

Minutes of 2007 Fall DPP Executive Committee Meeting

Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, Florida

Sunday, November 11, 2007

Members Present: Steve Allen, Amitava Bhattacharjee, Vincent Chan, Ron Cohen, Melissa Douglas, Martin Greenwald, David Hammer, Ian Hutchinson, David Meyerhofer, Fred Skiff, Linda Sugiyama, Ed Synakowski, Francois Waelbroeck, Ellen Zweibel

Members Absent: Ray Fonck

Guests: Tom Antonsen, Donna Baudrau, Lee Berry, Bob Bingham, Troy Carter, Michael Donovan, Dan Duban, Steve Eckstrand, Charles Greenfield, Allan Hauer, Mark Koepke, Rick Lee, Nermin Uckan, James Van Dam

DPP Administrator: Saralyn Stewart

Welcome remarks—Vincent Chan

Vincent Chan called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM and the new officers and their term of office were announced:

Tom Antonsen (University of Maryland), Vice Chair (11/2011)

Bill Heidbrink (University of California, Irvine), Secretary-Treasurer (11/2010)

Troy Carter (UCLA), Member (11/2010)

Daniel Dubin (UCSD), Member (11/2010)

Mark Kushner (Iowa State University), Member (11/2010)

The outgoing ExCom members are: Melissa Douglas (Past Chair), Steve Allen (Secretary-Treasurer) Ray Fonck, Martin Greenwald, and Fred Skiff (ExCom members).

Approval of the Minutes of the Spring Executive Committee Meeting—Steve Allen
(Minutes from: Saturday, April 14, 2007, Jacksonville, Florida)

Motion (Hutchinson/Meyerhofer): The Minutes should be changed to include the wording from the previous meeting's motion, i.e., DPP should pay for reasonable travel expenses to the Thesis Award recipient normally up to \$1000.

Passed unanimously.

Motion (Bhattacharjee/Hammer): To approve the changed wording of the minutes from the DPP ExCom Meeting held in Jacksonville, Florida. Passed.

Chair's Report—Vincent Chan

DPP Election Results. There were 689 electronic ballots and 38 paper ballots.

Review Action Items

- Strike action item #1: Chris Deeney will be asked to help with the DPP Distinguished Lecturer Program, along with Melissa Douglas and Rick Lee.
- Vincent Chan contacted Ray Orbach to ask him to speak at the Orlando DPP annual meeting, and Orbach declined.
- Vincent Chan asked the APS officers, beginning with Leo Kadanoff the current APS president, to present the APS awards at the DPP annual meeting and they declined the invitation because of other commitments. Judy Franz will present the APS awards at the annual meeting.

- The 2007 registration fees remained the same as the 2006 registration fees (\$385 members, \$505 nonmember, \$75 student).
- Vincent Chan contacted Amy Flatten, APS International Travel Grant Award Program, and requested to exclude ITER partners in the Grant Award Program (European Union, Japan, People's Republic of China, India, Republic of Korea, and the Russian Federation.)
- Vincent Chan and Ian Hutchinson contacted Gene Sprouse, APS Editor-in-Chief, regarding the appropriate wording in Physical Review E about actual results in plasma physics. PRE isn't "down" on simulations.
- The Maxwell Prize needs to be fully endowed. Vincent and Ian request suggestions from the ExCom to explore how to fully endow the Maxwell Prize.

Action Item: Vincent and Ian will set up an ad hoc committee to explore how to fully endow the Maxwell Prize. (Suggestion: Use DPP money for matching funds.)

- Vincent requested that the ExCom attend talks in Orlando and consider potential nominees for the 2008 Dawson Award or the Maxwell Prize.

Action item: Melissa Douglas and Chuck Greenfield will solicit new DPP distinguished lecturers to the program.

- The first announcement for the Orlando meeting included wording to authors submitting multiple papers explicitly that state "submission of an abstract is the responsibility of the submitter, that the first author will present the paper". This was slightly successful, in Orlando.

Motion (Bhattacharjee/Hammer): The upcoming DPP Program Committee Chair (Tom Antonsen) will be the DPP representative to the April APS Meeting, and will be assisted by the DPP Past Chair (Vincent Chan).

Action item: Ian Hutchinson will invite the APS President, Arthur Bienenstock, to be Master of Ceremonies at the DPP Banquet Awards Ceremony in Dallas.

DOE Invitation Letter—Vincent Chan

An invitation letter was mailed to Dr. Raymond Fonck requesting that he speak about workforce development in the Fusion Energy Research Program at the Town Hall Meeting for Junior Scientists and to stop by the Science Teachers' Day and Plasma Expo in Orlando. The invitation was declined.

