

Get to Congress: Fundraising Ideas

Start raising funds now for your trip to congress.

1. Approach the student government/senate for funds.

Emphasize that it is a national meeting of physics students and professionals with top-notch speakers (list them). It is also helpful to build in a contribution by the student and the department with the proposal--say \$100 each or so.

2. Take advantage of department specific items:

- Buy textbooks for a discount and sell them to students.
- Sell lab manuals.
- Have a used book sale.
- Have a “garage sale” or silent auction of department junk. Old scientific apparatus makes fine curiosities. (You might even try selling them on e-bay!)

3. Tie fundraising in with your SPS activities:

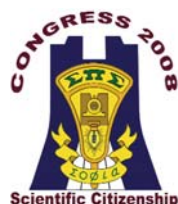
- Sell physics themed t-shirts/toys for a profit. (Not just to your SPS members!)
- Provide tutoring for a fee—especially right before exams in the freshman physics classes. (Check out an SPS chapter that does this: www.phy.ilstu.edu/~phyclub/tutoring.html)
- Host a liquid nitrogen ice cream social.

4. Don't forget about food:

- Sell donuts or other baked goods regularly in your Physics/Science building in high traffic areas. (Be sure to check with your school on the rules pertaining to this!)
- Try hosting bake sales in front of local businesses. (Don't forget to get approval from store management.)
- Sell pizza and snacks during a “study party” before big tests. (Or while you help tutor freshman students.)

5. Be Creative!:

- Try a “Rent-a-Student” Campaign with your campus community.
 - Campus Professors and Staff often need help with things during the fall months (raking leaves, washing cars, tutoring, etc.). Set aside a couple Saturday mornings and offer your services each morning for a fee.
- Have a car wash in winter, especially where they salt the roads. (Many Wal-Marts and other stores will match what you make.)



Scientific Citizenship: Connecting Physics & Society

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www.sigmapi sigma.org/congress/2008/

