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PhysCon Fundraising Tip #6

Pi a Professor

Recommended for: School of any size, upfront cost <\$50

Category: Campus Event

Potential funds raised: \$100-150/event

Brief Description:

Professors are asked up front if they are willing to participate in a whipped cream pie throwing. This event can be held many different ways, so do what works best for your department.

Version 1 - Students and staff donate money to a box labeled with a specific professor's name. Boxes are kept in the department office over the course of several weeks, allowing time for donations to accumulate. SPS students went around to the big introductory classes to advertise this fund-raiser (with permission of the instructor), which helped increase donations. For every \$40 in a professor's box, they get a whipped cream pie to the face during the Physics & Astronomy department end of year party.

Version 2 – Advertise Pi a Professor around Thanksgiving and/or Pi Day. Have tickets available for purchase ~\$5-10 to pie a professor. Also sell pie slices for ~\$2. Depending on the number of professors that volunteer, you can schedule 30-minute volunteer sessions per professor. Advertise the schedule ahead of time so students can pie their favorite professor!

Up-front Cost:

Less than \$50 - Boxes, supplies to decorate boxes, whipped cream, pie tins, garbage bags (for use as smocks), pie to sell

Revenue:

This event can easily raise over \$100 per event with proper advertising beforehand.