

**Background:** Phi Sigma is a Biological Honor Society that was founded at Ohio State University in 1915, and became a member society of the Association of College Honor Societies in 1950. The Creighton Gamma Beta chapter of Phi Sigma was founded in 1978. The society welcomes those who have shown a devotion to the promotion of research and excellence in scholarship.

**Application and Induction:** The requirements for induction are: 3.4 GPA, Biology major, Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing and participation in research-related activities throughout the year (see society involvement below). Applications will be solicited every fall semester. There is a $50 induction fee that is required with the application. You may pay with cash or check, with checks being made out to Creighton Biology Department. Formal induction into Phi Sigma will occur at the annual Phi Sigma banquet during the Fall semester. At the end of your last semester at Creighton, you will also receive cords to wear at your graduation ceremony to indicate your involvement in Phi Sigma.

**Society Involvement Requirements**: To enhance the student experience in Phi Sigma, members will be required to participate in research-related activities throughout the year. Involvement is considered on a point-based system, with different activities awarded different point totals. Juniors must earn a total of 10 points throughout the year (Nov 1st- Nov 1st), and seniors must earn a total of 7 points throughout the year (Nov 1st- April 20th), and must submit an involvement verification form Nov 1st of each enrollment year (juniors) or April 20th (seniors) in order to remain an active member of Phi Sigma. The involvement point totals are found on page 2, and the annual involvement verification can be found on page 3 of this packet. Students that fail to submit a verification form, or do not earn the 10 required points per year for active membership will be given a probationary status, and if the participation requirements are not remediated/met by graduation, the student will not receive their Phi Sigma cords to wear at graduation, and their name will not be included in the graduation program as a member of Phi Sigma.



**Involvement Activities**

Juniors- 10 pts per year required (Nov. 1st-Nov. 1st)

Seniors- 7 pts required (Nov. 1st –April 20th)

**Research Involvement**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Points** |
| Enrollment in BIO 297, 397, or 497 | 3 pts per semester  |
| INBRE participation | 3 pts per year |
| CCAS Summer Undergraduate Research Scholarship Recipient | 3 pts per award |
| Summer research experiences at other universities | Up to 3 pts per summer |

**Research Presentations/Publications**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Points** |
| Presentation at Biology Colloquium, Honors Day, St. Albert’s Day, Phi Sigma | 1 pt per event |
| Presentation at a regional scientific meeting (e.g. Nebraska Academy of Science)  | 2 pts per event |
| Presentation at a national scientific meeting  | 3 pts per event |
| Co-authorship on a peer-reviewed scientific publication | 5 pts per publication |

**Scientific Research Talk Attendance**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Points** |
| Attendance at a Creighton-sponsored research talk. Possible seminar series to attend:1. Environmental Science Seminar Series
2. Biomedical Sciences Seminar Series
3. College of Medicine Distinguished Lecture Series
4. Other seminars on or off campus (e.g. UNO) may qualify (seek prior approval)
 | 1 pt per event |
| Phi Sigma Banquet, Biology Colloquium, Honors Day, St. Albert’s Day attendance, Research-related workshops | 1 pt per event |

**Phi Sigma Chapter Leadership**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Points** |
| Officer position in chapter | 1 pt per year  |

**Phi Sigma Chapter Participation**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Points** |
| Fall Phi Sigma Chapter Meeting\* attendance- Departmental Research Introductions | 1 pt |
| Spring Phi Sigma Chapter Meeting\* attendance- Departmental Research Student Progress | 1 pt |

\*Organized by Chapter Officers



**Chapter Involvement Verification Form**

**Due to Dr. Carol Fassbinder-Orth (****carolfassbinder-orth@creighton.edu****) by November 1st every year of chapter involvement (April 20th for graduating seniors)**

**Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**1. Research Involvement**

**Were you involved in research activities this past year Yes No**

**If yes, indicate the type of involvement, Faculty Mentor, and project title**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Activity | Points Possible | Your Point Total |
| Enrollment in BIO 297, 397, or 497 | 3 pts per semester  |  |
| INBRE participation | 3 pts per year |  |
| CCAS Summer Undergraduate Research Scholarship Recipient | 3 pts per project  |  |
| Summer research experiences at other universities | Up to 3 pts per summer | TBD-consult Dr. Fassbinder-Orth |

**Faculty Mentor:**

**Project Title:**

**2. Research Presentations/Publications**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Activity | Points Possible | Your Point Total |
| Presentation at Biology Colloquium, Honors Day, St. Albert’s Day, Phi Sigma meeting | 1 pt per event |  |
| Presentation at a regional/national meeting  | 2 pts-regional, 3 pts-national |  |
| Co-authorship on a peer-reviewed scientific publication | 5 pts per publication |  |

**Events/ Conference Details:**

**Event 1:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Presentation Title:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Authors:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Event 2:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Presentation Title:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Authors:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Event 3:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Presentation Title:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Authors:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**3. Scientific Research Talk Attendance**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Event/Seminar Details- See “Involvement Activities” for possible activities** | **Point total (1 pt per talk/event)** |
| **Title:****Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Summary (Include objectives and conclusions of research):** |  |
| **Title:****Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Summary (Include objectives and conclusions of research):** |  |
| **Title:****Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Summary (Include objectives and conclusions of research):** |  |
| **Title:****Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Summary (Include objectives and conclusions of research):** |  |

**4. Phi Sigma Chapter Leadership. Are you a chapter officer? Yes No**

**If yes, complete the following section:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Points (1 pt per year)** |
| Officer position: |  |

**6. Phi Sigma Chapter Participation**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Points (1 pt per event)** |
| Fall Phi Sigma Chapter Meeting\* attendance- |  |
| Spring Phi Sigma Chapter Meeting\* attendance |  |

**\*Attendance recorded at each event**

**Your Point Total:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**FAQs:**

**Why join Phi Sigma Biological Sciences Honor Society?**

Membership in Phi Sigma is not merely for recognition of academic excellence and achievement; it also serves to further develop interests, knowledge, and opportunities in biological sciences. Whether you intend to further your academic career, put your experience to immediate use in industry or government, or explore a new career direction, Phi Sigma will give you an opportunity to use your knowledge in ways that classroom experience alone cannot. Phi Sigma is a cross-section of undergraduate and graduate students and professional people with unique interests and experience in biology. As such, they can offer a wealth of perspectives that can assist you in your career development. We urge you to take advantage of this opportunity for social, educational, and professional advancement!

**What do I receive for my membership fee?**

The cost of joining Phi Sigma is a $50, one-time-only fee. Often individual chapters will include a small fee in addition to the fee required by the national office. This national office fee covers processing your membership information, an official Phi Sigma Pin, and a Certificate of Membership. You pay no annual dues. In addition, Student Members are eligible to apply for Phi Sigma Student Travel Grant funds.

**Who do I contact with additional questions?**

**Carol Fassbinder-Orth**

Chapter Faculty Advisor

 Carolfassbinder-orth@creighton.edu

402-280-3544

HLSB 419 Biology Department



Phi Sigma Emblem Signifies “Fellows in Science”: Fellowship in science includes scholarship, leadership, and cooperative effort.

Devoted to the promotion of research and academic excellence in the biological sciences.

Member of the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) and Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS),

affiliate of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)