

The Society of Physics Students

Student Organization Constitution

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Society of Physics Students of the Ohio State University (SPS).

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

SPS exists to build a stronger community among students who are interested in the physical sciences. SPS builds a community for both physics and STEM students where they can collaborate, learn, and network. We strive to help our members develop the professional skills they need to be successful scientists, as well as organize social events to foster stronger relationships among our members

ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct

The Society of Physics Students *agrees that it will not engage in sexual misconduct nor any harassment or discrimination 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 the Student Organization Registration Guidelines.*

Section B. Hazing

The Society of Physics Students *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. Bylaws

The Society of Physics Students *retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws 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 (CSA) Student Organization Registration Guidelines. Organizations may make amendments and changes to the bylaws without consulting the Ohio Union & Student Activities department, and changes to bylaws do not require approval. All elements of organizational bylaws shall be consistent with the organization's currently approved constitution on file and CSA constitution requirements.*

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership Eligibility

Membership in SPS shall be based upon interest in the physical sciences and is not restricted to physics majors. SPS membership can be attained through attending weekly meetings and participating in SPS events.

Section B. Member Selection

There is no official selection process for membership. We consider anyone who regularly attends meeting, events, and participates in club activities a member of SPS. We take regular attendance at every meeting to gauge member count and engagement.

Section C. Membership Timeline

There is no application process or timeline to becoming a member of SPS. Just showing up to meetings and events are enough to be considered a member. We typically do an official member count at the beginning of each semester, however anyone is welcome to start attending meetings and events at any point throughout the year.

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 or by-laws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or 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.

ARTICLE V. ADVISOR

Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities

The advisor must be a full-time member of the University faculty or administrative professional staff in the Department of Physics or a co-advisor must be chosen who satisfies these above qualifications. The advisor shall provide liaison among the Chapter, the Physics Department, and the National Office of Society of Physics Students.

Section B. Advisor Term

The advisor term is chosen by the advisor themselves, ending when they choose to step down.

Section C. Advisor Selection

The selection process includes a majority vote by the board of officers.

Section D. Advisor Replacement

The board of officers will reach out to alternate candidates and/or review current candidates to replace an advisor. The candidates will go through the selection process mentioned above.

ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

Section A. Officer Positions

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 and Liaison Officer to the local zone chapter of SPS.

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.

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.

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.

Section B. Officer Eligibility

Any participating member in SPS is eligible for an officer position.

Section C. Officer Selection Process

There is an officer election in the spring semester of each academic year. Candidates present a short introduction about themselves, their goals, and their skills to the member body. Officers are then chosen by an anonymous majority vote.

Section D. Officer Removal

If an officer fails to fulfill their duties, a member or other officer should report 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 VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION

Section A. Dissolution Requirements

In the event that a dissolution is considered, officers will come together to vote for the presentation of a dissolution. If a majority is in favor of dissolution, the club will be dissolved at the end of the academic year and only after all debts and financial obligations have been handled by the club.

Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts

In the event of dissolution of the club, if any organizational assets or debts exist, a general meeting shall be held to decide their disposition. Zero debts or financial obligations will be left to the university and they will be handled by the eboard. All members shall be notified two weeks in advance of this meeting.

ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Section A. Amendment Process

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 Society of Physics Students.