APS International Travel Grant Program Website—Vincent Chan

DPP has contacted Amy Flatten, APS International Travel Grant Award Program, to let her know Professor Herbert Berk, University of Texas, is the DPP representative on the award program committee.

Endorsement of Meeting—Vincent Chan

Passed: To officially endorse the Innovative Confinement Concepts Workshop, June 24-27, 2008, to be held at the University of Nevada, Bruno Bauer is requesting endorsement.

Secretary-Treasurer Report—Steve Allen

Action item: Steve Allen will contact APS to arrange a check transfer of \$15,000 from the DPP General Account to the Katherine Weimer Award Account.

Action item: Vincent Chan will check why the Division of Fluid Dynamics membership increased by 1075 from 2005 to 2007.

Online 2007 Ballot Statistics and History—Saralyn Stewart

A written report showed the statistics of DPP valid ballots counted over the past two decades. In the 2006 Special Election this was about 32.9%. In the 2007 Regular Election it went down slightly to 29.8%.

Action item: Saralyn will work with the 2008 DPP Nomination Committee to see if the call for nominations announcement can go out earlier in the summer intending to solicit more voters.

Division Councilor Report—David Hammer

The APS Council meeting will be held in the following week. Four DPP members have been nominated for APS committees, including the APS nominating committee. Percentage of members voting in the overall APS election was around 20%.

Action Item: DPP will email an announcement to the DPP membership to vote in upcoming APS-wide elections.

Fellowship Committee Report—Bhattacharjee

This year (2007), for the first time, all nominations were processed electronically. The system is fairly good, but there are suggestions for improving the software. On the whole, the transition to electronic has worked very well, compared to overnight mail of written information for the committee. Included in the written report is Appendix A, which are guidelines for the APS-DPP fellowship selection committee. In particular item 4 where it talks about members of the Fellowship Committee should recuse themselves from voting on a nominee if: 1) they were the nominee's doctoral or postdoctoral advisor, and 2) they are employed by the same institution as the nominee. There was a discussion whether this item should be a part of the DPP "best practices", or something more formal from the Executive Committee. The recusal rule applies to voting, not to selection committee discussion. There was some confusion whether people who were nominators could vote on a candidate, particularly for deferred nominees.

Motion (Hammer/Cohen) Members of the Fellowship Committee should recuse themselves from voting on a nominee if 1) they were the nominee's doctoral or postdoctoral advisor, and 2) they are employed by the same institution as the nominee, and nominators for current candidates, including those deferred, should not serve on the Fellowship Committee. The motion passed.

Action item: Tom Antonsen will notify the 2008 DPP Fellowship Committee of the new rules.

Coalition for Plasma Science Activities—Berry

A proposal was presented by Lee Berry, that DPP and IEEE/PSAC continue to assist the CPS with the plasma award as they have since 2004 at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. Steve Allen agreed to be a judge at the 2008 Atlanta, Georgia annual Intel Science Fair.

Motion (Skiff/Sugiyama) DPP will continue to support the Coalition for Plasma Science with a \$5,000.00 annual contribution. The motion passed.

Action item: Lee Berry will write a proposal to DPP to increase the annual CPS award.

Education and Outreach, and Plasma Physics Support—Rick Lee

About 60 local teachers will have 8 different workshop topics to choose from at this meeting. Also the DPP ExCom is invited to attend the Teachers Day lunch with local teachers.

The DPP Science Expo was not held in 2006, so local school, classroom visits were arranged.

In 2007 the Expo will be adjacent to the DPP poster sessions, on Thursday and Friday. Thursday evening from 6-8 p.m. will be an open session for the meeting participants and the general public. During the day on Thursday and Friday approximately 1000 students are expected to attend the Expo. There is also a follow-on workshop scheduled in the spring of 2008 in Orlando where the teachers build a project.

The Distinguished Lecturer Program is continuing, one person gave a lecture this last year, and the committee is looking for new lecturers.

Chuck Greenfield has been appointed by Vincent Chan to take over the duties as the DPP Education and Outreach Chair after the 2007 annual meeting.

APS Meetings Department—Baudrau

The hotel room block obligation has been filled in Orlando. It was reported that 331 DPP members pre-registered for the annual banquet. Donna Baudrau gave the hotel a guarantee of 500 banquet attendees.

There were 29 new DPP members in 2007.

In future years, DPP is considering Providence (good opportunity), Seattle (no dates available), Minneapolis (no response), San Jose (expensive), Oakland (convention center too small), and Portland (possible transportation issue) for 2012. Providence is offering 350 government rate guest rooms.

Motion (Greenwald/Waelbroeck) Direct the APS meeting department staff to negotiate a contract agreement with Providence, Rhode Island for 2012.

