

Article I: Name

The name of this organization is the Alaska Chapter of Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Honor Society. For short, The Alaska Chapter of Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Honor Society is also called the “Alaska Chapter of Sigma Xi” or the “Alaska Chapter”.

In this document, the larger Sigma Xi organization (formally named “Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Honor Society”), which consists of members in many countries with many chapters, will be referred to as “Sigma Xi” or “the International Society”.

Article II: Purposes

The purposes of this chapter are to:

1. Support the policies and goals of Sigma Xi as set forth in Article 1 of the International Society constitution, and advance the principles and procedures of the international Society and its constitution;
2. Encourage original investigation in science, pure and applied. The fields of activity of Sigma Xi and the Alaska Chapter are the pure and applied natural sciences. In general, these include the physical sciences, the life and agricultural sciences, the earth sciences, the medical sciences, mathematics, and engineering. The activities of the chapter shall be those appropriate to the objectives of Sigma Xi and particularly those set forth in the international Society Bylaws;
3. Protect and advance the professional status and interests of all chapter members;
4. Facilitate the dissemination of information on scientific research ethics, principles and practices;
5. Inform the scientific community about Sigma Xi standards and policy statements; and
6. Develop and implement necessary and proper chapter programs for the accomplishment of the aforementioned purposes.

In furtherance of the purposes described above, but not in limitation thereof, the chapter shall have the power to conduct studies; to disseminate statistics and other information; to engage in appropriate fundraising activities; to conduct promotional activities, including advertising and publicity, in or by any suitable manner of media; to hold such property as is necessary to accomplish its purposes; and to employ individuals to further its purposes under Article II. This chapter is organized and operated for the above-stated purposes. No part of its assets, income, or profits shall be distributable to, or inure to the benefit of, any individual, except in consideration of services rendered.

Article III: Members

Eligibility for membership in the Alaska Chapter of Sigma Xi shall extend to all members (both active and inactive) of the International Society who declare by written application that they wish to be members of the Alaska Chapter, only. All active chapter members may vote on chapter matters. Active members are those who have paid their dues for the current chapter year, as defined by the International Society.

Article IV: Officers and Organization

The officers of the Alaska Chapter of Sigma Xi shall be a President, Secretary, Treasurer, and director-at-large from each/any university or community within the State of Alaska that wishes to have a representative available people can fill these roles. These officers will constitute the executive committee. Terms of office shall commence on 1 July of the current year following the election and shall continue for a period of one year.

Vacancies: Vacancies that occur during the year shall be filled by presidential appointment in consultation with the other executive officers when a willing and suitable person is identified. If the presidency is vacant, the other executive officers can appoint a new president when a willing and suitable candidate is identified.

President: The president should preside over chapter activities, take responsibility for appointing delegates to the Annual Meeting, and respond on behalf of the chapter to non-routine requests, inquiries, or opportunities from the international Society.

Secretary: The secretary of the chapter is responsible for maintaining the regular flow of information to and from other officers, the membership, and the International Society. The outgoing secretary's duties include completing the Annual Report due August 15 each year. The secretary is responsible for sending to the administrative offices of the International Society the membership certificate order forms and nomination forms for all individuals that will be initiated or promoted.

Treasurer: The treasurer of the chapter is responsible for all matters involving the transfer of funds between the administrative offices of the International Society and the chapter, as well as reimbursement of members who have paid for approved expenses to accomplish approved activities. The outgoing treasurer is responsible for the annual treasurer report due 15 August each year.

Director-at-large: The director(s)-at-large will assist in facilitating meetings and events at their home institution. They will act as a local ambassador within their institution to promote the international society and the local chapter.

Article V: Dues

The chapter may establish **local** chapter dues. The treasurer must notify the international offices of Sigma Xi if the chapter wishes to have local dues collected on its behalf.

Article VI: Meetings

The chapter shall hold regular meetings at least once per year. Special meetings of the chapter may be called by the president or a majority of the executive committee. A quorum for business meetings shall be 10 members. If a quorum is not achieved at any regular or special meeting then issues/motions may be discussed and motions made and seconded, but any issue that the membership must vote on will be sent to the active members electronically. A quorum is then the members who choose to vote. A motion will pass if 50% of the voting members are in favor.

Article VII: Inactive/Dormant Chapter status

The Alaska Chapter may be declared inactive/dormant by the International Society if it does not meet the criteria required for good standing as set forth by the International Society over a period of 5 years. The chapter may still carry out activities/programs to further the purposes noted in Article II during this time of international inactivity with a goal of eventually meeting the criteria for good standing. If, and only if, no new officers have been elected by 1 October for the chapter year, then any 10 active members can call a business meeting at any university within the State of Alaska by sending an announcement (with their signatures attached with 7 days prior notice) to the all active members.

Article VIII: Dissolution

The chapter can be dissolved after a vote of the active members in which over 75% favor dissolution. Any such vote to dissolve will be accompanied by a clear plan to use any funds held by the Alaska Chapter to accomplish the purposes listed in Article II. These purposes may include sending any or all of the funds to the international Society. Dissolution will not be complete until the members of the Alaska Chapter and the International Society receive written notification from two signatories on the bank account that the plan to use any funds held by the chapter has been carried out. The International Society must then decide either to revoke the chapter charter or to hold it in dormant status until such time as they are able to arrange a reconstitution of the chapter.

Article IX: Amendments

These bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the active members, provided that a notice setting forth the proposed amendment or amendments an explanation thereof and known objections thereto shall have been sent to each active member at least 7 days prior to the vote. Any active member of the chapter may initiate an amendment.

Enacted this 28 day of June in the year 2024.