

**Draft prepared December 18, 2001 by V. Chan**

**Minutes of 2001 Fall DPP Executive Committee Meeting**

Hyatt Regency, Long Beach, California  
Sunday, October 28, 2001

**Members Present:** Allen Boozer, Michael Brown, Vincent Chan, Melissa Douglas, Jim Drake, Joel Fajans, Peter Gary, Richard Hazeltine, Mark Koepke, Martin Lampe, Michael Mauel, Warren Mori, Bill Nevins, Martin Peng

**Members Absent:** Richard Petrasso

**Guests:** Lee Berry, John Cary, Bruce Cohen, Cary Forest, Gail Glendinning, David Hammer, Noah Hershkowitz, Tom Katsouleas, Ron McKnight, Gerald Navratil, Martha Redi, Earl Scime, Cliff Surko, Michael Zarnstorff

**DPP Administrator:** Saralyn Stewart

---

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Allen Boozer.

**Election Results (Boozer)**

Alan Boozer announced Dave Hammer is the new vice-chair-elect, Vincent Chan will continue as the secretary-treasurer, and Bruce Cohen, Cliff Surko and Mike Zarnstorff are the new ExCom members. 506 electronic votes and 9 paper votes were received.

**Review of Action Items (Boozer)**

All action items have been addressed and follow-up actions have been identified.

**Endorsement of Meetings (Boozer)**

Motion: To endorse the Third International Conference on Inertial Fusion Sciences and Applications (IFS2003) - September 7-12, 2003

Action: Passed.

Gerry Navratil gave a report on the preparation of the Snowmass meeting next summer. He noted a conflict with the ICPP meeting in Australia and the high temperature diagnostic conference in Madison, Wisconsin. However, because the Snowmass conference center has to be booked two years in advance, it is not possible to adjust the dates. DPP will work with ICPP to ensure some attendees from U.S.

Action Item: The DPP chair will pass on the DPP recommendation to APS to include the Snowmass meeting in the list of official meetings. (dates: July 8-19, 2002, Snowmass, Colorado).

**Secretary-Treasurer's Report (Chan)**

Motion: To approve the minutes of the Spring ExCom Meeting, with one change in the Secretary-Treasurer's report. It should read "DPP will provide a free banquet ticket to each newly elected fellow and a companion, to attend the annual meeting banquet."

Action: Passed.

Action Item: In the future minutes will be sent to ExCom members twice, once in draft form for comments, and a second time a week before the next ExCom meeting.

Action Item: Boozer will send a letter to Dave Baldwin at General Atomics to accept his offer for sponsoring the Maxwell Prize.

## *Agenda item 3.a.*

Richard Hazeltine reported that Darlene Logan who is in charge of funding raising at APS has not been officially notified of DPP's intent to raise funds to permanently endow the Maxwell Prize. She has offered to help the division but we must make our request official.

Motion: (Hazeltine/Brown) The DPP chair will officially ask for APS/Logan's help to raise funds for endowing the Maxwell Prize.

Action: Passed.

Action Item: Martin Lampe will invite Logan to attend the next DPP ExCom meeting.

DPP membership letter campaign has resulted in the addition of 130 new members and 50 lapsed members.

To improve communication with members, the following suggestions were discussed

- Add key words to DPP announcements (action item for Chan)
- Post information on DPP web-site in a timely fashion, and develop a schedule for posting important information (action item for Saralyn Stewart)
- Set up an ad hoc committee for improving the DPP web site, add link to web site in emails to members, and enlist help from APS

Motion: (Hazeltine/Gary) DPP will set up an ad hoc committee consisting of Vincent Chan (chair), Mike Mauel, John Cary, and Saralyn Stewart to explore improving the DPP web-site using APS resources.

Action: Passed.

As of 09/30/01, DPP has retained earnings of \$298,349 and current period earnings of \$202,623, for a total net asset of \$500,972.

Preliminary registration numbers indicated a decrease of about 150 attendees for this meeting. This will likely result in a net loss, but with the DPP reserve, we should be able to handle it.

Action Item: DPP should take seriously the number of hotels and the hotel rate at future DPP meetings.

