



SIGMA PI SIGMA

The physics honor society

Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award Proposal

Project Proposal Title	Physics Alumni Night
Name of School	Adelphi University
Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Number	124
Total Amount Requested	\$500

Abstract

We propose to hold a networking event for the current Adelphi physics students. The purpose of the event is to invite alumni of our physics program to return and share their experiences in Ph.D. programs, engineering programs and in their careers, with the current students at Adelphi University.

Proposal Statement

Overview of Proposed Project

The Adelphi University physics club will hold a dinner in February that brings together current and former Adelphi physics students. All current physics majors at Adelphi will be invited to come to the dinner. It will consist of about 10 alumni (some will join remotely); who have a diverse set of careers (e.g., Ph.D. students, engineers, teachers, lawyers, etc). Each alumni member will give a short presentation, describing their career choices before the dinner. At the conclusion of the dinner there will be a question and answer period moderated by the president of our physics club, Brian Kaufman, where students will be able to ask the alumni any questions they would like.

Goals of the project – Introduce the undergraduate students in our program to a number of different career choices – some of which they had not considered – at Adelphi. Students will be able to see how their hard work can pay off in the future.

Intended audience - Adelphi undergraduate physics students.

Background and motivation – This event has a long and successful history at Adelphi. Former Adelphi students have said that this event helped them choose a career path and they are eager to be invited back to speak to the current undergraduate students.

How Proposed Project Meets the Purpose of the Award

We are hosting the networking event in the hopes that we can build a community among the recent alumni and the future Sigma Pi Sigma members at Adelphi University. The alumni will offer the undergraduates advice and encouragement at the dinner. Hopefully, the event will foster a relationship between the current Adelphi students and the alumni. So, after the event the current Adelphi students will be able to reach out to the alumni for further advice and encouragement.

Plan for Carrying Out Proposed Project

Event Planning – The event details will be coordinated by the physics club president Brian Kaufman and vice president Tracy Paltoo. These two students will work with the on campus dining facilities to ensure that the dinner is well planned.

Marketing – We will reach out to students via email. Faculty will market the event in their classes.

Alumni – Invitations to the alumni will be handled by the physics club adviser Professor Matthew Wright.

Sigma Pi Sigma member participation – We expect nearly 90% member participation in this program. All majors at Adelphi will be invited to the event (70 majors). We will use this opportunity as a means to recruit students into the physics club.

Project Timeline

The event will be held during the last week in February 2016; the dinner will be held in February so that the maximum number of undergraduate students will be able to attend because they won't have midterms or finals to worry about yet. Professor Wright will begin to reach out to the alumni during the month of January; and will have a list of alumni attendees by the start of the spring semester. We will start planning the details of the event at the beginning of the spring semester (January 26, 2016, hiring Adelphi's food service company and reserving a room). After that we will make fliers, hang them up in the physics department, and email students multiple times before the event.

Project Evaluation Plan

We expect over 40 physics students to attend the event and 10 alumni. We will set up a simple survey through SurveyMonkey for both current Adelphi students and our alumni asking for feedback on the event.

Budget Justification

The dinner is meant to foster a relationship between the undergraduate students and the alumni. There is no better way to achieve this than to have the undergraduate students and the alumni strike up conversation over a good meal. Free food is also a major incentive for the undergraduate students to take time out of their busy schedules, to listen to advice from the alumni. We expect around fifty people to come: 5 professors, 10 alumni, 30 undergraduates, 5 high school students and family.

We expect that the meal will cost about \$500 based on the amount spent in 2014 (see the Expenditure Table from 2014 below).

Expenditure Table

Item	Cost
Chicken Parmagiana	90.00
Baked Ziti	75.00
Penne Ala Vodka	65.00
Sausage and Peppers	85.00
2 L Soda	29.50
Water Service	24.00
Linen	64.00
Cookies	36.00
Brownies	29.25
Total of Expenses	497.75