

SIGMA XI

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT

1) What Goals do you have for Sigma Xi?

We are presently living in a Global World where the dynamics of our common and professional lives are completely different from what they were a number of years ago. It is true that Sigma Xi has enjoyed a rich history of scientific leadership, but if it wants to continue doing so, Sigma Xi can't remain static and indifferent; it must evolve to a new dynamic model that addresses the main issues that are relevant to its members in this day and age. Using time properly, taking advantage of technology, and engaging in value actions are some of the crucial issues for success that any member is presently facing in today's professional environment. Thus, the no change option is in reality not an option, at least if we want to reverse the alarming decline in the membership that we have seen over the last decade.

For example, two of the programs where we have had great success are the one that fosters the participation in science and engineering of high school students, and the one that fosters research among college students. Here we not only score the highest percentage of our new initiates on a yearly basis, but we also score the highest percentage in the drop-out of our members. In this regard, we need to handle a new perspective and to address the critical issues that this young generation faces by providing the value propositions that they require in this global competitive world.

By the same token, Sigma Xi has not taken full advantage of its World membership to expand its horizons and grow internationally. This implies that it is not taking full advantage of what constitutes a Global Interdisciplinary Society and if elected, I would certainly work to change this situation and move the Society forward toward truly becoming "THE" Honor Society.

In summary, I want to help Sigma Xi review and make the necessary changes required to thrive in fostering Companionship in Zealous Research within the present highly competitive worldwide environment. It is true that our members are extremely busy, have diverse interests,

needs, and expectations and that there are significant generational differences among them. However, Sigma Xi can reinvent itself and develop a unique strategy in order to approach these challenges with a new and fresh perspective that will distinguish it from similar societies. I firmly believe that this will allow it to respond and deliver the proper present value and return on investment that each member makes in order to be a part of our Society.

2) What is your vision for Sigma Xi in the next 5-10 years?

I see Sigma Xi as a truly reinvented, dynamic and growing worldwide organization that is excellently moving forward because:

- a) It has a streamlined and professional leadership at the Board Level that does not in any way constitute a centralized power house.
- b) It has highly respected and actively engaged Chapters on a worldwide basis
- c) It makes use of its unique trait of the worldwide Interdisciplinary nature of its members and is internationally recognized as a Scientific Research organization that:
 - i. Has an active advocacy policy on crucial world issues
 - ii. Has unique and highly regarded publications on Science and Scientific Research
- d) It is concentrating its efforts in a few highly significant and specialized programs for its members
- e) It has fully incorporated the use of Information and Communication Technology and backs, as well as accompanies, the evolution of the value content required by its members.
- f) It handles Interdisciplinary and International Research Conferences of significance
- g) It recognized its worldwide diversity by fostering dynamic Regional Research Conferences that address the issues of each region

3) Describe your approach to leadership for the membership and society

My approach to leadership is dynamic in the sense that I want to meet and propose solutions to the changing needs that an association like Sigma Xi faces, especially as technology and global societal issues evolve and bring new challenges to the professional lives of our members. I have had ample

experience in developing differentiating business strategies for innovation and development of technology at corporate research centers, as well as in their implementation. This has made me very much aware of the importance that the involvement of stakeholders has in the successful implementation of the designed strategies. Moving forward by active participation and engagement is my model, not ruling by decree.

Networking also has a very important function in my concept of leadership and in this regard, searching for and contacting other key people for information, feedback or support, is key for moving important issues forward.

4) Discuss briefly your leadership experience

At the [Tecnológico](#) [Tec] de Monterrey:

- a) Head of Fluid Mechanics Lab at Tec de Monterrey
- b) Elected by Faculty for position in key Committees at Tec de Monterrey
 - i. Design of University Academic Senate
 - ii. Design of Faculty Evaluation System

At Vitro:

- c) Manger of a Department at the Corporate Research Center
- d) Director of the Corporate Research Center
- e) Highest ranking Senior Researcher

At Sigma Xi:

- f) Founder and President of Sigma Xi Chapter at Tec de Monterrey
- g) Director Southwestern Region of Sigma Xi
- h) Director Canadian/International Constituency Group of Sigma Xi
- i) Chairman International Committee

Sigma Xi faces an Imperative for Change that is extremely urgent and I have mentioned a few of the issues that have to be addressed in order to make the Society Relevant to its members.

Thus, if elected, I will strive to lead the Society meet this challenge by working with the Board, Executive Staff, and its members in order to place the building blocks that are necessary to consolidate and accomplish the required changes.