

Constitution of The Sigma Pi Sigma Honor Society at The Ohio State University

Article I **Name**
Sigma Pi Sigma Physics Honor Society of The Ohio State University (ΣΠΣ).

Article II **Organization Purpose**
ΣΠΣ elects members to recognize outstanding academic achievement and promise in physics. We strive to help our members develop the professional skills they need to continue being successful within and beyond academia, while fostering a strong community where members can collaborate, learn, and network.

Article III **University Regulations**

Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct
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 basis in accordance with Student Organization Registration and Funding Guidelines. This organization will incorporate educational dialogue and be a platform of discussion on how to recognize and deconstruct the types of discrimination aforementioned.

Section B. Hazing
ΣΠΣ agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with Ohio State University and Collin's Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing. Hazing includes any activity, regardless of consent, that causes or creates a substantial risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm or humiliation to any individual as part of membership or affiliation with the student organization. If found responsible for hazing, members and/or the organization may face disciplinary actions.

Section C. By-laws
This organization retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline the

Constitution of Sigma Pi Sigma at The Ohio State University

day-to-day operations of $\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$ and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in these constitutional articles. By-laws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements set forth by local, state, and federal laws, The Ohio State University's regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Council on Student Affairs Student Organization Registration Guidelines. All elements of organizational by-laws shall be consistent with the organization's currently approved constitution on file and CSA constitution requirements.

By-laws shall be voted upon by the executive board and shall be passed by a majority vote by the officers. A proposed by-law shall be read and discussed at an officer's meeting before it is voted upon. Following the proposal, the by-law shall be read, discussed, and then voted upon.

If the proposal suggests a major change to the club's structure and/or causes significant disagreement among multiple officers, the proposal must be brought to a general body meeting where it is proposed to and voted on by at least a third of the club's members.

Article IV **Membership**

Section A. Membership Eligibility

Membership in $\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$ shall be based upon academic and professional attainments and is not restricted to any specific majors. Election to $\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$ will be reviewed by the Executive Board in this university's chapter of $\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$ and presided by the Chapter Advisor.

For undergraduate students in physics or related fields, the minimum requirements for $\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$ membership within this Chapter are for candidates to:

- Be currently enrolled as an Ohio State student
- Complete the equivalent of at least 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.

For graduate students in physics or related fields, all candidates should (a)

Constitution of Sigma Pi Sigma at The Ohio State University

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.

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.

Section B. Member Selection

Students who are eligible and interested in joining will fill out an interest form that is released every spring. Officers will review the responses to confirm eligibility, and new members will be inducted later in the spring.

Section C. Member Timeline

Interested students who have filled out the required form will be inducted in the spring.

Section D. 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 a unanimous vote of officers and the Advisor.

Article V **Advisor**

Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities

Advisor responsibilities include completing advisor training once every two years, reviewing and approving yearly registration, funding requests, and reservations for space or equipment. Advisors may also be expected to facilitate officer transition, and provide guidance and support when needed. The advisor(s) shall provide liaison among the Chapter, the Physics Department, and the National Office of ΣΠΣ.

Section B. Advisor Term

An advisor is expected to serve a standard term of two years with the

opportunity to be reappointed by the presiding officers after serving their term.

Section C. Advisor Selection

The advisor must be a full-time member of the University faculty or administrative professional staff in the Department of Physics. A co-advisor may be chosen who also satisfies these qualifications.

Section D. Advisor Replacement

In the event that an advisor resigns or is removed from their position, officers must immediately find a new advisor to replace them. An officer meeting must be held once the new advisor has been nominated, where a majority vote is required to elect the advisor.

Article VI **Organization Leadership**

Section A. Officer Positions

I. President

The President is responsible for organizing official gatherings and events. The President provides leadership at group meetings. They shall serve as the Chair of the Executive Committee and Liaison Officer to the local zone chapter of ΣΠΣ.

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.

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.

VI. Secretary

The Secretary is responsible for club communications, publicity, and document archives. This includes keeping detailed records of every officer

Constitution of Sigma Pi Sigma at The Ohio State University

meeting, general meetings if deemed necessary, and what general meetings were held during the year. In the Secretary's absence, another officer may preside over the 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.

Section B. Officer Eligibility

To be eligible for an officer position, one must be an active member of the organization, frequently attend meetings, and are in good standing with the university. A member is eligible to be the President or Treasurer only if they are currently enrolled as a full-time student.

Section C. Officer Selection Process

Annual officer elections will be held at a general body meeting by the end of March. The positions will be voted upon in the following order: President, Treasurer, Vice President, and Secretary. Once a position has been voted on and the winner is announced, all other candidates will have the opportunity to run for the following position. This will continue until all leadership positions are filled.

Voting methods will be determined by the current leadership. The candidate with the highest number of votes will win the position. In the event of a winning tie, a second vote will take place between the tied candidates. A President, Treasurer, and Vice President must be elected or the dissolution procedures stated in Article VII must be followed. If an officer's position becomes vacant, then an interim election will be held at the next general meeting to fill the open position, while a responsible officer covers their duties in the meantime.

Section D. Officer Removal

Officers are expected to (1) conducted themselves in a way that reflects well upon ΣΠΣ, the Physics Department, and Ohio State University and (2) uphold their responsibilities and maintain communication. If any of these qualifications are not being met, any voting member may formally move that the officer be relieved of their position. The officer must then meet with the rest of the board and advisor(s) to discuss the situation. The remaining officers will take a vote to either grant a warning or bring it to the next general meeting. In the case that a warning is granted, the officer will remain in position so long as the rest of the board is satisfied with their actions. In the

Constitution of Sigma Pi Sigma at The Ohio State University

case that a warning is not issued, the officer's removal will be determined by a majority vote by members at the next general meeting. Only one warning may be issued per officer. If a second offense happens, then an officer's meeting is not needed, and a vote must be called at the next general meeting.

In the event of successful removal, the officer should be replaced through the election procedures outlined in Section C at the next possible meeting. In the time an officer is removed and the election of a replacement, a current board member must assume the responsibilities of their position. In the case that the President is removed, any board member besides the Treasurer must assume the position of President. In the case that any Vice President position is removed, the President must assume the temporary duties of that position. In the case that the Treasurer is removed, any e-board member besides the President must assume the position of treasurer. The responsibilities held by an officer to replace a removed officer shall remain until a replacement is voted upon.

Article VII **Organization Dissolution**

Section A. Dissolution Requirements

If ΣΠΣ does not meet the requirements to be a student organization as defined by the Student Activities Department, then they must follow the dissolution procedures. The club may also be dissolved if a unanimous vote by the executive board and Advisor(s) agrees upon the dissolution of the club.

Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts

In the event of dissolution of the club, if any outstanding assets and/or debts exist, a general meeting shall be held to decide the distribution of this balance. Members shall be notified two weeks in advance of this meeting

Article VIII **Constitutional Amendments**

Amendments must be presented and voted upon at a general meeting and. A two-thirds majority of members (a quorum of at least four being present, in addition to board members) is required to ratify the proposed amendment. Such amendments shall conform to the regulations established by the National Constitution of ΣΠΣ. Should the organization transition leadership or wish to amend the constitution in between registration cycles, the articles set forth in this document will remain in place until a new constitution is provided to the Ohio Union and Student Activities Department and is approved. Submission

for approval of an amended constitution should occur within 30 days of the amendments.

Article IX

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 Greenville 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 systematic disenfranchisement.