

Draft prepared June 5, 2001 by V. Chan

Minutes of 2001 Spring DPP Executive Committee Meeting

Renaissance Hotel, Washington DC

Sunday, April 29, 2001

Members Present: A. Boozer, M. Brown, V. Chan, M. Douglas, J. Drake, J. Fajans, P. Gary, M. Koepke, R. Hazeltine, M. Lampe, M. Mael, B. Nevins, M. Peng

Members Absent: R. Petrasso, W. Mori

Guests: D. Baudrau, A. Chodos, J. Franz, G. Glendinning, T. McIlrath, M. Redi, G. Rogoff

DPP Administrator: S. Stewart

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

Review of Action Items from Last Meeting and Endorsement of Future Meetings (Boozer)

M. Koepke summarized the DPP activity of the Pittsburgh Regional Science Fair (PRSF) prize over the last 3 years in a written report from Koepke and E. Scime. Koepke explained that the number of projects in the PRSF related to plasma physics were few enough to make the award selection process primarily one of finding the project with the most relevance to plasma physics. It appears that the prize has failed to stimulate numerous papers on plasma physics, as was the original intention. In fact, the DPP Plasma Science Award recipients were not even aware of a plasma physics prize until the prize selection process. Mark attributes this to the size and diversity of the fair and to the multitude of subject awards (e.g., DPP Plasma Science Award) described in the entry information packet given to perspective participants. A motion was crafted from the recommendation found in their report, "We recommend that beyond 2002, DPP's participation in this (PRSF) science fair be terminated due to an insufficient number of suitable plasma-related science-fair projects, but, based on the report and the ExCom's discussion, the wording was modified before the motion was made, to read "immediately" instead of "beyond 2002".

Motion: (Koepke/Hazeltine) To stop funding the Pittsburgh Regional Science Fair prize immediately.

Action: Passed unanimously.

Mike Mael summarized the subcommittee recommendations on guidelines for travel grants and registration waivers. Primary considerations should be given to applicants presenting papers, benefits of their attendance to the meeting, and benefits to their home countries. A discussion followed on whether the travel grants and waivers should be advertised, and the appropriate amount for the grant. The sense of the committee was to have this information in the meeting announcement but stress that the number of grants is limited. The limit of \$500 was suggested.

Motion: (Hazeltine/Mael) To accept the recommended policy of Mael's subcommittee on travel grants and registration waivers. The Program Chair approves all travel grants and waivers. The amount available will be decided by ExCom yearly and is separated from the \$5k previously approved for the Program Chair to improve the meeting.

Action: Passed unanimously.

The division has received requests to endorse two meetings, the 2002 International Sherwood Fusion Theory Conference, April 22-24, 2002 at Rochester, NY, and ICPP 2002, July 15-19, 2002 at Sydney, Australia. Both were unanimously endorsed and the Chair will forward the requests to APS.

Approval of the Minutes of the Fall Executive Committee (Chan)

Motion: To approve the minutes of the Fall ExCom Meeting, with one change in the Science Fair Prize section - from " the first two years were paid" to "the first year was paid".

Action: Passed.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report (Chan)

Maxwell Prize Discussion - APS has received a letter from Walter P. Robertson, President of what used to be the Maxwell Technologies Systems Division, who informed APS/DPP that Maxwell Systems has been divided and sold, and he regrets that means "we will not fund the Maxwell Prize in the future".

The discussion centered on three issues: an outstanding payment to APS for the 2000 Maxwell Prize, securing a future sponsor for the Prize, and permanent endowment of the Prize.

Motion: (Hazeltine/Gary) DPP will assume liability for the 2000 Prize payment. It will contact SAIC/Titan the new owners of Maxwell Technologies to offer them an opportunity to make the payment.

Action: Passed unanimously.

Action Item: The Secretary-Treasurer will send a letter to SAIC/Titan thanking them for past support and offering them the opportunity to pay for the 2000 Prize.

David Baldwin, Sr. Vice-President of General Atomics has offered to sponsor the Maxwell Prize under the same terms as Maxwell Technologies.

Motion: (Hazeltine/Drake) DPP will first pursue SAIC to continue sponsoring the Prize. If it declines, DPP will accept GA's offer.

Action: Passed unanimously.

