



**SIGMA XI**  

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**THE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH SOCIETY**

## **The Ohio State Chapter of Sigma Xi**

### **PREAMBLE**

The Constitution of the Ohio State Chapter consists of all Articles of the Constitution of Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society as published in 2010 and as most recently revised or amended by the Annual Convention of the Society, which apply to local chapter objectives, organization, membership, dues, etc. The following By-Laws under the aforementioned Constitution are adopted for governing the affairs of the Ohio State Chapter.

### **BY-LAWS**

#### **Article I.**

##### **Name of Chapter**

The chapter at The Ohio State University shall be known as the Ohio State Chapter of Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society.

#### **Article II.**

##### **Officers and Their Duties**

Section 1. The officers of the Chapter shall be a President, a Vice President who serves as President-Elect, a Past-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and Counselors. These officers constitute the Executive Committee. Each shall serve one year except the Counselors who shall hold office for five years. There shall be a Board composed of at least six members, along with the officers of the Executive Committee. Board members each serve three years, with the terms staggered such that at least two are elected each year. Two additional student Board members shall be elected on an annual basis. A year of service by each officer begins at the closing of the regular annual meeting of the Chapter in the Spring term at which new members are initiated into the Chapter.

Section 2. The duties of the officers, except insofar as they are defined by these By-Laws and by the Constitution of the Society, shall be those usually appertaining to such offices, at the discretion of the Board.

Section 3. The treasurer, with the approval of the Executive Committee, shall be allocated a budget for Chapter expenses, and/or provided reimbursement for personal expenses pertaining to the execution of the duties of the office. The treasurer may maintain a bank checking account to be used in paying for Chapter expenses. A second signatory to the account shall be authorized by the Board for backup in case of the unavailability of the Treasurer.

Section 4. The Executive Committee may appoint members of the Board to perform tasks such as the management of membership, State Science Day, and Science Café.

### **Article III.**

#### **Nomination and Election of Officers**

Section 1. Nomination of officers and members of the Board shall be made by the Board at least two weeks before their annual election in the Spring term of each year.

The Vice President/President-Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary, shall be elected annually; at least two members of the Board shall be elected each year; the Counselors shall be elected in years divisible by five; the President shall take office automatically after serving one year as Vice President; and the Past-President shall serve ex officio.

To nominate candidates for each office, at least one name, with provision for additional nominations, shall be presented to the electorate by the Board. Candidates shall be selected so as to represent the varied interests of science.

Section 2. At least ten days before the date of election, the Secretary shall send to every Chapter Member of the Chapter in good standing a ballot listing the names of all candidates for office (see Article VII, Section 1, of these By-Laws.) These ballots shall be returned to the Secretary by e-mail. After the names are checked by the Secretary for validity, the votes shall be given to a committee, composed of the Board members who are not up for reelection, to tabulate the results of the balloting. The candidate receiving the majority of the votes cast for each office shall be declared elected.

The outcome of the election is announced at the regular Chapter meeting in the Spring term when the candidates for membership are initiated.

Section 3. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the President for an unexpired term. In case the presidency becomes vacant, the President-Elect shall serve as President for the remainder of the vacated term and for the succeeding year; a new President-Elect to serve corresponding intervals shall be selected by majority vote of the Board.

### **Article IV**

#### **Committees and Their Duties**

Section 1. The standing committees of the Chapter shall be the Executive Committee and the Board. Special ad hoc committees shall be appointed by the President at the direction of the Executive Committee.

Section 2. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be those associated with the administration of activities of the Chapter consistent with the policies of the Chapter and Society.

The Board shall nominate officers and members at large of the Board. The Board shall solicit nominations for membership in the Chapter and elect Chapter Members and Associate Members according to policies described elsewhere in these By-Laws.

The duties of ad hoc committees shall be outlined by the President at the time of their appointment.

## **Article V.**

### **Membership**

Section 1. The membership of the Chapter shall consist of Full Members and Associate Members, each of whom shall be duly elected by this Chapter or transferred to membership from another chapter upon evidence of bona fide membership.

Section 2. In order to be elected a Full Member of the Ohio State Chapter or promoted to Full Membership from Associate Membership, the candidate shall satisfy the requirements of the Society as set forth in its Constitution (2010, Article II, Section 3(A), and (B)).

As additional evidence of "noteworthy achievement" (Article II, Section 3(A)), it is the policy of the Ohio State Chapter to require one of the following ways for judgment by the Board:

- (1) publication of research in a reputable scientific journal,
- (2) acceptance of the research by the Graduate School as fulfilling the requirements for the dissertation for the Ph.D. degree with assurance from the Graduate School Office that it will be allowed to be published in the open literature and available for perusal freely by any interested person without any restriction whatsoever, or
- (3) proof that the research worthy of publication and assurance by the nominators of the candidate that it will be published in the open literature and will be available for perusal freely by any interested person and without any restriction whatsoever.

