

The Constitution for the Society of Physics Students

April 29, 2009

1 Name

The organization will be known as the Society of Physics Students (SPS).

2 Purpose

The Society of Physics Students exists to promote fellowship and community between physics undergraduates, as well as further physics outreach to the greater William and Mary community. The Society of Physics Students also offers free, weekly tutoring services to students of all majors taking introductory physics courses.

3 Membership

Membership in the Organization is not exclusive to physics majors, although an interest in physics is strongly recommended. Participation in the Organization's activities requires payment of semesterly dues.

4 Officers

4.1 President

The President of SPS is primarily in charge of organizing and running weekly meetings and tutoring sessions.

4.2 Vice President

The Vice President's primary duties are to assist the President in running weekly meetings and tutoring sessions and, if the President should be absent from a meeting, assume temporary Presidential duties.

4.3 SCORS Chairman

The SCORS Chairman serves as the head of the SCORS research subcommittee, and is responsible for organizing and running weekly SCORS group meetings. The SCORS Chairman is also responsible for the general organization and direction of the SCORS group (see section 7.1).

4.4 Treasurer

The Treasurer is in charge of managing the Organization's budget, including the collection of dues. The Treasurer should be actively involved in fundraising opportunities.

4.5 Secretary/Webmaster

The Secretary/Webmaster is in charge of maintaining the Organization's schedule and updating the Organization's website. This position may be split in two by delegating the Webmaster duties to another individual at the officers' discretion.

5 Elections

5.1 Voting Procedure

All elections will be decided by plurality vote. In the case of a tie, all candidates except those in the tie will be eliminated from the ballot, and votes will be recast. If another tie occurs, the tie will be broken as described in each position below.

5.2 Terms of Office

The positions of President and SCORS Chairman will serve from the end of Spring semester for a term of one year. The positions of Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary/Webmaster will serve from the beginning of the fall semester for a term of one year.

5.3 Positions

The positions of President and SCORS Chairman will be elected in the last of month of classes in the Spring semester. Candidates for nomination include any active members except graduating members. Similarly, all active members except those that are graduating may vote in the elections. If a tie occurs after the voting procedures in section 5.1 have occurred, the graduating members of the organization will be allowed to vote, and these procedures will be repeated. If the vote still results in a tie, the current officers will vote to determine the winner. Officers running for re-election must abstain from such procedures.

The positions of Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary/Webmaster will be elected in the first weeks of the fall semester. Anyone may run for office. Positions will be decided by plurality vote. If a tie occurs after the voting procedures in section 5.1 have

occurred the current officers will vote to determine the winner. Officers running for re-election must abstain from such procedures.

5.4 Officers Failing to Uphold Their Duties

In the event that an officer is found to be unable to perform his or her duties as an officer on a regular basis, the officer will be given the chance delegate his or her duties to a willing individual, or to resign. If the officer refuses to take either course of action and still fails to perform the required duties, the officer may be removed from office by simple majority vote. All members of the Organization are allowed to vote, but all other officers must be present.

5.5 Officers Abdicating Their Positions

If an officer abdicates a position before the end of the officer's term, the position will be filled following the voting procedures above, ignoring the time of the vote.

6 Dues

Dues will be collected by the Treasurer each semester at a rate to be determined by the current administration. However, suggested dues are on the order of ten dollars per semester.

7 Committees

7.1 SCORS Committee

The Solar Cells of the Roof of Small (SCORS) committee is a research group dedicated to analyzing the viability of integrating solar power on the roof of Small Hall. The group conducts regular experiments with test panels on the roof of Small Hall, with the eventual goal of making a recommendation to the school as how to best implement a solar panel array.

7.1.1 Committee Organization

The SCORS group is run primarily by the SCORS Chairman, but subcommittees headed by elected or appointed researchers may be formed. Subcommittees will be small groups of researchers focused on a specific problem facing the SCORS group as a whole, such as deciding how best to integrate any power generated to the building.

7.1.2 Subcommittee Chairs

Each subcommittee will be chaired by a member of the SCORS group. These positions will be decided upon by plurality vote; in the case of a tie, all candidates except those in

the tie will be eliminated from the ballot, and votes will be recast. In the event of an additional tie, the SCORS Chairman will decide the winner.

7.1.3 Funding

The SCORS subcommittee has the right to apply for outside funds independently of the Organization as a whole; any funds awarded the SCORS group cannot be used by the Society of Physics Students in general. The Society may, of course, subsidize the SCORS committee with its own funds.

8 Amendments

This document may be amended at any time by the members of the Organization. A clause may be added, removed, or altered by calling a vote to do so at any regularly scheduled meeting. If the time is an inconvenient one, the President may delay the vote to another time at his or her discretion. Voting may commence only when all officers are present, and all members of the Organization must be notified of the meeting at least one day in advance. Any clause may be added, removed, or altered unless doing so prevents such additions, removals, and alterations in the future. An amendment passes by simple majority vote.