Department of Energy Fusion Energy Sciences Program—Eckstrand

Steve Eckstrand highlighted that funding for the ITER program has gone up significantly. In FY2008, there was discussion about the House and Senate marks that are roughly in agreement except for some details about wording on High Energy Density Physics. A record number of proposals were received from solicitations, up 20% over 2006. The ITER status is that it is a legal entity as of October 24, 2007. There will be a US action as part of the International Organization Immunities Act to grant Privileges and Immunities. The first formal ITER Council meeting is planned to be November 27-28, 2007. Steve then discussed how Magnetic Fusion Energy Science will evolve to a new phase, in particular, what the domestic program will look like in addition to ITER. There is a draft for a new OFES organization that would have a Projects and Planning Division, a Magnetic Fusion Sciences Division, and a new Division of Plasma Sciences (including

Inertial Fusion Science, High Energy Density Laboratory Plasmas, and Basic Plasma Science. There will be postings for two of these Division heads, the Division of Plasma Sciences is currently under discussion. There is no plan to end the National Science Foundation partnership.

Department of Energy NNSA Defense Programs—Hauer

There will be 3 major new facilities. NNSA would like to strengthen their links between academia and DOE's OFES. There are budget pressures within NNSA and OFES that will keep early efforts modest in the joint program.

DPP Demographics—Cohen

Both a formal and an informal poll indicates that the median age of researchers is over 55. There are new plasma facilities becoming available like ITER and NIF in the next few years. Ron was concerned about how the knowledge transfer will take place. He was wondering if the DPP ExCom could do anything to help bring in more young researchers in plasma physics. Some thoughts are to encourage management to set up mentoring programs, encourage institutionally sponsored young-investigator fellowships, and encourage DOE to further strengthen its postdoc programs. Troy Carter express an interest and will continue dialogue off line.

2007 Annual Meeting in Orlando—Hutchinson

Ian Hutchinson commented that mini-conferences enrich the DPP annual meeting but, he had several questions regarding if there should be better guidelines for the organizers of mini-conference programs, are mini-conference organizers taking away one of the roles of the DPP program committee, and could DPP somehow establish organizational changes so the mini-conferences could be incorporated into the regular program committee activities?

Action Item: Form an ad hoc committee to formulate the role and execution of mini-conferences at the DPP meeting.

This task will need to be completed via email before the next DPP ExCom meeting in April 2008. The ad hoc committee will be: Amitava Bhattacharjee (chair), François Waelbroeck, Dan Dubin, Tom Antonsen, Saralyn Stewart.

The modeling and simulation category was retained after substantial debate. The category proved to be unsatisfactory. There will be three mini-conferences at the Orlando meeting: Angular Momentum, Helicon Sources, and First Wall.

There were some revisions in the wording of the announcement regarding the multiple abstract paper policy. These changes have been somewhat effective.

There was a request from Cambridge University Press to have an advertisement in the Bulletin, but there are no advertisements in the Bulletin. There was some discussion about running advertisements in the DPP Chronicle. There was some discussion on this topic, however, no decision was made before the Chronicle was printed for the Orlando meeting. The topic was tabled.

A student scholarship award was funded out of Ian Hutchinson's discretionary funds. The Marshall and Sara Rosenbluth graduate student scholarship award will no longer be earmarked as part of the DPP discretionary funds.

Ian thanked Martin Greenwald for stepping in as the local coordinating chair. He also thanked the program committee and recommended that the July sorter's meeting at APS Headquarters be 1.5 days standard.

Local Coordinating Committee—Greenwald

The Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando will provide extra lunch facilities during the annual meeting. This was added during the site visit in Orlando.

DPP Best Practices—Greenwald

There are ten best practices documents that have been written by appointed committee chairs. The challenge is how to make this sustaining. Martin suggests: 1) the overall responsibility should be assigned to a DPP officer, 2) regular procedures to update a document set should be put in place, and 3) regular procedures should be instituted for informing incoming committee chairs of this resource and their responsibility to review and update the document for their committee. There were 3 areas that were not completed: Nicholson Medal Fundraising, Women in Plasma Physics, and Education and Outreach.

There was a suggestion that these documents be open to the DPP ExCom and the chairs of the appointed committees. A question was raised if the best practices documents could be done on a controlled "Wiki" web site.

Public Information Committee—Van Dam

The committee had 7 featured press releases, one educational press release, 13 additional press releases, and 2 rejected press releases. The 7 press releases were polished by a professional editor, and the final versions were sent to APS. The number of submitted press releases went down this year. Thanks to Jim Van Dam on being the chairman of this committee for the last three years.

