



AGENDA

THE THIRTEENTH DUKE STUDENT GOVERNMENT SENATE

September 6, 2006

8:00 PM

Schiciano Auditorium B, CIEMAS

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. ANNOUNCEMENTS
- IV. PUBLIC FORUM
- V. CONSENT AGENDA & BUDGETARY STATUTES
 - a. New group request: **Society of Physics Students** (Recognition)
- VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
 - a. **Jim Wulforst**, Director of Dining Services (20 min)
 - b. **Daniel Bowes**, DSG Community Liaison (10 min)
 - c. **Jordan Giordano**, DSG Vice President for Community Interaction (10 min)
- VII. RULES
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS
- IX. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. DSG BL(O) 2006-090601, the SOFC Bylaw (2nd reading), **Alex Crable**, SOFC Chair
- X. UPDATES
- XI. REPORTS
- XII. ADJOURN

Duke University Chapter of the Society of Physics Students

Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be “The Duke University Chapter of the Society of Physics Students”.

Article II. Objectives

- 1) The main purpose of this Chapter shall be the advancement and diffusion of knowledge of Physics, the encouragement of interest in Physics throughout the academic and local communities, the introduction of students to the professional community, and to establish a community between all students with an interest in Physics.
- 2) The Chapter will promote the use of the scientific method as the way to obtain knowledge about the Universe and the Chapter will stand against any organization, person or doctrine whose teachings oppose those of science.
- 3) The Chapter will advocate the virtues and values necessary for the advancement of science like honesty, friendship, open-mindedness, creativity, egalitarianism and full disclosure.

Article III. Membership

Membership in this Society of Physics Students Chapter shall be open to all undergraduates interested in Physics and in agreement with the objectives of the society. Membership can be withheld or withdrawn to any individual on a particular basis by the Chapter permanent officers with a totality of votes from permanent officers. In the event that the member in question is one of the permanent officers then s/he would be excluded from voting.

Article IV. Officers

Section 1. Chapter Officers

Chapter administration and succession shall be carried out by four permanent members as follows: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The office of President and Vice-President may also be substituted by two Co-Presidents any year the Society so chooses. All members shall adhere to these bylaws and comply with the parliamentary authority adopted by this Chapter. In addition, any number of the following offices may exist, contingent upon interest and availability of members: a Historian, an Editor, a Webmaster, a Social Chairperson and a Community Service Chairperson. These officers shall perform duties as needed and appointed by the permanent officers.

Section 2. Elections

New officers for both permanent and non-permanent positions shall be appointed at the end of the academic year (no later than April) by the current permanent officers and their offices will become effective at the beginning of the following academic year. Any member of the general body can nominate a particular undergraduate student for a position in the executive body prior to the election meeting. New officers have to be elected with a majority of the votes among the current permanent officers. If an individual holding a permanent office resigns his or her position for any reason, the position will be filled by promoting officers along the chain of succession of permanent offices. An officer who is offered promotion by succession may decline and retain his or her current position. In this event, succession will continue with the next highest ranking officer being offered the vacant position. Any position that remains vacant after the process of succession has been completed shall be appointed by the remaining permanent officers by a majority of votes.

If an individual holding any of the non-permanent offices resigns his or her position for any reason, the permanent officers may convene and decide unanimously to appoint a willing individual to that office. If no consensus can be reached or a willing individual is unavailable, the position shall remain vacant. The permanent officers may reconvene at any time to appoint a member to a non-permanent position.

Article V. Chapter Adviser

The Chapter Adviser shall be a faculty member appointed by the Chairman of the Physics Department, after consultation with the Chapter officers. The Chapter Adviser shall provide a liaison among the Chapter, the Physics Department, and the National Office of the Society of Physics Students. The Chapter Adviser will supply counseling to the Chapter, furnish continuity of experience in Chapter operations, and provide long-range perspective to ensure department interest in and support of the Society of Physics Students. The Chapter Adviser 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 of the permanent members will occur on a least a biweekly basis at a time to be arranged by the President. General body meetings will be arranged at least twice a semester and/or as determined by the society's permanent members.

Article VII. Dues

The Duke University Chapter of the Society of Physics Students does not collect any dues.

Article VIII. Ratification, Powers, and Amendment of Bylaws

These bylaws shall be considered ratified by the majority of votes of the permanent officers on August 20, 2006. The bylaws shall be presented for ratification electronically, and votes collected via electronic mail. An amendment can be proposed by any member of the Chapter. These bylaws may be amended with the totality of votes from the permanent officers. Such amendments shall conform to the regulations established by the National Constitution of the Society of Physics Students.

Any authority unmentioned in this constitution is reserved to the permanent members by a majority of votes. Any matter that can not be decided by a majority of votes shall be defeated until a majority of votes can be obtained.