



SIGMA PI SIGMA

The physics honor society

Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award Proposal

Project Proposal Title	Reactivating Sigma Pi Sigma: Induction Dinner
Name of School	Weber State University
Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Number	7902
Total Amount Requested	\$500

Abstract

Weber State University's Sigma Pi Sigma chapter will host an induction dinner to celebrate new members and honor a graduating faculty mentor. This event supports the chapter's reactivation by building community, increasing visibility within the department, and establishing a renewed tradition of recognizing achievement in Physics.

Proposal Statement

Overview of Proposed Project

This project will relaunch the Sigma Pi Sigma chapter at Weber State University through a formal induction dinner that welcomes new members, brings together current students, alumni, and faculty, and includes a special recognition ceremony for a faculty member completing their graduate degree. The event will feature a catered dinner, a brief keynote or reflection from the honored faculty member, and a traditional induction ceremony to formally welcome new Sigma Pi Sigma members. The goals of this project are to reestablish an active chapter presence on campus, strengthen community within the physics program, and create a meaningful, distinguished induction experience that encourages student participation in future chapter activities. By celebrating both new inductees and faculty achievement, the event aims to showcase the values of scholarship, service, and community that Sigma Pi Sigma represents.

The intended audience includes current physics majors and minors, new inductees, physics faculty, local alumni, and invited guests from related STEM programs. We anticipate an attendance of 25 to 40 participants, with the potential to expand involvement in future years as the chapter grows. The motivation for this project comes from the chapter's multi year period of inactivity and the department's desire to rebuild student engagement and community. Reactivating the chapter through a high-quality induction event will provide a strong foundation for future programming, foster connections between students and faculty, and help establish annual traditions that highlight achievement within the physics department. This event will also signal to incoming students that Sigma Pi Sigma is an active, welcoming, and meaningful part of the physics community at Weber State.

How Proposed Project Meets the Purpose of the Award

This project directly supports multiple goals of the Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award. First, hosting a formal induction dinner as the chapter's relaunch event will significantly raise awareness of Sigma Pi Sigma within the physics community at Weber State University. By inviting current students, faculty, and local alumni, the event will make Sigma Pi Sigma visible again after several years of inactivity and reinforce its role in recognizing excellence in physics. The project also strengthens community by bringing together alumni, new inductees, and faculty in a shared celebration. The planned recognition of a faculty member completing their graduate degree adds a personal and meaningful highlight that encourages deeper student-faculty connections and demonstrates the chapter's commitment to honoring achievement at all levels.

Award funding will allow the chapter to add greater distinction to the induction ceremony, making it a memorable and prestigious event. Providing a catered dinner, formal induction materials, and a dedicated recognition segment elevates the ceremony beyond a routine gathering, helping establish it as an annual tradition that students will look forward to and aspire to join. This enhanced ceremony is expected to increase interest among prospective members and contribute to higher induction numbers in future years. Reactivating the chapter through a well-executed, high-impact event also lays essential groundwork for long term sustainability. A strong relaunch helps reestablish officer roles, build momentum for fundraising efforts, and encourage collaboration with nearby chapters at institutions such as Utah State University and the University of Utah.

Overall, this project is a worthwhile investment because it revitalizes a dormant chapter, strengthens the culture of recognition within the physics department, and creates a high-quality induction experience that will benefit future students. Funding will enable the chapter to reestablish itself with credibility, tradition, and community engagement—core values of Sigma Pi Sigma.

Plan for Carrying Out Proposed Project

The event will be organized by the acting Sigma Pi Sigma chapter officers at Weber State University, led by the chapter president, Korbin Stacey, with support from the physics faculty advisor. Responsibilities for logistics, budgeting, marketing, and ceremony preparation will be divided among officers, and the planning team will meet biweekly with progress tracked through shared planning documents. The faculty advisor will periodically review plans to ensure the event remains on schedule and aligns with departmental expectations. To ensure strong participation, the event will be marketed through in-class announcements, departmental email lists, and flyers posted throughout the Tracy Hall Science Center. Faculty will be encouraged to personally invite eligible students, and alumni will be contacted through department mailing lists to broaden engagement. We anticipate 10 to 15 current or prospective Sigma Pi Sigma members participating in the event as inductees, officers, or volunteers, with additional assistance from Society of Physics Students members who will help with setup, decorations, photography, and running the ceremony. Faculty participation will support both the induction and the special recognition component, ensuring the event is well staffed and smoothly executed. This coordinated approach demonstrates a clear and thoughtful plan for successfully carrying out the project.

Project Timeline

The induction dinner and recognition event will take place during the final week of the spring semester. Planning will begin in early February with the confirmation of chapter officers, the faculty advisor, and the selection of the event date. By mid-February, the planning team will identify graduating students, retiring faculty, and eligible inductees to ensure all honorees are included. Venue reservations, preliminary budgeting, and outreach to potential speakers will be completed by early March. Marketing will begin in mid-March through classroom announcements, department wide emails, and flyers posted in Tracy Hall to ensure strong participation. Invitations to students, faculty, alumni, and honorees will be sent by late March. Catering arrangements, induction materials, and faculty recognition items will be finalized by early April. Volunteer roles for setup, decorations, photography, and ceremony responsibilities will be assigned by early-April. During the final two weeks of the semester, the planning team will confirm attendance counts, finalize the ceremony script, and conduct a walkthrough of all event logistics including room setup. The induction dinner and recognition ceremony will be held during the last week of the spring semester, followed by submission of event documentation and photos to Sigma Pi Sigma national.

Project Evaluation Plan

The chapter will assess the success of the induction dinner and recognition event using both attendance data and participant feedback. Attendance will be recorded for inductees, current members, faculty, alumni, and guests to measure engagement and the event's effectiveness in raising awareness of Sigma Pi Sigma. The number of new inductees will also be tracked as a direct indicator of increased participation and interest.

Following the event, a short online survey will be distributed to all attendees. The survey will ask participants to rate the overall quality of the ceremony, the value of the recognition components, and the sense of community fostered by the event. Open ended responses will allow attendees to provide suggestions for improving future induction events and strengthening chapter activities. Particular attention will be given to feedback related to the award goals, such as community building, event distinction, and recognition of achievement.

The chapter advisor, honored faculty member, and other key participants will also be asked for brief comments on the event's impact and visibility within the department. All data: attendance numbers, survey results, and faculty feedback. This will be compiled into a short summary to evaluate whether the project met its intended goals and to guide planning for future Sigma Pi Sigma activities

Budget Justification

The requested five hundred dollars will support a high-quality induction and recognition event that meets the goals of the Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award. The four hundred dollars allocated for dinner and venue costs is essential for creating a formal and distinguished atmosphere that encourages strong attendance and strengthens community among students, faculty, alumni, and inductees. Providing a shared meal elevates the ceremony and reinforces its importance as a key annual event. The fifty dollars designated for printed invitations will help increase participation by offering a professional and visible way to reach inductees, graduates, faculty, and alumni, which raises awareness of Sigma Pi Sigma within the department. The remaining fifty dollars will be used for a small thank you gift for the honored faculty member or speaker, supporting the award goal of recognizing outstanding achievement at the chapter level. The physics department will provide in kind support by supplying tables, podiums, audiovisual equipment, and display materials at no cost. Chapter officers and members of the Society of Physics Students will volunteer their time for planning, setup, and coordination. These resources together will make it possible to host a meaningful and well attended event that helps reestablish Sigma Pi Sigma as an active and valued part of the Weber State University physics community..