

## Minutes of the Fall 2013 DPP Executive Committee Meeting

*Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Denver, Colorado*

Sunday, November 10, 2013

**Members and Officers Present:** Fred Skiff, Mark Koepke, Riccardo Betti, Cary Forest, Karl Krushelnick, Vincent Chan, Christine Coverdale, Fatima Ebrahimi, Catherine Fiore, John Goree, Stephen Knowlton, Rajesh Maingi, David Montgomery, Gennady Shvets

**DPP Administrator:** Saralyn Stewart

**Guests:** Richard Berger, Lee Berry, Arati Dasgupta, Dan Dubin, Terri Gaier, Steven Gitomer, Gail Glendinning, Michael Lubell, David Meyerhofer, Paul Miller, Zoltan Sternovsky, Tim Tharp, Edward Thomas, James Van Dam

### 1. Welcome remarks

Fred Skiff called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM. Introductions of attendees followed, along with an explanation of the agenda and the procedure for the meeting.

### 2. Approval of the Minutes of the Spring Executive Committee Meeting

Karl Krushelnick presented the minutes from the previous Executive Committee Meeting held on Saturday, April 13, 2013 in Denver Colorado.

**Motion:** (Chan/Montgomery) To approve minutes of the Spring 2013 APS DPP Executive Committee meeting with minor corrections.

**Approved unanimously.**

### 3. Chair's Report

Fred Skiff reported on several topics.

a. The results of the recent DPP Elections to the Executive Committee were:

David Meyerhofer (University of Rochester)	Vice Chair (11/2017)
Daniel Dubin (University of California, San Diego)	Secy-Treas (11/2016)
Christina Back (General Atomics)	Member (11/2016)
Gail Glendinning (LLNL)	Member (11/2016)
Edward Thomas (Auburn University)	Member (11/2016)

Departing Members were thanked for their service to the division. They are:

Cary Forest, Past Chair (University of Wisconsin), Karl Krushelnick, Secy-Treas, (University of Michigan), Christine Coverdale (Sandia National Labs), Thomas Mehlhorn (Naval Research Laboratory), David S. Montgomery (Los Alamos National Laboratory)

b. Landau-Spitzer Award

The Landau Spitzer award is to be awarded again this year. The nomination deadline is March 2014

c. RFID Synopsis

Cary Forest reported that 2 papers have been written and submitted for publication with regard to the RFID exercise at the joint DPP/GEC in Salt Lake City.

**Action Item #1** Cary Forest will provide information for linking published papers on the RFID exercise at DPP 2011 to the DPP website.

d. Thomas H. Stix Award for Outstanding Early Career Contributions to Plasma Physics Research

The potential Thomas H. Stix award was discussed. It is now an APS award and has been approved by the APS Committee on Prizes and Awards. It is to be awarded to a plasma physicist in the first 10 years after PhD rather than the first 7 as specified previously. The award proposal is now ready to be submitted for approval by the APS Council and could potentially be awarded for the first time in 2014.

**Significant Motion:** (Skiff/Montgomery) That the DPP recommendation for the name of the new early career award be the Thomas H. Stix Award and that this recommendation is being forwarded to APS. The name of the recipient of the Thomas H. Stix Award for Outstanding Early Career Contributions to Plasma Physics Research shall also be forwarded to the current DPP Program Committee chair in the year awarded.

**Passed unanimously**

**Motion:** (Forest/Fiore) That the funding for the proposed Stix Award (\$2000) be provided by the Division of Plasma Physics for the first three years of the award. The DPP will also pay for travel to the annual meeting and for the cost of a certificate. Fred Skiff will appoint an *ad hoc* committee to be in charge of fundraising for the award.

**Passed unanimously**

Gennady Shvets, Greg Hammett, and Fred Skiff agreed to be members of the *ad hoc* committee to investigate fund-raising for the Thomas H. Stix Award.

**Action Item #2:** Fred Skiff will contact Alan Chodos, APS Honors Program, regarding the approval of the DPP recommended Thomas H. Stix Award.

#### 4. Action Items

Fred Skiff went through the list of Action Items from the Spring 2013 meeting.

1) *Fred Skiff will respond to Weston Stacey about the proposed graduate fellowship award in magnetic fusion. Fred appointed Catherine Fiore, Fatima Ebrahimi, and Rajesh Maingi on a committee to investigate mechanisms for raising matching funds for a graduate fellowship award.*

**Done.**

Several meetings of the committee were held and Professor Stacey provided a signed letter of intent. Rajesh Maingi reported that Professor Stacey was proposing a \$150K contribution for a graduate student fellowship in magnetic fusion on the condition that matching funds were obtained. He also indicated that \$350K would be contributed to the fund from his Last Will and Testament with similar matching conditions.

The committee is writing a proposal for the fellowship award. Discussion of this proposal will be included as an agenda item for the Spring 2014 ExCom meeting. It was suggested that initially the fellowship would be for \$12,000.

2) *Vincent Chan will contact the APS Division of Fluid Dynamics to determine interest in a future joint meeting with DPP.*

Vincent Chan has contacted the Division of Fluid Dynamics and will follow up at the next APS Council meeting.

