



# SIGMA PI SIGMA

The physics honor society

## Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award Proposal

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Project Proposal Title	50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of ACU Physics – Sigma Pi Sigma Induction
Name of School	Abilene Christian University
Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Number	6
Total Amount Requested	\$500

### Abstract

This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the physics department at Abilene Christian University. We will host a dinner and induction for all members invited. This streamed event will allow time for alumni to share stories and tell how their lives have reflected the pillars of Sigma Pi Sigma.

The abstract should be **no more than 50 words**. The abstract should be a standalone description of the proposed project, appropriate for posting on the Sigma Pi Sigma website or publishing in *Radiations*. The abstract should be in paragraph form and should include the school name, a brief description of the proposed project, and a brief statement about the motivation for the project.

## Proposal Statement

The entire Proposal Statement should be no more than 2 pages, and organized as follows.

### **Overview of Proposed Project**

The Overview should be a more detailed description of the proposed project than the abstract.

This section should include:

- Brief description – What will the project look like?
- Goals of the project – What will the project accomplish?
- Intended audience – Who is the target audience and how many people will be impacted?
- Background and motivation – What is the context and motivation for the project? This might include a discussion of how the project builds on a previous project carried out by the chapter, where the idea came from, or how the chapter or community would benefit from this project.

This section should explain to reviewers WHAT the project is and the context in which it will be carried out.

This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the physics department at Abilene Christian University. We want to take advantage of this for our Sigma Pi Sigma induction ceremony this year. We will host a meal with all Sigma Pi Sigma members invited to join us for the induction ceremony. We will also look into possibly live streaming the event so alumni who couldn't attend can join virtually. There will be a time available for alumni to share some favorite memories and also to share accomplishments so that current students can have an idea of what they are now part of. We hope that this may act as a catalyst to reconnect with many alumni and serve as a starting point for future Sigma Pi Sigma events beyond the induction ceremonies.

The major goal of this event would be to reconnect with our alumni through this celebration of 50 years of physics at ACU. This goal will be accomplished through a larger effort on inviting alumni and also through providing a method for virtual attendance. The primary audience for this event is our Sigma Pi Sigma members which is up to 232 people. Likely many of these will be unable to attend in person, but we hope that the majority will be able to take part in some way either through the virtual event or through sending pictures and/or stories before the event or engaging with material that will be made available to them after the event.

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

This section should be a detailed description of how the project will meet one or more of the stated purposes of the award:

- Raise awareness of Sigma Pi Sigma in the local community and the physics community.

- Build community among local alumni and new Sigma Pi Sigma members.
- Add greater distinction to induction ceremonies and other chapter events.
- Increase the induction of new members.
- Encourage fundraisers for chapters and scholarship funds.
- Encourage more inter-chapter activities.
- Recognize outstanding achievement at the chapter level.

This section should explain to reviewers WHY the proposed project is worthwhile and WHY it should be funded by a Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award.

Through reconnecting with alumni this event will remind the alumni of the things that made them members in the first place and hopefully encourage them to reach out to the current students and to the communities they are part of. This event will certainly increase awareness of current students of the alumni that have gone before them and reconnect alumni with each other. This should only help communication among our members.

We hope to be able to identify alumni to represent each of the four pillars of Sigma Pi Sigma and they can read that part of the ceremony and also relate how that has happened in their life. This should provide an important personal connection to these pillars and hopefully connect the newly inducted students with these alumni. Through seeing how these things have been part of the lives of so many others the current students should be inspired to also do the same as they continue their journey.

This will also be a great opportunity to identify other alumni for honorary Sigma Pi Sigma membership. This will give alumni and faculty a chance to identify other graduates who deserve recognition for their work. We hope to identify a few new members, 2-5, to receive this honor.

This event will allow current students to share the successes of our department with alumni. This way alumni will have a chance to be involved with other parts of our SPS and Sigma Pi Sigma events that are happening on campus.

## Plan for Carrying Out Proposed Project

This section should detail the plan for carrying out the project, in bullet or paragraph form. Include, at minimum:

- Personnel - Who will be in charge of planning the event and how will progress be monitored?
- Marketing - How the project will be marketed to the target audience to ensure satisfactory participation?
- Sigma Pi Sigma member participation - How many members are likely to participate and in what capacity? Will participants be recruited from other groups as well?

This section should tell reviewers HOW the proposed project will come to fruition. Please include adequate details so that reviewers see evidence of thoughtful planning.

Personnel – SPS officers, SPS advisor, and department staff will coordinate communication with alumni and plan the details of the event.

Marketing – Through use of the alumni office and the national Sigma Pi Sigma information, we will try to connect with alumni to invite them to be part of this event.

Sigma Pi Sigma member participation – We will invite the entire set of alumni Sigma Pi Sigma membership which is around 230 people. All current student members will likely be involved which is about 10 students. It is hoped that 30-50 will attend in person and hopefully about that many more will participate virtually in some way.

## Project Timeline

This section should detail the timeline for carrying out the project. Work backwards from the project date and include key milestones and the dates by which important details needed to be finalized in order to complete the project on time.

This section should tell reviewers WHEN the planning efforts and proposed project will happen.

Initial invitations will be sent out before the end of January. A reminder will be sent out at the end of February. A final reminder with information on how to attend virtually will be sent about a week in advance of the event which will be held in the last week of March or first week of April. In the first couple weeks of March images and stories from alumni will be gathered and put together into a slideshow like product for use at the induction and to be shared with everyone afterwards.

## Project Evaluation Plan

The Project Evaluation Plan should be no more than 300 words. This section should explain how the chapter will evaluate the success of the project in meeting the goals of the award. This may be as simple as keeping accurate records or administering a short survey of participants.

Some key metrics of success might be:

- Attendance or participation numbers
- Survey results from participants
- Feedback from key participants

This section should tell reviewers HOW the chapter will evaluate whether the proposed project met one or more of the stated purposes of the award.

We will base success on two major components: the number of attendees and the amount of increased communication with the alumni. As we have not typically reached out to this audience in the past it is difficult to set a criteria we would like to reach to show that this has been successful. We hope to see in person attendance of about 30 members and hope that at least that many will attend virtually in some way either at the time of the event or after the event through engaging the material that will be posted for them to see. This will require a website of some sort to hold this information which will hopefully turn into a lasting location for our members to connect. This website can be monitored to also provide some information about engagement through this event.

## Budget Justification

The Budget Justification section should be no more than 300 words. This section should justify the expenses outlined in the Budget Proposal. For example, if the funding will be used for food and decorations for an induction event, explain how the food and decorations will help to meet the goals of the project. (The actual budget must be submitted as a separate file, created in conjunction with the “Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award Proposal Budget Template.”)

Include information about any money or supplies coming from other sources that will leverage the funding requested from Sigma Pi Sigma. Include in-kind funding and support (borrowed equipment, etc.) that will be used in carrying out the project.

The Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award Proposal Budget should tell reviewers WHAT the funds will be used to purchase. This section should explain to reviewers HOW the items listed in the budget will help accomplish the goals of the project and of the Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award more generally.

The primary requested funds would be for food costs. We expect at least 30 people will attend and hopefully more given the fact that it is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. At \$20 per person for food this would be \$600 so this already exceeds the maximum of \$500. The physics department will help cover some costs and our SPS club will cover the remaining costs and the membership fees for the new members.