



# SIGMA PI SIGMA

The physics honor society

## Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award Final Report

<b>Project Title</b>	Inviting Alumni to celebrate the Induction of new Sigma Pi Sigma Members
<b>Name of School</b>	University of Maryland, College Park
<b>Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Number</b>	4155
<b>Total Amount Awarded</b>	\$500.00
<b>Project Leader</b>	Siddhartha Harmalkar

### Summary of Award Activity

During this year's annual Sigma Pi Sigma Induction Ceremony, we invited Sigma Pi Sigma alumni to attend the ceremony and to talk with the new inductees, undergraduate physics majors, and family members in attendance. We were able to use this award to welcome this year's 15 new Sigma Pi Sigma members with a larger induction ceremony which included a dinner with local Sigma Pi Sigma alumni from UMD's graduate student and physics faculty community.

### Statement of Activity

#### Overview of Award Activity

This project was an induction ceremony which introduced new Sigma Pi Sigma members to Sigma Pi Sigma alumni in the local community at UMD. By inviting alumni to attend the ceremony and to talk with the new inductees afterwards over dinner, we were able to accomplish our goal of fostering new relationships between Sigma Pi Sigma members and alumni. 15 members of the target audience for this activity, new Sigma Pi Sigma members, attended this year's induction ceremony. 3 Sigma Pi Sigma members contributed to the success of this project by organizing it and volunteering their time to help set up the ceremony, and because of their hard work along with the efforts of our SPS chapter advisor Donna Hammer, the event was straightforward to accomplish.

## Impact Assessment: How the Project/Activity/Event Met the Purpose of the Award

Even though the networking opportunities that are available to members of such a large and selective organization as Sigma Pi Sigma are discussed at every induction ceremony, many members never take advantage of them. This induction ceremony was an effort to make it clear to every new inductee this year how valuable and important these opportunities are by allowing them to interact and learn from Sigma Pi Sigma alumni in attendance. By inviting Sigma Pi Sigma alumni from the graduate student and faculty community at UMD, we were able to build community among local alumni and new Sigma Pi Sigma members.

### Key Metrics and Reflection

Who was the target audience of your project?	<b>Undergraduate Physics Majors</b>
How many attendees/participants were directly impacted by your project? Please describe them (for example "3 alumni" or "10 physics majors").	<b>15 Sigma Pi Sigma Inductees 3 Sigma Pi Sigma Members 2 Undergraduate Physics Majors 4 Sigma Pi Sigma Alumni 5 Faculty Members</b>
How many students from your Sigma Pi Sigma chapter were involved in the activity, and in what capacity?	<b>15 Sigma Pi Sigma Inductees 3 Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Members</b>
Was the amount of money you received from Sigma Pi Sigma sufficient to carry out the activities outlined in your proposal? Could you have used additional funding? If yes, how much would you have liked and how would the additional funding have augmented your activity?	<b>We could have used additional funding to fund travel expenses for additional Sigma Pi Sigma alumni from other universities to join us in the induction ceremony.</b>
Do you anticipate repeating this project/activity/event in the future, or having a follow-up project/activity/event? If yes, please describe.	<b>Yes, we anticipate inviting more alumni to join us for future induction ceremonies.</b>
What new relationships did you build through this project?	<b>New Sigma Pi Sigma inductees were able to develop relationships with Sigma Pi Sigma alumni graduate students and faculty at UMD and learn about their experiences.</b>
If you were to do your project again, what would you do differently?	<b>Invite more Sigma Pi Sigma alumni from outside of UMD.</b>

## Expenditures

### Expenditure Table

Item	Please explain how each expense relates to your project as outlined in your proposal.	Cost
Dinner	We were able to provide dinner for the alumni, faculty, inductees, chapter members, and physics majors in attendance for the induction ceremony.	\$500.00
<b>Total of Expenses</b>		<b>\$500.00</b>

## Activity Photos



Figure 1: Siddhartha Harmalkar, organizer of the event, speaking at the start of the induction ceremony



Figure 2: Brad Conrad speaking to new Sigma Pi Sigma members about his experiences as a member of the organization



Figure 3: Steve Rolston (Left), chair of the Physics department at UMD, speaking with Sigma Pi Sigma alumni and graduate student Katherine Collins (Right) during the dinner after the induction ceremony.