**Action item #3:** Vincent Chan will contact the Division of Fluid Dynamics to determine interest in a future joint meeting with DPP.

3) *Mark Koepke will investigate setting up an initial trial run for web-streaming of the Maxwell Prize Address during the 2013 DPP annual meeting in Denver.*

**Done.**

4) *Mark Koepke will investigate the possibility of posting classic plasma physics papers on the DPP website at the next APS publications committee meeting. He will also contact APS with regard to posting notices of new plasma physics textbooks on the DPP website.*

**Not done yet.**

**Action Item #4:** Mark Koepke will investigate the possibility of posting classic plasma physics papers on the DPP website at the next DPP Publications Committee Meeting. He will also contact APS with regard to posting notices of new plasma physics textbooks on the DPP website.

5) Cary Forest, Mark Koepke, Hantao Ji will draft a letter of endorsement for a multi-agency partnership in laboratory astrophysics to NSF, NASA, and DOE.

**Not done yet.**

**Action Item #5:** Cary Forest, Mark Koepke, Hantao Ji will draft a letter of endorsement for a multi-agency partnership in laboratory astrophysics to NSF, NASA, and DOE.

6) David Montgomery will notify the DPP membership about the resumé writing help desk, which will be part of the Job Fair at the Denver annual meeting.

The resumé writing help desk will be done informally this year and will be staffed with volunteers. If successful it will perhaps be expanded at the 2014 DPP annual meeting.

**Action Item #6:** David Montgomery will notify the DPP membership about the resumé writing help desk, which will be part of the Job Fair at the 2014 DPP annual meeting.

**Action Item #7** Tim Tharp will make an announcement regarding the Resumé Writing Help Desk at the Junior Scientist town Meeting, and Tim will report back at the Spring 2014 DPP ExCom meeting.

7) Mark Koepke will contact Mike Lubell about whether APS staff is available to assist with the letter writing campaign at the upcoming DPP annual meeting.

**Done.**

8) Saralyn Stewart will include a call for nominations for the Nicholson Medal in an upcoming DPP E-News.

**Not done yet.**

**Action Item #8:** Saralyn Stewart will include a call for nominations for the Nicholson Medal in an upcoming DPP E-News.

9) Fred Skiff will interact with the Topical Group in Plasma Astrophysics with regard to their early career award proposal and to ensure there is no overlap between the DPP and the GPAP early career award proposals.

**Done.**

10) John Goree will gather further information regarding the distribution of the National Academy of Sciences membership.

**Not done yet.**

**Action Item #9:** John Goree will gather further information regarding the distribution of the National Academy of Sciences membership.

**Action Item #10:** Saralyn Stewart will work with APS Membership regarding lapsed DPP members to renew their membership.

## 5. Secretary-Treasurer Report

*Financial Report:* Karl Krushelnick submitted a written report. He also presented powerpoint slides describing the present state of the division finances. The DPP finances are basically healthy (\$630,000 at the end of 2012) although money was lost on the Providence, Rhode Island meeting in 2012 partially due to the effects of Hurricane Sandy. He also presented information about the state of the APS DPP award accounts, which are also healthy.

*APS Job Fair:* The Job fair will be run this year by Crystal Bailey from APS.

*Unit Statistics:* The DPP Unit quarterly counts were presented as a written report.

## 6. Council Report

Vincent Chan reported on the APS Council meeting. Ed Ott has won the 2014 Julius Edgar Lilienfeld Prize and may wish to accept the prize at the 2014 DPP annual meeting. APS also

wished to solicit more election nominations for minorities and women, and also to have more minorities and women on committees. The APS is looking into significant changes to the April Meeting and would like it to be more attractive for students to attend. APS has also established an Open Access task force however it will likely take several years before the government finalizes requirements for Open Access to the published results from government funded research.

**Action Item #11:** Vincent Chan will invite Ed Ott to receive his Julius Edgar Lilienfeld Prize at the 2014 DPP annual meeting.

7. APS Public Affairs Office

Over lunch, Mike Lubell discussed the present political climate in Washington and the potential budget for science in the upcoming year.

8. Ballot Statistics and History

Saralyn Stewart submitted a written report.

**Action Item #12:** Saralyn Stewart will publish information about the number of votes received along with annual election results in the DPP E-news. It is expected that this may encourage more people to vote in DPP elections.

9. 55th DPP Annual Meeting

Mark Koepke, the chair of the 2013 DPP annual meeting, discussed the plans for the upcoming meeting including the scientific program, the mobile app, the mini-conferences and the Town Hall Meeting schedule.

He also discussed diversity issues with regard to the conference. There were 6 invited talks given by women, 1 female organizer of a mini-conference and 2 women on the program committee. There are no female session chairs at the DPP meeting this year.

It was noted that someone should be responsible for oversight of the DPP program committee to ensure best practices are followed.

**Action Item #13:** Mark Koepke will review Best Practices for the DPP Program Committee to ensure diverse representation.

Fred Skiff spoke about the after-dinner speaker for the DPP banquet this year.

10. Fellowship Committee Report

Riccardo Betti reported that there are 15 newly elected APS DPP Fellows for 2013.