Nominating Committee—Surko

This committee selected the slate for the Fall election, including obtaining the requisite candidates' statements and biographical sketches, by the target deadline of May 31, 2007. The final task is to nominate DPP members for APS-wide committees.

Cliff Surko and Don Batchelor prepared the DPP Nominating Committee Best Practices document.

Concerns of Junior Scientists—Carter

Troy Carter and Jill Foley are preparing a database of junior scientists. They will sponsor a panel discussion during the DPP annual meeting with Professor Steve Cowley, Professor Ed Thomas, and Dr. Steve Eckstrand (DOE, for Ray Fonck).

Action Item: Replace Troy Carter as the co-chair of this committee.

Women in Plasma Physics—Sugiyama

Melissa Douglas discussed a report she prepared on the Fellowship status of Women in DPP. Linda Sugiyama will step down from leadership of the this committee, and Melissa will be the new chair.

Maxwell Committee—Mauel

There were 2 new nominations this year, and there will be six that will be carried over to next year. The ExCom should solicit candidates for this award.

Action item: Ian Hutchinson will solicit ideas from the upcoming Maxwell Prize Committee that will hopefully streamline the nomination process.

International Union of Pure and Applied Physics Commission 16—Koepe
Mark Koepe reported that ITER has stimulated the International plasma physics community. Internationally, researchers are becoming involved in ITER.

2008 APS April Meeting—Joint Sessions and HEDP Participation—Bhattacharjee
Bruce Remington is the chair of a program committee for the HEDP/HEDLP meeting. The April meeting will be a “kickoff” meeting for the International HEDP/HEDLP meeting. The meeting will start on Friday, April 11 one day before the April APS Meeting. There will be three sessions in collaboration with DPP: Ultra High Density Plasmas (DPP/HEDP/HEDLA), Jets and Gamma Ray Bursts (DPP/GPAP/HEDP/HEDLA) and Advanced Acceleration Techniques (DPP/DPB/HEDP/HEDLA). There was discussion about sources of funding.

Motion (Meyerhofer/Hutchinson) DPP will contribute up to \$3,000.00 funding to support graduate students travel expenses to attend the HED meeting that is collocating with the 2008 APS April Meeting. The motion passed.

2008 Annual Meeting in Dallas—Bhattacharjee
Boris Breizman, University of Texas, Austin, has been selected as the 2008 Local Coordinating Committee.

The program committee has been selected, and was included in the written report. This meeting is the 50th anniversary of the DPP, and Amitava has set up a special ad hoc committee for this meeting. Some ideas are: 1) commemorative talks in plenary session Wednesday evening, 2) a plasma physics exhibition and expo, and 3) commemorative coffee table book on plasma physics for non-scientists. Amitava proposed a budget of \$15K for invited speakers, \$20K for a Plasma Expo, and \$15K to pay a science writer of a coffee table book.

There is also a possibility that APS would help us for fundraising of the book. A couple of fallback positions is to make a website or have the APS staff make a brochure.

Motion: (Greenwald/Skiff) Authorize a payment of up to \$15K to pay a science writer to prepare a publication for the 50th anniversary, subject to the approval by the ExCom, of a plan that Amitava has for a book or brochure publication. The motion passed.

Action item: Discuss the \$15K for invited speakers and \$20K for Plasma Expo at the APS April meeting.

2009 APS Meeting and Sherwood Participation—Bhattacharjee
The Sherwood ExCom has agreed to join the 2009 April APS Meeting in Denver, Colorado, May 2-5. For the previous 2006 meeting, DPP agreed to support the Sherwood Meeting with \$5,000, however the final bill to DPP was about \$1,660. There is a tentative agreement that DOE would contribute \$3,000 and APS would contribute \$8,000 from the meeting returns. Amitava requested that DPP contribute up to \$3,000 for the 2009 APS Meeting.

Motion (Hutchinson/Meyerhofer) DPP will contribute up to \$3K to support the Sherwood Meeting at the 2009 APS Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Website Design Proposal—Stewart

An ad hoc committee with Troy Carter, Rick Lee, and Saralyn Stewart presented a proposal to redesign the DPP website. The proposed cost would be up to \$3K and the design would be done by a website design professional. The previous design was done in 2002 for \$2,000. Currently, DPP uses Networking Worlds in Austin to make changes to the DPP website. The average annual cost for maintenance is about \$1100.

Action Item: Saralyn Stewart will solicit suggestions from the DPP membership regarding re-design of the DPP website.

The Executive Committee discussed the DPP administrator contract renewal. The committee voted to accept the recommendations of the subcommittee.

Adjourn at 6:00 p.m. for Social Hour.