

DPP Business Meeting
Hyatt Regency Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia
November 3, 2009

1. Chair's Report

Amitava Bhattacharjee called the meeting to order. He announced the winners of the recent DPP election. Cary Forest is the new Vice-Chair. Denise Hinkel, Hantao Ji, and Mark Koepke are the new members of the Executive Committee.

Amitava described a possible new prize to be awarded jointly with the European Physical Society. A committee chaired by Porkolab and Hidalgo are preparing the proposal. The proposed prize will be awarded biannually and will be named after Landau and Spitzer. Every fourth year it will honor a young scientist (less than 10 years from Ph.D.). Another distinctive element of the prize is an emphasis on collaboration between European and American scientists. If approved by the DPP Executive Committee and EPS Board the proposal will advance to the APS for final approval.

In response to a shortage of applicants for the Early Career awards offered by DOE, a letter will be delivered to Steve Koonin advocating a modification of the program. Institutions could receive funds to offset one-half of a faculty member's salary for five years. Although this program will not garner additional departmental support for plasma physics appointments at some institutions, at others, it may persuade administrators to appoint new plasma physics faculty.

The DPP has been one of the divisions supporting the APS International Travel Grant program. Amy Flatten of APS reported to the Executive Committee about this program. She explained that the program is designed to encourage travel from developing countries to the United States and presented several enthusiastic testimonials to the committee. Few members of our division have participated, however. The Executive Committee decided to maintain our participation and will strive to advertise the program more effectively to the membership.

The current APS climate statement is controversial. The APS Council will reconsider the statement at its next meeting. Interested parties are encouraged to express their opinions about the statement to our divisional representative, David Hammer.

2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Bill Heidbrink reported that the Division currently has a positive balance of approximately \$951K.

3. Vice-Chair's Report

Steve Allen reported on plans for the "April" meeting, which will be held this year in February. The National Society of Black Physicists and the National Society of Hispanic Physicists will be at the meeting. Their first session will be three talks by plasma physicists. Cris Barnes asked if we had a plenary session at the meeting; Steve Allen answered that we do not.

The venues for upcoming fall meetings are Chicago (2010), Salt Lake (2011), Providence (2012), Denver (2013), and New Orleans (2014). Savannah made a very attractive offer to the division for the 2015 meeting that includes free meeting space, free transportation, and hotel rebates to the division (that we will try to exchange for reduced room rates). The Executive Committee voted to accept the Savannah proposal.

4. Maxwell Prize Endowment

Ian Hutchinson reported on progress toward full endowment of the Maxwell prize in perpetuity. So far \$27K has been contributed by a combination of institutions and individuals. Acknowledgments will appear on the DPP website. A general appeal to the membership for contributions has begun. Herb Berk asked if steady gifts are accepted. Bob McCrory asked why the DPP didn't use its surplus to endow the prize. Ian answered that the Executive Committee already decided to match contributions one-for-one and feels that this is the appropriate level of contribution from the division.

5. Report on the Atlanta Meeting

Tom Antonsen (Program Chair) reported that 1654 papers are being presented at the Atlanta meeting, which is more than last year but comparable to prior years. A total of 1610 people registered for the meeting, approximately 60 more than in Dallas. Seven childcare grants were awarded at a total expense of \$2000. Hantao Ji noted that there were no review talks on space or astrophysics; Tom answered that the review talks were competitively selected based on nominations and noted that there was a tutorial on dynamos.

Lee Berry (Local Organizer) helped lay out the meeting. Cris Barnes asked who the local organizer will be in Chicago. Steve Allen answered that Darren Craig is currently identified as the local organizer for the 2010 meeting.

6. Education & Outreach Report

Rick Lee reported that we "outdid ourselves" this year. 125 teachers attended 18 different workshops at Teacher's Day; 40 scientists joined the teachers for lunch. Joel Fajans spoke to the teachers. Approximately 1000 students per day were anticipated at the Expo on Thursday and Friday.

The Distinguished Lecturers program is continuing. Sprott, Spangler, Carter, Forest, and Petty are confirmed speakers.

Seventy undergraduates and high school students presented papers at the poster session on Tuesday. Six posters were selected for awards.

The Education & Outreach program is supported by contributions from individuals and research institutions and by the DPP, APS, and DOE.

7. New Business

Bruno Coppi remarked that the "cost of the Atlanta hotel is high."

8. Acknowledgments

Amitava Bhattacharjee presented a gift to Tom Antonsen in gratitude for his service as Program Chair. He thanked Ian Hutchinson for his service as Chair of the Division and Ellen Zweibel, Linda Sugiyama, and Ron Cohen for serving on the Executive Committee. He thanked the APS meetings staff for their fine work and Saralyn Stewart for continuing to guide the officers through their responsibilities.

Nineteen people attended the business meeting. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:15 p.m.