Action Item: Vincent Chan will ask Dalton Schnack to discuss this proposal with Dr. J. Robert Beyster, Chairman and CEO of SAIC.

Action Item: Boozer will mail a letter to Baldwin to thank him for the offer.

Motion: (Hazeltine/Koepke) DPP is in favor of permanently endowing the Prize. It will contact APS to start the process, including guidance for raising the award amount if needed.

Action: Passed unanimously.

Tom McIlrath pointed out the prize amount is the decision of APS.

Action Item: Boozer will ask Darlene Logan (Development Director) for advice regarding fundraising for the Maxwell Prize.

Action Item: Alan Chodos will look into the APS policy to permanently endow the Maxwell Prize.

Vincent Chan reminded the ExCom that DPP and APS 2-year membership should be strictly enforced for members of our committees according to the by-laws.

As of 3/01/01, DPP has retained earnings of \$234,900 and current period earnings of \$76,900, for a total net asset of \$311,800.

A proposed budget for the Long Beach DPP2001 meeting was presented by Chan for discussion. It was pointed out that the management fee of \$35k was a one-time agreement because of the joint meeting with ICPP last year. It should go back to \$30k.

Action Item: Chan will clarify this with the APS Meetings Department.

Motion: (Hazeltine/Mauel) DPP will provide \$5k for registration waivers and travel grants for developing countries.

Action: Passed unanimously, after the motion was called to question, by P. Gary, and 2/3 passed for more discussion.

Registration waivers for new fellows would be left up to the Fellowship Chair.

Motion: (Lampe/Hazeltine) DPP will provide free banquet tickets for new fellows.

Action: Passed with two opposed.

Chan recommended keeping the registration fees the same for DPP2001. It was passed unanimously.

Councilor's Report (Hazeltine)

The APS' new by-law of one councilor per division has been enacted.

A new Forum for Graduate Student Affairs is being proposed and a charter presented to the Council. The objective is to have graduate student representation on committees and broaden web page news to reach graduate students. The proposed forum was passed with strong support.

In November, the Council decided to initiate a study on nuclear defense. The study would be limited to the boost phase option and only unclassified information would be used. Dan Kleppner of MIT is the Chair of the broad-based committee. External funds have to be raised for the study.

In response to the polygraph test controversy, the APS council issued a statement on security issue. While recognizing the critical connection between scientific research and national security, which needs to be protected, it urges for the removal of travel restriction for unclassified research and no blanket polygraph testing. It also expresses concern for the morale of scientists at national laboratories. Secretary of Energy, The Honorable Spencer Abraham has written a letter of reply.

Education, Outreach and Physics Support

A written report was submitted by Don Correll for the Science Education Committee, and a budget for the Long Beach Teachers' Day and Science Expo was proposed.

Motion: (Chan/Brown) DPP will continue to fund Teachers' Day and Science Expo, except for the Science Fair Prize.

Action: Passed unanimously.

A suggestion by Tom O'Neil that the Plasma Distinguish Lectures Program should aim at top research institutions instead was brought up for discussion. The sense of ExCom is the present program is for a different purpose and should be kept. Subsidy is important for this activity. Lectures at top universities and personal contacts are also important, however, subsidy is questioned.

There was no report from the Public Information Committee.

G. Rogoff submitted a written report for the Coalition for Plasma Science. The \$5k annual support will continue. The Chair will appoint Lee Berry to take over for G. Rogoff as DPP representative on CPS.

DPP did not participate in the APS Washington Outreach this spring.

Jim Drake reported that Judy Franz and Randy Atkins from APS met with U.S. News & World Report and was told plasma physics would likely be included in the next review.

There was no report from Ron McKnight.

Boozer has formed a committee to recommend actions in response to the NRC fusion science report. Its members are J. Navratil (Chair), C. Forest, R. Lovelace, K. Matzen and R. Parker. No report was presented.

International Cooperation (Drake)

Drake submitted a written report on the EPS 2001 Program Committee and Board Meeting. The U.S. got five invited talks and 1/2 of a review talk on spherical torus. At present, in addition to the list of invited talks submitted by DPP, other U.S. talks are nominated through other sources. Jim felt that there was no special consideration given to the effort by DPP to propose the best talks from the U.S. community.

