



SIGMA PI SIGMA

The physics honor society

Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award Proposal

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| Project Proposal Title | Forward Facing |
| Name of School | Missouri Southern State University, Joplin, MO |
| Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Number | 564 |
| Total Amount Requested | \$500 |

Abstract

We will welcome back our alumni with an induction ceremony for new members of Sigma Pi Sigma. Missouri Southern State University will induct five new members into the honor society, as well as award our alumni. Our motivation is to highlight and celebrate the success of alumni to inspire inductees.

Proposal Statement

Overview of Proposed Project

- **Brief description** – The project will take place on the Missouri Southern State University campus with décor that is inspired by the school colors as well as the SPS color scheme. The venue will include a large space to support the diverse cast of the attendees, including the inductees and invited family, alumni, current members, and Missouri Southern faculty.
- **Goals of the project** – Forward Facing is a project that is meant to inspire the new members of the honor society. The invited alumni will be given time to give brief speeches about how the Society has impacted their lives and what the future benefits will be. The event will also be used as a networking event for the inductees, allowing them to plan for a future post-graduation.
- **Intended audience** – The target audience will be the inductees but will impact the surrounding community. Many of the alumni have integrated into local industries and can play a vital part in the advancement of our new inductees.
- **Background and motivation** – The 2019-2020 school year began with record participation in our organization. We were able to capitalize on previous outreach activities and included new demonstrations, including demonstrations for the general community as well as targeted demonstrations to local high school freshman, pre-kindergarten children, and local first graders. Not only were we able to provide substantial outreach to the local community, but we were able to increase participation of our activities on campus. We successfully ran a ‘like’ campaign to spread awareness of Sigma Pi Sigma on our campus, using our online presence as well as running a hot chocolate stand that helped explain physics phenomena to students. Our chapter was able to obtain the Marsh White award to build a pendulum out of billiard balls and a bed of nails to be used at our future demonstrations.

How Proposed Project Meets the Purpose of the Award

- The event will be a community gathering for those with careers in physics as well as those that are interested in the field.
- The intention of the project is to create professional contacts for our new and existing members, something especially needed in the current career climate.
- We hope to also represent Missouri Southern as a prospective school for those young adults looking for a physics degree.
- Recognize outstanding achievement at the chapter level.

Plan for Carrying Out Proposed Project

The SPS officers (President Joshua Numata, Vice-President Jeremiah Wald, Treasurer Grant, and Secretary Myka Masters) will be the core group planning and executing the proposed project. Previous inductees will be in attendance while others including active members will be guiding the project with meaningful input. Using the previous induction ceremony as a blueprint our active members will be able to improve the induction process. Assistance will be given by our advisor Dr. Jency Sundararajan and the sciences chair Dr. James Donelson. The project will be advertised with flyers on campus as well as invitations to the alumni and the inductees.

Project Timeline

January 2021: With the commencement of a new semester the induction ceremony will be the top priority for the club. The first officers meeting the 12th of January will be used to compile a list of invitees as well as securing a location and time for the ceremony. The officers meeting will be used to brainstorm our food options as well as decorations for the event. We will finalize a design and compile a list for the invitations to the event. Officers will be updated weekly on the progress of the project.

February 2021: Finalize the details and host the Sigma Pi Sigma Induction ceremony.

Project Evaluation Plan

The success of the proposed project will be graded upon the following guidelines.

- Recording attendance with a sign-in sheet, estimated at this time to be between twenty-five and thirty guests.
- Pictures will be taken for use in our final project report as well as chapter report at the end of the year.
- A small survey measuring the effectiveness of the ceremony as a networking event will be given to the inductees to ensure that the event was a success. The survey will have the participants rate their satisfaction from one through five on a variety of topics.
- A questionnaire will be given to the guest speakers after the ceremony to elicit any feedback on what we will be able to do better in future inductions.

Using the results from the attendance, questionnaires, and surveys the chapter will be able to grasp the satisfaction of all the participants in the ceremony. We will be looking for an optimal score in the areas surveyed and will be expecting feedback to improve in underscoring categories.

Budget Justification

The total amount of \$500.00 will be used to cover the various costs of the ceremony. The costs are predicted to be food, decorations, invitations, and gifts for the attending alumni. Invitations will secure the attendance of our alum to the ceremony. We want to create a welcoming environment where the inductees and alumni may intermingle and spur on discussion in the future of the new inductees. Creating the right environment with decorations and food will improve the relations between these two groups. Gifts will show our appreciation to the alumni for their past contributions to the chapter as well as to the local community.