

Physics Society Agenda

1- There appears to be this perception that being a part of the physics society demands full presence and participation.

That is not correct. Although being a "ghost member" is generally not what we want (and by "we", I mean "us", including "you"), it's "legal" to be that. And being a lurker is OK as well (but not recommended!). It's perfectly fine to only attend talks/activities that you're interested in.

2- The means of spreading announcements and contributions in the physics society are via both this mailing list and this teamwork space.

The [teamwork space](#) is open for everybody. Anybody can modify it, edit its pages, add new pages, remove pages and so forth. So maintaining the space is a community effort, that is, if you find any mistakes (typos, grammar mistakes, entire sentences that can be phrased out better, or even entire paragraphs) please do correct them. Moreover, you're encouraged to add new pages or activities as you see fit! Physics society is not run by one person - it's run by all of us, and anything physics related belongs!

3- The ultimate goal of the physics society is to bring physics enthusiasts together to do *physics*.

This is why our main attraction and the backbone of the physics society are the *talks* and *excursions*. But excursions require a lot of planning and synching, so they don't happen very often. When there are no excursion, this does not mean that all we do is talks, of course. We still get to have pure fun events often poorly disguised as "physics", but just as an excuse. You wanna have a watergun fight, err, fluid mechanics demonstration with water guns to test [Bernoulli's principle](#)? Maybe :P.

4- The physics society is community driven.

This is why we call this a "society" even though the university considers it to be a club. Everybody is encouraged to contribute. Attending talks for example is considered contribution since you help the presenter by adding one person (yourself) to the crowd. Asking the presenter questions is contributing. Suggesting activities, ideas, excursions, movies for movie nights, connections..etc using this mailing list or the teamwork page is contributing. **Giving talks** is the *mother* of all contributions.

5- Talks Talks Talks.

The way this works is that has read on a topic of their interest can present on the topic in the seminar room. The topics are generally very varied and sometimes quite exotic. Normally, we try to touch on topics not covered in the typical classroom. This makes things really interesting, and helps immensely in broadening our horizons. In addition the speaker learns a lot in terms of presentation skills and learns to be more comfortable in giving talks. The amount of work in preparing a talk is certainly huge, but if you'd be ready as to dedicate the time, *it pays off*. It really does. Ask anybody who's given a talk before: They'll tell you that their first time was nerve wracking. But the satisfaction that follows made it all the worthwhile. It's very satisfying going to dinner afterwards and you see your friends still discussing the topic you just presented on and asking you questions about it. That's when it gets addicting!