Society of Physics Students Chapters or, failing that, of two thirds of the Society of Physics Students Chapters which return a ballot within one month after ballots are mailed and (b) ratification by the Governing Board of Directors of the American Institute of Physics. A ratified amendment shall become effective upon notification of the Society of Physics Students Chapters.

Section 2.

Amendments to Articles VII and IX of this Constitution may be proposed by any member of the Council, by petition endorsed by at least five percent of the Sigma Pi Sigma Chapters, or by petition signed by at least one hundred active members of Sigma Pi Sigma. Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the Executive Committee, through the Director of the Society of Physics Students, for presentation to the Council. Copies of a duly proposed amendment shall be sent to the Council within fifteen days after it is received by the Director of the Society of Physics Students. A duly proposed amendment shall be presented at the first Council meeting held thirty or more days after its submission to the Executive Committee. A proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Sigma Pi Sigma Chapters for mail ballot if (a) a majority of the Council so votes or (b) it is endorsed by at least ten percent of the Sigma Pi Sigma Chapters or (c) it bears the signature of at least two hundred active members of Sigma Pi Sigma. The mailing shall include a statement of the Council’s position regarding the proposed amendment. Adoption of a proposed amendment shall require (a) a favorable vote of a majority of all the Sigma Pi Sigma Chapters or, failing that, of two thirds of the Sigma Pi Sigma Chapters which return a ballot within one month after ballots are mailed and (b) ratification by the Governing Board of Directors of the American Institute of Physics. A ratified amendment shall become effective upon notification of the Society of Physics Students Chapters.

Adopted and as amended through November 5, 2000.

Proposed changes adopted by the SPS National Council September 23, 2017 and shown with changes in red.