11. Education and Outreach Activities

Paul Miller spoke about the planned Education and Outreach activities.

He stated that because of government travel funding cuts the Plasma Science Expo at the 2013 DPP annual meeting is canceled. To be successful the Plasma Expo needs to have the participation of at least one large government lab. He also stressed that it is necessary for several additional exhibitors to be part of future Plasma Expo's in order for it to be successful.

John Goree noted that for future meetings, local plasma physics groups should be approached to participate in the Expo.

The Teachers' Day will be abbreviated this year. There are 26 teachers registered and there will only be 3 workshops. Consequently there will be only a single "track" for the teachers throughout the day.

The changes to the Education & Outreach program for the Denver meeting means that not all of the funding from the DPP will be used.

12. Distinguished Lecturer in Plasma Physics (DLPP) Program

Mark Koepke described the program for Distinguished Lecturers in Plasma Physics. He has assembled a new list of lecturers to participate and also described the institutions where they visited in 2012-2013 and where they are planning to go in 2014.

### 13. Additional Committee Reports

#### a. Nominating Committee

Robert Kirkwood presented a written report.

#### b. Concerns of Junior Scientists

Tim Tharp presented a written report. There will be a panel of Industry-based scientists at the Junior Scientists Town Hall meeting during the DPP 2014.

#### c. Women in Plasma Physics

Arati Dasgupta presented a written report. She described the planned activities for the women's luncheon. She also presented data with respect to female representation on DPP committees and meetings.

#### e. International Union of Pure and Applied Physics C-16

Robert Merlino presented a written report.

### 14. Public Information Committee

It was noted that there is a Virtual Press Room for the DPP annual meeting. A professional editor edits the press releases. Several freelance journalists will be attending the DPP meeting in Denver.

### 15. 2014 Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana (October 27-31)

Riccardo Betti reported on the preparations for the upcoming 2014 DPP meeting in New Orleans. The DPP 2014 local organizer is James Hanson from Auburn University.

### 16. DOE Fusion Energy Sciences Report

Jim Van Dam reported that due to congressional requirements full funding of grants less than \$1,500,000 over three years are mandatory. This will result in fewer grants funded over the next several years.

Joe May is the newly appointed Division Director, for the Facilities, Operations, and Projects Division. Mike Mauel is the National Research Committee Chair.

He mentioned the Government Quadrennial review of Energy and he will try to ensure fusion energy will be discussed in this report. He also noted that there was an effort to provide funding for intermediate size plasma experiments. In addition, efforts for Outreach and Education are being pushed away from DOE/FES.

### 17. NSF Plasma Science Report

Steve Gitomer discussed the sources of funding for plasma physics within the National Science Foundation. He reported that only 12% of submissions for the NSF/DOE partnership in plasma physics program were funded during the last round.

### 18. Career Panel and Industrial Representation

Dick Berger discussed the Career Panel and Industrial Representation. He felt that it was important to increase participation of industrial physicists in DPP. DPP 2014 has an invited session of presentations by industrial physicists. He also suggested placing job listings in the DPP E-news.

**Action Item #14:** Fred Skiff and Saralyn Stewart will investigate the possibility of posting job listings in the DPP E-news.

### 19. APS Meetings Department

Terri Gaier reported on the status of the 2013 meeting. Only 75% of the Denver Sheraton block has been met. She will work with the Sheraton to sell the additional 5% in the block. It is necessary to sell 80% to avoid a penalty.

The dates and locations of the upcoming DPP meetings are:

DPP 2014 (*October 27-31, New Orleans, Louisiana*)

DPP 2015 (*November 16-20, Savannah, Georgia*)

DPP 2016 (*October 31-November 4, San Jose, California*)

DPP 2017 (*October 30-November 3, Milwaukee, Wisconsin*)

DPP 2018 Proposed Venues

Terri Gaier will check with her contacts in San Jose, California to see if the meeting space could include co-location with the Gaseous Electronic Conference with DPP in 2016.

Terri Gaier will also check meeting space in Anaheim and San Diego for a potential meeting in 2018.

**Action Item #15:** Mark Koepke will contact GEC Officers regarding the possibility of co-locating with GEC in 2018.

#### 20. Coalition for Plasma Science

Lee Berry reported on the activities of the Coalition for Plasma Science. The CPS has been preparing a plasma physics video and they are presently evaluating how to complete the project.

#### 21. Other New Business

Fred Skiff called for new business.

Cary Forest stated that there will be a committee to re-imagine the APS April Meeting which will be formed from ExCom members and requested volunteers to serve on this committee. Mark Koepke noted that there is a request for an official APS DPP statement with regard to the closing of the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program facility in Alaska. The ExCom noted that statements on specific federal funding decisions were not generally made by the DPP.

#### 22. Date for 2014 Spring Executive Committee Meeting

Fred Skiff announced the next Executive Committee meeting will be Saturday, April 5, 2014 in Savannah Georgia at the Hyatt Regency Savannah, start time is 10:00 a.m.

#### 23. Adjourn

**Motion:** (Goree/Fiore) Move that the Executive Committee meeting be adjourned.

**Passed unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:45 pm.