AIP Media Services has informed DPP that it would begin charging \$5k for services provided for the DPP meeting press release. John Cary, public information committee chair, reported that his committee values the services provided by AIP, which include rewriting the articles and checking with scientists to make sure the information is correct, and would recommend subscribing to the AIP services. A concern emerging from the discussion that followed is whether this action is the beginning of a trend whereby AIP would charge for every service it provides.

Motion: (Boozer/Peng) The secretary-treasurer and the chair of the public information committee will negotiate with APS/Ben Stein on a fair fee for the AIP media services. John Cary will also come up with a coherent plan for using the information services.

Action: Passed.

Cary commended J. Colvin who single-handedly organized the media forum session at this meeting.

Action Item: John Cary will draft a letter of appreciation for the DPP chair to send to Jeff Colvin.

### **Committee Reports**

Noah Hershkwitz reported on the Commission on Plasma Physics of IUPAP. There has been increase activities in international collaboration. The commission supports international conferences such as International Conference on Plasma Physics, International Conference on the Physics of Ionized Gases and most recently IC on physics of dusty plasmas in South Africa. Typical financial support is \$10k for each meeting. APS funds the IUPAP on a yearly basis.

Hershkwitz also reported on the APS task force on physicists with disabilities. Suggestions from the task force included

### *Agenda item 3.a.*

- Provide an interpreter to sign oral presentations, if requested, and advertise hearing and visual impairment assistance availability in the meeting announcement
- Make sure there is wheel chair accessibility in the front row of each oral session
- Be aware of the acoustics for people with hearing aids; adequate poster board spacing is beneficial
- Have student volunteers assist attendees with disabilities during the annual meeting

Action Item: Mike Mauel will get together with Noah Hershkowitz to decide ADA needs at the next annual meeting. A checklist will be prepared and passed on to future meeting program chairs.

Martha Redi reported for the committee on women in plasma physics. The percentage of women fellows has increased but is still below 4% of DPP women. The representation of DPP women as invited speakers, serving on the ExCom, and DPP committees has increased significantly demonstrating outstanding progress. Redi made a request for funding support for women graduate students to attend a luncheon for women plasma physicists at the DPP annual meeting. She also requested DPP to pay for the meeting space for the committee luncheon. The committee is also looking into electronic mentoring. Issues recommended by the committee to be studied further include how to increase representation of women in graduate programs, as laboratory staff, and at university faculties.

Motion: (Mauel/Hazeltine) DPP will subsidize the cost over and above \$10 per person for women graduate students to attend the women in plasma physics luncheon. DPP will also provide the meeting space charge fee for the women in plasma physics committee luncheon.

Action: Passed.

Action item: Martha Redi will give an update of the mentor program for women in plasma physics at the spring DPP ExCom.

Gail Glendinning reported for the Katherine E. Weimer Award ad hoc committee. Because APS is in the process of reviewing all its prizes and awards, Allen Boozer suggested to establish this award as a DPP award this year. This would allow the award to be presented next year.

Motion: (Glendinning/Boozer) To approve the Katherine E. Weimer Award as a DPP award. DPP will provide \$2k for the prize and cover the travel expenses for the first award year.

Action : Passed.

Action Item: The DPP chair will send this recommendation to APS for approval. He will also appoint a five-member committee for this award, with one non-DPP member.

Mike Mauel reported DPP received 9 regular and 3 alternate slots for new APS fellows. In addition, 2 fellows were proposed and accepted through the Forum on International Physics.

James Knauer submitted a written report for the publication committee. The report proposed for DPP ExCom feedback on web publication of theses in plasma physics. The ExCom strongly supported the idea. The committee will email timely messages to DPP members soliciting Ph.D. thesis information for web publication. It should coordinate with the thesis award committee so the latter can take the information into consideration. The report mentioned that APS would like to see an increase in plasma physics publications in Physical Review E, while there may be a set quota for acceptance in Physical Review Letters. Other issues discussed included

- DPP invited papers are listed as conference proceedings; they should be listed as refereed publications in citation index
- There is no plasma physics representation in the Science Magazine board of editors.

Action Item: DPP secretary-treasurer will communicate to J. Knauer to begin with the thesis list. It should contain the following information: name, subject title, link to URL containing the thesis, and identification of woman/minority.