Section 3. In order to be elected Associate Member of the Ohio State chapter, the candidate shall satisfy the requirements of the Society as stated in its Constitution (2010, Article II, Section 3(B)), It is the policy of the Ohio State Chapter that, in judging a candidate's "aptitude for research", the Board shall require evidence of originality and promise of ability in scientific research, as shown by thesis or problem work, rather than by record of student scholarship alone.

## **Article VI.**

### **Nomination, Election, and Initiation of Members and Associate Members**

Section 1. Nominations of candidates for election as Members in this Chapter shall be in writing upon blank forms provided on the Sigma Xi web page. Nominations shall include a full statement of the qualifications of the nominee, the nature and character of his or her research work, and such other information as may assist the Chapter in judging fitness for membership. A nomination shall be valid only when it is signed by two members in good standing (see Article VII, Section 1. of these By-Laws.)

Nominations of candidates for election as Associate Members in this Chapter shall be made in a manner similar to that provided for Chapter Members.

Section 2. Chapter Members and Associate Members are elected to membership at regular meetings of the Board. All nominations shall be individually verified by the Secretary as properly completed, giving adequate information, and duly signed. The Board shall consider all nominations individually and elect to membership those deemed qualified as Full Members or Associate Members. A unanimous vote of all

members of the Board members present shall be required for election of a candidate, and a quorum shall be required to be present for an election to be conducted (see Article IX, section 3, of these By-Laws.) The Membership Manager shall conclude all arrangements for inducting the newly elected Full Members and Associate Members into membership.

Section 3. Recognition of the newly elected Full Members and Associate Members shall take place at the Chapter's Annual Banquet.

## **Article VII.**

### **Rights and Privileges**

Section 1. All duly elected Members and Associates shall have corresponding rights and privileges as prescribed in the Constitution (2010) of the Society, so long as they remain in good standing by participation in Chapter affairs including payment of prescribed dues.

Section 2. Termination of active membership of Chapter Members and Associate Members, by request or for reasons such as non-payment of dues, shall not terminate membership in the Society but automatically places the Member or Associate on the inactive roll of the Society maintained by the Secretary of the Chapter and the Executive Secretary of the Society. Inactive members may be restored to their original status at any time by application to the Secretary of the Chapter, a favorable vote by the Board, and the payment of dues for the year in which active membership is restored.

Section 3. The President, or designee of the Board, shall serve as a delegate to the national Annual Meeting of Sigma Xi. Travel expenses and registration fees are to be paid by the Chapter.

## **Article VIII.**

### **Fees and Dues**

Section I. Newly elected Chapter Members and Associate Members shall pay initiation fees of amounts periodically established by the national society. Associate Members elevated to the position of Members shall pay an additional initiation fee similarly established and announced in advance. In all cases, the initiation fee must be paid in full before the candidate is eligible for initiation.

Section 2. The annual dues of Chapter members and Associate Members shall consist of Chapter dues, which are reviewed annually and established by the Board, plus the annual assessment per Member or Associate Member imposed by and collected for the national Society. Those newly elected to membership shall not pay chapter dues for the year in which they are elected.

Section 3. Any Chapter Member or Associate Member in arrears for two years shall be put on the inactive roll after prior notice by the Secretary or Membership Manager.

## **Article IX**

### **Meeting and Rules of Order**

Section 1. Regular meetings of the Chapter Board shall be held as indicated above for election of Chapter Members and Associate Members and for transaction of other business. Special meetings shall be held as decided by and on dates set by the Executive Committee and on call of the President.

Section 2. The order of proceedings for regular business meetings shall be as follows:

1. Approval of the minutes of previous meeting
2. New member applications
3. New business
4. Old business
  - a. Reports of standing committees
  - b. Reports of special committees
7. Setting of date for the next meeting
8. Adjournment

Section 3. Passage of motions shall be by a simple majority of a quorum of Board members, with a quorum being 50% or more of Board members.

## **Article X.**

### **In Case the Ohio State Chapter Becomes Inactive**

If the Chapter goes inactive and remains dormant over 5 years or dissolves, any funds the chapter possesses which were the direct result of local dues and chapter support will go back to the Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society.

## **Article XI.**

### **Adoption and Amendment of Chapter By-Laws**

Section 1. This revised statement of Chapter By-Laws shall be adopted and in effect upon favorable vote by three-fourths of respondents among active Chapter Members, voting by e-mail ballot.

Section 2. Amendment of Chapter By-Laws shall be made by previous consideration and formulation by the Executive Committee of any proposed amendment, and action by favorable vote of three-fourths of the active Chapter Members voting by e-mail ballot following written announcement of the proposed amendment.