

# Constitution of the Sigma Pi Sigma Physics Honor Society of The Ohio State University

## **Article I**      *Name, Purpose, and Non-Discriminatory Policy*

### Section I: Name

Sigma Pi Sigma Physics Honor Society of The Ohio State University (ΣΠΣ).

### Section II: Purpose

ΣΠΣ elects members to recognize outstanding academic achievement and promise in physics. In addition, our objectives are to promote general interest, advanced study, and research in physics, and the development of professional spirit and community among members.

### Section III: Non-Discrimination Policy

This organization and its members shall not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law in its activities, admission, or programs.

### Section IV: Sexual Misconduct Policy

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, ΣΠΣ expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members are responsible for adhering to University Policy 1.15, which can be found here:

<https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf>. If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleIX.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at [titleIX@osu.edu](mailto:titleIX@osu.edu).

## **Article II**      *Membership*

Membership in ΣΠΣ shall be based upon character as well as academic and professional attainments and is not restricted to physics majors. Election to ΣΠΣ will be reviewed by the ΣΠΣ Nominating Committee and presided by the Chapter Advisor.

Clause 1. For undergraduate students in physics or related fields, the minimum requirements for ΣΠΣ membership within this Chapter are for candidates to:

- Have completed at least the equivalent of three semesters of full-time college work.
- Have completed at least three semester courses in physics, each of at least three credit hours, which may be credited toward a physics major.
- Have attained at least a 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 system for physics courses and for cumulative course grades in all courses.
- Have passed Physics 2300 or have earned equivalent credit.

Clause 2. For graduate students in physics or related fields, all candidates should (a) meet the requirements for undergraduate candidates, based upon their undergraduate records, or (b) have completed at least one year of graduate work, meeting departmental standards for satisfactory progress towards an advanced degree.

Clause 3. For faculty members, research staff members, and other qualified individuals, who are in physics or related fields, election to membership shall be based upon their professional record.

## **Article III**

### ***Leadership***

#### Section I: President

The President is responsible for organizing official gatherings. The President provides leadership and organization at group meetings. They shall serve as the Chair of the Executive Committee, Nominating Committee.

#### Section II: Vice President

The Vice President is responsible for fulfilling the duties of the President in their absence. The Vice President is also responsible for assisting the President, and Treasurer as needed. They shall serve as the Liaison Officer to the local chapter of the Society of Physics Students. They shall serve as the Liaison Officer to the local chapter of ΣΠΣ Students.

#### Section III: Treasurer

The Treasurer is responsible for keeping accurate records of club funds, including those acquired or spent for acquisition of equipment and educational trips. In the absence of both the President and Vice President, the Treasurer is responsible for fulfilling the duties of the President. The Treasurer has the

right to veto any proposal which would result in a negative balance in the treasury.

Section IV: Secretary

The Secretary is responsible for club communications and publicity. They are also responsible for keeping records of meetings. In the Secretary's absence, another officer may preside over collection of meeting minutes at most one third of all leadership meetings. The Secretary fulfills the duties of the President in the absence of all other officers.

**Article IV**      *Officer Elections*

Annual elections will be held at a meeting before the end of March. Candidates for officership will be selected from a pool chosen previous to the meeting at which elections are held. If an officer position becomes vacant, then an interim election will be held at a meeting to fill the open position, while a responsible officer covers their duties in the meantime.

**Article V**      *Member and Officer Removal*

Section 1: Member Removal

If any member or officer engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization's constitution; violates the by-laws; violates the Code of Student Conduct; violates university policy; or violates federal, state, or local law, the member must be reported to the Advisor. The member may be removed through an unanimous vote of officers and the Advisor, or by a majority vote of members at a general meeting.

Section II: Officer Removal

If an officer fails to fulfill their duties, a member should report unfulfilled duties to the advisor. The officer can be removed upon an unanimous vote of the other officers and the Advisor or a majority of votes at a general meeting.

**Article VI**      *Advisor*

The advisor must be a full-time member of the University faculty or administrative professional staff in the Department of Physics. Alternatively, multiple co-advisors may be chosen who satisfy these above qualifications. The advisor(s) shall provide liaison among the Chapter, the Physics Department, and the National Office of Sigma Pi Sigma.

**Article VII**     ***Meetings and Events***

Regular meetings shall be held at least monthly as determined by the officers. Special meetings may be called by the President or Vice-President. There shall be at least six meetings per year.

**Article VIII**    ***Constitutional Amendments***

Amendments must be proposed in a general meeting and voted upon in a subsequent meeting. In order for an amendment to be passed a two-thirds majority of members (a quorum of at least four being present) is required. Such amendments shall conform to the regulations established by the National Constitution of Sigma Pi Sigma.

**Article IX**     ***Dissolution***

In the event of dissolution of the club, if any organizational assets exist, a general meeting shall be held to decide their disposition. All members shall be notified two weeks in advance of this meeting.

**Article X**     ***Acknowledgements***

ΣΠΣ and its membership acknowledges and recognizes Indigenous nations territories on which our organization holds its meetings which include but are not limited to the Myaamia, Shawandasse Tula (Shawanwaki/Shawnee), Delaware, Potawatomi, Seneca, Kaskaskia, Wyandotte, Ojibwe, and all other Hopewell Culture territories. Specifically, The Ohio State University, whose land we use, resides on land ceded in the 1795 Treaty of Greeneville and the forced removal of tribes through the Indian Removal Act of 1830.

As an organization residing on a land grant institution, we honor the resiliency of these tribal nations and recognize the historical contexts that have affected and continue to affect the Indigenous peoples of this land. ΣΠΣ and its membership counter the “Doctrine of discovery” narrative and replace it with the true story of the nations which lived on this land. We would like to remind our community that colonization is an ongoing process, with Native lands still directly and indirectly occupied and exploited due to deceptive treaties, broken treaties, and systemic disenfranchisement.

For more information:

<https://usdac.us/nativeland> [native-land.ca](https://native-land.ca)

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