Action Item: The publication committee will report in the spring ExCom meeting statistics of plasma physics publication in Physical Review Letter.

Cary Forest reported for the doctoral thesis award committee.

Motion: (Forest/Hazeltine) The committee recommends the doctoral theses of the nominees be submitted. It recommends the eligibility rule be changed from 18 months to 2 years from the thesis submission date. Nominations made in the previous year, if eligible, would be considered automatically.

Action: Passed.

Action Item: The secretary-treasurer will send the recommended rule changes to APS for review.

Navratil reported the recommendations of an ad hoc committee in response to the NRC plasma science report

- The Snowmass meeting is a step in the direction of recommendation #5 of the NRC report, but it does not address reaching out to a broader scientific community
- In response to recommendation #2, DPP should plan joint meetings and topical workshops with other subfields

Martin Lampe suggested that DPP should consider enhancing participation in the April APS meeting as a second plasma physics meeting not to supersede the fall DPP meeting. Mike Zarnstorff suggested DPP should urge other plasma physics meetings during the April time frame to join the APS April meeting.

Motion: (Lampe/Drake) The DPP will appoint a committee of Lampe (chair), Drake, and Hammer to consult organizers of meetings such as Sherwood theory conference, transport task force, innovative confinement concepts, high temperature plasma diagnostics, regarding possibility of co-location with the APS meeting. The committee would also explore with APS their flexibility for co-location with other meetings.

Action: Passed.

- DPP should initiate a campaign to increase the number of plasma physicists in the National Academy of Sciences membership

Judy Franz has suggested approaching Jim Langer, president of NAS, to discuss under-representation of plasma physicists. Warren Mori related from John Dawson that inability for present NAS members in plasma physics to work together is hurting nominations. Cliff Surko commented that approaching NAS formally on this issue would appear self-serving, rather, DPP should approach NAS members informally.

Motion: (Hazeltine/Drake) DPP chair will approach Andy Sessler to ask for suggestions to improve situation with NAS. Chair will also talk to Tom O'Neil and Charles Kennel.

Action: Passed.

- To increase the number of plasma physics faculty at universities, DPP needs to more widely advertise plasma physics opportunities to the chairs and deans of universities to influence their hiring decisions. Also plasma physics awardees need to be publicized.

Currently, there are 15 DOE-funded tenure-tracked positions at universities, plus one jointly funded by NSF. Mark Koepke commented that the early-career awards in plasma physics are quite well known to university chairs and deans and therefore Gerry Navratil's suggestion to increase the effort in advertising these incentives (or "carrots") for hiring plasma physics faculty may not significantly increase the hiring of plasma physics faculty. Naturally, increasing the number of annual awards or the amount of money per award might be expected to increase the numbers of young plasma physicists being hired into tenure-track faculty positions.

Motion: (Hazeltine/Peng) DPP chair will initiate action to gather and distribute data of university faculty open positions and awards, and publicize them on the DPP web site.

Action: Passed

- Review and recommend improvements of the DOE OFES grant selection process (Martin Lampe took over as chair for this discussion).

Motion: (Gary/Mauel) DPP should urge the DOE/OFES to implement a similar database system for its funded research projects as that maintained by the NSF.

Surko commented, he believes DOE to implement a database is not a particularly good idea; it is better to work with DOE informally. Mori is uncomfortable with making strong statements without knowing the facts. Ron McKnight from OFES said the resource at OFES is not sufficient to publish funding data in a dynamic way. It may be possible to publish project summaries with funding information up to the last funding period.

At this point the motion was called to question (Gary) with 7 yes and 3 no to proceed with voting.

Action: The motion was voted down.

Motion: (Navratil/Mauel) DPP ExCom would request DOE to make information available of PI, title of research, and funding levels to the public in an easily accessible way.

Action: This motion was called to question and voted down.

Motion: (Drake/Fajans) The discussion on this topic has reached a point where further discussion is no longer productive. ExCom should table this discussion until the next meeting.

Action: Passed.

