



SIGMA PI SIGMA

The physics honor society

Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award Proposal

Project Proposal Title	Alumni Dinner
Name of School	Adelphi University
Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Number	124
Total Amount Requested	\$497.75

Abstract

Our chapter of SPS would like to host a dinner welcoming our alumni back to share their experiences in Ph.D. programs, engineering programs and in their careers, with the undergraduates of Adelphi University.

Proposal Statement

Overview of Proposed Project

The purpose of the alumni dinner is to offer the undergraduate students in Adelphi's physics program a chance to talk with the alumni who were once in their shoes. Adelphi offers two avenues into the world of physics: entering into graduate school and entering into an undergraduate engineering program at Columbia. Due to the magnitude of which choice to make, the undergraduate students would greatly benefit from hearing about the experiences that the alumni have had given their choice. Our goal is to invite a wide variety of alumni such as those who have taken the Ph.D. track and the engineering track recently, as well as those who have long since graduated and entered into their careers. We will establish a video conference with those that cannot attend due to travel. The undergraduates will hear short presentations by these alumni, who describe their choices before the dinner. After the dinner the undergraduates will get a chance to talk with the alumni and ask them any questions that they have about their future decisions.

How Proposed Project Meets the Purpose of the Award

We are hosting the dinner in the hopes that we can build a community among the recent alumni and the future Sigma Pi Sigma members at Adelphi University. The alumni will offer the undergraduates advice and encouragement at the dinner and hopefully, in the future.

Plan for Carrying Out Proposed Project

The executive board of Adelphi's Physics Club will be in charge of planning the dinner. The ten or so members of Sigma Pi Sigma will also participate in the dinner either as attendees or as members of the executive board of the Physics Club. To encourage the undergraduates to come to the dinner several emails will be sent out to the members of the Physics Club as well as the other undergraduate physics students. Many of the professors in the physics department will also tell their students that they should attend the dinner. As for the alumni, many of them stay in touch with the professors in the physics department and will be called or emailed about their availability in attending the event.

Project Timeline

The dinner will be held in February so that the maximum number of undergraduate students will be able to attend because they won't have midterms or finals to worry about yet. To determine a specific date we must first get in contact with the alumni and determine which date the most alumni are available. Once we have

determined a date for the dinner, we have to reserve a room in Adelphi's University Center. Then, we must hire Lackmann food catering services to cater the event. When the event information has been finalized, we will market the event to the physics students through emails and fliers. This plan will be executed at the beginning of the spring semester on January 22, 2014.

Project Evaluation Plan

In the past we have hosted this dinner with great success. Last year when we hosted this event fifty or more people attended. So we can base our evaluation of this dinner on last years success. The dinner is successful based upon the number of undergraduate students and alumni that attend as well as how well they interact with each other. At the end of the event we will ask for feedback from the alumni and some of the undergraduate students to determine what we could do better for an alumni night in the future.

Budget Justification

The dinner is meant to foster a relationship between the undergraduate students and the alumni. There is no better way to achieve this than to have the undergraduate students and the alumni strike up conversation over a good meal. Free food is also a major incentive for the undergraduate students to take time out of their busy schedules, to listen to advice from the alumni. We expect around fifty people to come: 5 professors, 10 alumni, 30 undergraduates, 5 high school students and family.