



SIGMA PI SIGMA

The physics honor society

Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award Proposal

Project Proposal Title	Sigma Pi Sigma Induction Ceremony
Name of School	University of Central Florida
Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Number	505
Total Amount Requested	\$500

Abstract

The University of Central Florida will host a Sigma Pi Sigma ($\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$) induction ceremony, bringing together the math and physics honor societies to listen to and meet a speaker who is a distinguished Mathematical Physicist. Attendees will also be provided with food. The event will be a celebration of the achievements of the inductees.

Proposal Statement

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

Overview of Proposed Project

Each year, the SPS chapter at University of Central Florida (UCF) inducts a group of accomplished undergraduate physics students into the Sigma Pi Sigma ($\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$) national honor society. In Spring 2022, our chapter plans to hold a joint induction ceremony with the Pi Mu Epsilon (ΠME) Mathematics honor society. The event will be open to other SPS members and physics faculty who wish to support those students being inducted. Our event will begin with some remarks on the history of SPS and $\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$ by our chapter advisor, Dr. Costas Efthimiou. We also plan to invite a guest speaker, a mathematical physicist, who will give a talk about their career path and their current research, which students are free to ask about. The attendees will then be provided with a meal, and also the opportunity to participate in a textbook raffle.

How Proposed Project Meets the Purpose of the Award

This event will increase the recognition of $\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$ on our campus by bringing together a broad audience to celebrate the achievements of the distinguished inductees, and spread information about the honors society via Dr. Efthimiou's presentation. The proposed project meets the purpose of the award because the planned activities at the induction ceremony, including the guest speaker and the food, give students a feeling of the prestige and distinction that a $\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$ membership signifies. Also, incorporating the ΠME honor society exposes members of the mathematics department to $\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$, further increasing the society's visibility, and providing students of mathematics who are interested in physics an opportunity to learn about SPS and $\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$. The funding provided by the award will help us in providing an honorarium to our guest speaker.

Plan for Carrying Out Proposed Project

- Personnel - The planning of the event will be primarily supervised by our SPS chapter's President, Spencer Tamagni, with the assistance of the other members of the officer board. The officers will coordinate with our chapter's advisor, Dr. Costas Efthimiou, to ensure that the appropriate preparations are made.
- Marketing - At each SPS meeting during the Spring semester (which are held once every two weeks), we will advertise the induction ceremony to our members and invite qualified students to join. We will additionally utilize our chapter's email list, social media outlets (namely our Discord server and Instagram page), and our physics department email list to ensure that the event is adequately advertised.
- Sigma Pi Sigma member participation - Based on previous induction ceremonies, we expect to induct roughly 5 new members to Sigma Pi Sigma. There will be additional Sigma Pi Sigma members in the audience who have been inducted in previous years, as well as participation from the ΠME inductees.

Project Timeline

Jan. 10	Speaker and date for inductions is finalized. Venue is reserved.
Jan. 12	Students are informed that applications for induction into Sigma Pi Sigma are now open and are encouraged to join. There will be weekly reminders of this for the remainder of the semester leading up to the ceremony.
Mar. 4	Textbooks will be purchased and raffle prepared.
Mar. 24	Complete preparation of the dining event/double check with the speaker.
Mar. 25	Induction ceremony is held.

Note: the exact dates listed here are tentative and may vary depending on the availability of the speaker, but we intend to host the induction ceremony in late March.

Project Evaluation Plan

We will evaluate the success of our project by keeping record of attendance, in particular of the number of inductees and total participants. We plan to also provide participants with a survey to provide feedback via a Google Form, to tell us what aspects of the event they liked and what improvements could be made.

Budget Justification

The Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award will allow us to provide our speaker with an honorarium, providing us with the chance to invite a speaker who is a distinguished mathematical physicist (depending on the speaker, the honorarium may not be fully covered by the award, but nonetheless we plan to use the award funds to help to pay the speaker). Additional costs for the ceremony will be managed by fundraising that our SPS chapter will do in the Spring semester, and can be partially covered by our university's physics department. The funds will allow us to create a memorable experience for attendees that will make our university's local community aware of the distinguished status of Sigma Pi Sigma.

