



# SIGMA PI SIGMA

The physics honor society

## Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award Proposal

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<b>Project Proposal Title</b>	Saint Joseph's University Sigma Pi Sigma (ΣΠΣ) induction ceremony.
<b>Name of School</b>	Saint Joseph's University
<b>Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Number</b>	6186
<b>Total Amount Requested</b>	\$500.00

### Abstract

Saint Joseph's University Sigma Pi Sigma (ΣΠΣ) 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 to those inducted this year, but those inducted previously, as this will be the first induction of the joined chapters of Saint Joseph's University and the University of the Sciences, since the merger of both of those universities in the summer of 2022. A dinner will be hosted in April, 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 will 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 plan to get a guest speaker from the physics community to be in attendance in order to address the inductees, as well as, to speak on how physics has impacted them.

The major goal of this event is to provide a unique experience and reward those inducted into Sigma Pi Sigma honors society. The idea of having a prominent physicist guest speaker has been used in the past in both of the preexisting chapters, and was viewed as a very fruitful and inspirational experience. This provides not just the inductees but all SPS and Sigma Pi Sigma members to experience this unique annual celebration. Beyond just the guest speaker, having the alumni come back to see the inducted students further builds on this experience. The above-mentioned measures aim to help promote the chapter to those just joining the university as it exemplifies that the department's graduates, current students, professors and staff are continuously considered 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 and reconnect with the professors and other students, the event will reinforce how important the SJU Sigma Pi Sigma chapter is to the local Physics community. Since the alumni of both universities have moved throughout the local and greater 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 the event will directly raise awareness of the importance of Sigma Pi Sigma not only to the students, but to the Philadelphia Physics community as a whole. This can be achieved by a coverage of the induction ceremony by The Hawk - university's weekly newspaper.

As a by-product of having both the guest speaker and alumni return for the induction ceremony, the meeting will emphasize the honor and the distinction of 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 and prestigious 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 with great effectiveness and student engagement.

## **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 local alumni, and inviting 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 notable alumni from both departments to induce excitement for the event. The communication to the members will take place in the form of emails, group messages, as well as, will be brought up each time at our monthly meetings.

Each year on average 2 to six new members are inducted into Sigma Pi Sigma from each chapter of the two, now merged, universities, so the expected number of inductees for this year is expected to fall between 3 and 6 as well. Beyond the current members and those to be inducted this year, the attendance is expected to consist of faculty, staff, current students from the Physics department, and alumni.

## **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 for those who cannot attend in person. A guest speaker will be booked before the invitations are sent to give them ample time to prepare. At the end of February and beginning of March a final venue as well as what food to 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 provided by the guest speaker. These are the best indicators of success as a satisfactory number of attendees proves a successful recruitment process. The short survey allows evaluation of how the event was perceived by those who attended and what we can do better in future events for the members of our SPS chapter. 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 the future events for the speakers. Overall these components will allow us to determine if the event was a success and accomplished its purpose.

## **Budget Justification**

The listed budget contains the main expenses for the Sigma Pi Sigma induction. The majority of the project award will be used as payment for the guest speaker to ensure a high-quality physicist is able to speak. Further fundraising through SPS will need to be conducted to cover the other costs such as the food that is needed for the event, reserving a venue and decorating it. 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 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.