

Western Connecticut State University Sigma-Xi Chapter Bylaws (May 2016)

Article I: Name

The name of this organization is the Western Connecticut State University chapter of Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society.

Article II: Purposes

The purposes of this chapter are to:

1. Support the policies and goals of the Society as set forth in Article 1 of the Sigma Xi constitution, and in all matters act in harmony with the principles and procedures of the national Society and its constitution;
2. Encourage original investigation in science, pure and applied. The fields of activity of the Society and 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 Society and chapter shall be those appropriate to the object of the Society and particularly those set forth in the Society Bylaws;
3. Protect and advance the professional status and interests of all chapter members;
4. Facilitate the dissemination of information on scientific research principles and practices;
5. Inform the scientific community about Sigma Xi standards and policy statements; and
6. Develop 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 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, and for other nonprofit 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 this chapter shall extend to all active and inactive members who are national members of Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, and will not exclude associate or student members. All chapter members may vote in chapter matters.

Article IV: Officers and Organization

The officers of the Society shall be a President, a Vice-President, a secretary, and a Treasurer. Officers will be elected at the end of the Spring academic semester in even-numbered years and will serve June 1 of that year until May 31st at the end of a two year term, or until their successors have been elected and qualified.

President: The president should reside 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 Sigma Xi Administrative Offices or the Board of Directors.

Secretary

The secretary of a chapter is responsible for maintaining the regular flow of information to and from other officers, the membership and Sigma Xi Administrative Offices.

Treasurer

The Treasurer of a chapter is responsible for maintaining and communicating the Chapter's financial resources to the membership and Sigma Xi Administrative Offices.

Annual Reports

the chapter Treasurer will submit the Annual Report, due before July 1. The report, covering the Society's year from July 1 to June 30, should be received at Sigma Xi's Administrative Offices by July 1. If Sigma Xi's Administrative Offices do not receive an Annual Report by early September, the chapter's September Local Support payment will be withheld and mailed in January with the January local support money. If an Annual Report is received after March 1, a written explanation will be requested from the chapter to justify the retroactive payment of Local Support.

Delegates to the Annual Meeting

the secretary informs Sigma Xi's Administrative Offices of the chapter's designated (voting) delegate to the Annual Meeting. Representation at an Annual Meeting at least once in the last three years is one of the requirements of each chapter in order to receive Local Support payments. Local Support will be withheld, if a chapter is not so represented.

Initiations and Promotions

the Secretary is responsible for sending to headquarters the membership certificate order forms, fees, and nomination forms for all individuals that will be initiated or promoted. These items should be accompanied by a check for the total amount of fees required.

The election of at least one new member during the past two years is required of academic groups to receive Local Support payments. Local Support will be withheld from groups failing to do so.

[Non-academic groups, such as those associated with government laboratories must show evidence, usually on their Annual Report, of activities sponsored by the group that encourage students to seek careers in science, mathematics or engineering, in lieu of such elections.]

Treasurer

The treasurer is responsible for all matters involving the transfer of funds between the chapter and headquarters.

Local Dues

The treasurer must notify Sigma Xi Administrative Offices if the chapter wishes to have collect local dues collected on its behalf.

Local Support Payments

The treasurer receives Local Support payments from Sigma Xi Administrative Offices. These payments are mailed to the designated treasurer.

Article V: Dues

The chapter may establish chapter dues. The treasurer must notify Sigma Xi Administrative Offices if the chapter wishes to have collect local dues collected on its behalf. An e-mail letter is sent to chapter officers in November asking them to let Sigma Xi Headquarters know by December regarding local dues for the next fiscal year. Any chapter dues will be established by a secret ballot vote conducted among voting chapter members. The vote may be conducted either by mail ballot or, after reasonable notice, at a regular or special membership meeting. Chapter members must pay current Sigma Xi dues, any mandatory conference dues, and chapter dues.

Article VI: Committees**A. Executive Committee**

The executive committee shall consist of the elected officers of the chapter. The majority of the executive committee shall constitute a quorum for conduct of business of the committee. The executive committee shall assume responsibility for the chapter's continuing effective presence at the institution, keeping all positions on the executive committee filled as vacancies occur. The executive committee shall:

1. Meet regularly;
2. Respond to chapter members seeking assistance;
3. Conduct the business of the chapter between meetings;
4. Regularly recruit members and encourage maintenance of membership;
5. Make necessary appointments to complete an unexpired term of any officer;
6. Set the agenda with appropriate notice for chapter meetings and;
7. Consult regularly with the Society on matters of mutual interest;

B. Other Committees

The chapter may create additional standing and ad hoc committees as necessary to promote the welfare of the chapter. The chair and members of these committees shall be appointed by the executive committee. Some such committees may be, but are not limited to:

Membership Committee

Status of women and minorities

Professional ethics

Sigma Xi relationships with colleges and universities

Elections, dues, and chapter organization

Sigma Xi relationships with local, state, and federal governments

Chapter participation in college and university activities

Economic status of the profession

Article VII: 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. Written or electronic notice of such meetings shall be provided to each member by the secretary of the chapter at least three days in advance of the meeting date. The president shall call special meetings of the chapter within three days of being so directed by the executive committee or by a petition signed by 20 percent of the members.

The quorum required for the transaction of business at all meetings of the chapter shall consist of 55 percent of the members.

Article VIII: Dissolution

A chapter cannot cease to exist by voluntarily surrendering its charter; action by the Board of Directors and others is required. Upon revocation of the chapter, its assets shall be distributed to the Society, a charitable organization.

Article IX: Amendments

These bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the 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 member at least twenty days prior to the vote. Any member of the chapter may initiate an amendment.

Article X: Organization of the Society: Chapters

The units of The Research Society are chapters. The chapters participate in the governance of the Society in the manner and to the extent set forth in Sigma Xi's [constitution](#) and [bylaws](#), which in turn govern the acts, duties, responsibilities and privileges of the chapters. Chapters may adopt the above such bylaws as are appropriate for their governance, provided such bylaws do not conflict with the [constitution](#) and [bylaws](#) of the Society. Procedures governing the establishment and conduct of chapters and for the affiliation of active members therewith are set forth in the [bylaws](#).

Enacted this _____ day of _____ in the year _____.