Earl Scime reported on the committee for young scientists. A young plasma scientists leadership meeting is scheduled in Long Beach. The intention of such a meeting is to discuss strategies for increasing the involvement of young plasma scientists in the leadership of the plasma community, particularly in the U.S. fusion program. A report of the meeting will be submitted to the spring ExCom meeting in spring 2002.

#### **Councilor's Report (Hazeltine)**

Richard Hazeltine is serving on an APS task force to review all the prizes and awards. This is motivated by the APS executive committee's view that the prizes and awards are not serving their purposes. The task force has come up with a set of recommendations that has yet to be approved by the APS council

- The task force does not agree with the APS executive committee that there are too many awards. The number is commensurate with the membership, although there is some resistance to new awards

- To address the criticism that awards are owned by the divisions, each award committee should have at least one member outside the division

- To keep up the prestige of the awards, the amount should be increased to \$10k for a prize and \$5k for an award. Divisions will not be allowed to use dues and meeting funds to support APS prizes and awards.

Funds should be raised privately.

The APS council has determined that meeting funds can be used to support outreach activity that is deemed to be consistent with the purpose of meetings.

#### **2001 Long Beach Meeting (Lampe)**

Lampe reported there were very few cancellations for this meeting. P. Kaw cancelled this trip and N. Fisch will present his talk at the Tom Stix memorial session. EPS invited talks nominations were not submitted to the web on time, and will need better arrangement in the future. We need to make sure to invite the EPS and JPS representatives to the DPP ExCom annual meeting every year. Eight travel grants were offered and five recipients cancelled their trips. The program chair should set a deadline for grant application for future meetings. Program changes included unifying the daily start and end time from 9:00 AM to 5:15 PM and simplifying the bulletin. The high energy density mini-conference was a single organized, focused session of talks. This had not been done previously as a mini-conference at the annual meeting. The ExCom should decide whether to permit this type of organized mini-conference in the future.

Tom Katsouleas, the local chair, reported the set-up of a discussion room, which is new this year, and an increase in internet access including plug-ins for laptops.

**DOE Report (McKnight)**

Ron McKnight reported on OFES basic plasma science activities. The DOE/NSF partnership MOU is being discussed for renewal for another five years. An announcement for junior faculty grants came out for the sixth year and a list of awardees will be on the DOE website soon. DOE/NSF is funding the basic plasma user facility at UCLA. The DPP distinguished lecturer program continued to receive funding and the NRC plasma science committee was funded by DOE.

**International Cooperation (Boozer)**

Boozer will attend the EPS 2002 program committee meeting at Garching, Germany, November 30, 2001.

**Education, Outreach and Physics Support**

A written report was submitted by Don Correll.

**Student Poster Award (Brown)**

Mike Brown reported on the status of the undergraduate poster awards. Brown, Nevins, Douglas and Gary will do the judging of the posters to pick out the 2 best in the group. The ExCom would like to see the award advertised widely and winners' pictures posted on the DPP website. To ensure continuity, at least one ExCom member should always be on the committee. Melissa Douglas will be the new chair and Brown will stay on as a member. The committee will consider how to extend this award to graduate student posters.

**APS Meetings Department Report (Baudrau)**

Because the decrease in attendance was only around 10%, the ExCom was surprised that the hotel attrition clause was applied. Donna Baudrau pointed out that attrition clauses have become standard in hotel contracts and we need to pay more attention to them. A possible reason for "tripping" off the attrition clause is the Westin Hotel was expensive and the location was less desirable. Lampe and other ExCom members suggested that more attention to balancing the reservations among the hotels should help. Also, for future contracts, the meetings department will fill in the attrition clause protection against acts of God, national emergency, and war.

APS will no longer print APS Meeting News, a savings of \$200k to APS.

Motion: (Boozer/Fajan) Donna Baudrau will report at the spring DPP ExCom meeting ways of balancing the hotel reservations (less expensive and lower end hotels), and insurance options to protect DPP against attrition clause penalty due to reduced attendance.

Action: Passed.

The ExCom thanked Donna Baudrau for her effort in negotiating out of \$50k of penalty by the Westin.

**Next ExCom Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on April 20 at the APS April meeting in Albuquerque.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vincent Chan  
DPP Secretary-Treasurer