

Constitution of the Drexel University Chapter of the Society of Physics Students

ARTICLE I. DREXEL UNIVERSITY

The name of this organisation shall be "The Drexel University Chapter of the Society of Physics Students," or, alternately, "DU SPS."

ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this chapter shall be

- a) The advancement and diffusion of the knowledge of physics,
- b) The encouragement of interest in physics throughout the academic and local communities,
- c) The introduction of students to a professional community,
- d) The promotion of interaction, and a sense of community, within the physics department and others interested in physics throughout Drexel University.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Drexel University Society of Physics Students shall be opened to all full-time undergraduate students interested in physics regardless of race, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or ability. However, only members who belong to the national SPS organisation may serve as officers.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. Chapter Officers

The officers shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Director of Outreach, all of whom must be full-time, undergraduate students. One officer may hold any two of the latter four duties at one time, if necessary. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed in these Bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by this chapter:

- a) President – The president shall provide leadership to the DU SPS chapter by conducting meetings, ensuring that other officers perform their duties, and serving as the representative of the chapter amongst the department and community. The president may call closed-session officer meetings and to create temporary committees and appointments at his/her discretion.
- b) Vice-President – The vice-president shall assist the president in all executive duties and assume the duties of the president in the president's absence. The vice-president shall supervise communication among the officers.
- c) Secretary – The secretary shall take attendance at all meetings and service activities, keep an accurate list of contact information of current DU SPS members, record meeting minutes, and keep members informed of all meetings and activities.
- d) Treasurer – The treasurer shall handle all financial matters of the chapter and maintain orderly financial records.
- e) Director of Outreach – The Director of Outreach shall be responsible for all high school and public outreach activities. They will be responsible for scheduling and organizing all outreach activities, as well as keeping track of all outreach experiments.

Section 2. Elections

Officers shall be elected at a scheduled meeting in March of each year. The elections shall be closed-ballot. Absentee ballots are acceptable and encouraged from members who are not able to attend the meeting at which elections take place. The current officers shall be responsible for tallying votes. Elected officers shall assume their offices at the beginning of the following academic year and shall serve for the remainder of that year. An officer may be removed from office by a three-quarters vote of the active members. In the event of a vacancy in an office, the duties of that office shall be assumed by a remaining officer, based on the following order of succession: vice-president, secretary, treasurer, outreach coordinator. A vacancy may be filled through a special election at the discretion of the DU SPS chapter.

ARTICLE V. CHAPTER ADVISOR

The chapter advisor shall be a full-time faculty member appointed by the Chairman of the Physics Department, after consultation with the chapter officers. The chapter advisor shall provide liaison among the chapter, the physics department, and the National Office of the Society of Physics Students. The chapter advisor will supply counselling to the chapter, furnish continuity of experience in chapter operations, and provide long-range perspective to insure departmental interest in and support of the Society of Physics Students. The chapter advisor shall assist the secretary in furnishing the National Office with the required data and shall assist the treasurer in transmitting fees and dues to the National Office.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

Meetings shall be held regularly as determined by the officers with consideration of the schedules of the members during each academic term. A minimum of six meetings must be held each year. In order for a vote on any SPS matter to take place during a meeting, a quorum of two-thirds of the members must be present.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the constitution may be proposed by any member if it is in accordance with the National Society of Physics Students Constitution and Bylaws. Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the executive committee for review and presentation to the society at large. This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the section by a two-thirds vote of the members present and through mail ballot, provided that the proposed amendment was submitted in writing to all members of the section, previous to this meeting. Adoption of an amendment will also require approval from the director of the Society of Physics Students. A ratified amendment shall become effective after approval upon notification to members.

ARTICLE VIII. FINANCES

At the discretion of the SPS members, methods of increasing finances, such as grant applications and fund-raising activities, will be voted upon and utilized.

ARTICLE IX. RATIFICATION

A majority vote (50% +1) among the active members of DU SPS is required to ratify this document.

AMENDMENT I. DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH

The addition of a fifth officer holding the position of Director of Outreach has been amended to this document.

AMENDMENT II. PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

Presidential candidates must have previously been an officer of SPS in order to run for office. If no such candidate exists, any active member of SPS can run as deemed fit by the current officers.

Document last revised: March 2010