Prize and Awards Reports

J. Dahlburg submitted a progress report on the Maxwell Prize Selection Committee.

There was no report from the Excellence in Plasma Physics Award Committee. Steve Cowley (Chair) is moving from UCLA to U.K. but has indicated he will remain Chair.

C. Forest submitted a progress report on the Doctoral Thesis Award Committee.

The Nicholson Medal Award Committee's recommendation submitted by H. Weitzner has been accepted and will be transmitted to APS.

M. Brown proposed to dissolve the Student Poster Award effort because of difficult in forming a judging panel, and electronically identifying eligible posters (report submitted). ExCom felt there is sufficient merit to consider an undergraduate student award for posters.

Action Item: Brown will organize the award. P. Gary, M. Douglas and B. Nevins have volunteered to serve as judges.

DPP 2001 Activities (Lampe)

N. Fisch will organize a memorial session for T. Stix that will include review and invited papers in wave heating.

J. Dehmer, National Science Foundation, Division of Physics, will give a talk in 5:15 p.m. session.

A session on Interaction with Media, also at 5:15P.M., is being planned by J. Colvin.

Action Item: Chan will add \$2K to budget for this purpose. Lampe will confirm cost with Colvin.

Four mini-conferences are scheduled, Helicon Sources (Scime); Astro- and space-physics (Gary) focusing on turbulence in solar corona and space propulsion; reconnection in astrophysical plasmas; and high energy density physics. Lampe will discuss with the Space Propulsion mini-conference to move it to a regular session in the future.

There will be no LCD provides for 12 minute contributed talks.

There was no report from T. Katsouleas, the Local Arrangement Chair.

APS Meetings Department Report (Baudrau)

D. Baudrau submitted a written report that included some useful statistics from past meetings.

Action Item: She will supply emails of non-members who attended the last meeting so they can be notified of upcoming meetings.

Six sites for the 2006 meeting were proposed for discussion. The ExCom requested Baudrau to check out Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington DC/Baltimore, and Tampa and report back at the next meeting.

Co-locate with Gaseous Electronics Conference 2005 (Lampe)

The schedule has been shifted back one year to 2005 because of conflict with the American Vacuum Society Meeting in 2004.

The plan is to run two parallel meetings. There will be joint plenary and invited sessions. Posters will share the same area. Badges and revenue will be separate but bulletin and meeting management costs will be shared.

Motion: (Brown/Mauel) DPP welcomes GEC's participation in a joint meeting in 2005 and asks that they make a commitment soon.

Action: Passed unanimously.

Action Item: Baudrau will send modified hotel contracts to GEC for signature.

Job Description of the Local Arrangement Chair (Koepke)

After a brief discussion, the written recommendations submitted by M. Koepke and R. Boivin has been unanimously accepted.

APS Executive Office

Judy Franz noted that according to AIP statistics, the number of students entering plasma physics is small.

Action Item: Boozer will check with AIP on its data.

McIlrath reported the finance of APS is healthy at present but there is uncertainty in the future because journal subscriptions continue to drop. A multi-tier on-line subscription fee structure is being worked on.

Committee Reports

M. Redi reported on behalf of the Committee for Women in Plasma Physics. The committee members are D. Newman, N. Hershkowitz, M. Redi, E. Zweibel, G. Glendinning, C. Tang, and M. Sweeney. A written report included a variety of statistics of women in physics. Redi noted that between 1996-1999, 4% of Ph.D.s in plasma physics went to women, which is much lower than the 13% physics-wide. The APS Committee on the Status of Women in Physics has identified features in common for departments that successfully matriculate many women physics PhD's. Redi's committee also recommended that the time for the reception for Women in Plasma Physics at the DPP meeting be arranged to follow all the scientific sessions in the afternoon.

G. Glendinning reported for the Ad Hoc Committee charged to make recommendations for the proposed Katherine E. Weimer Award. The purpose is to create an award for women in plasma science, to recognize the achievements of a woman early in her career. The committee recommended that the award be established, and in honor of Katherine Weimer. It also recommended changing the requirement from within 5 years to within 10 years of granting of her Ph.D., and the award should be given every three years although the endowment should be funded to accommodate every two years. The recipient would be invited to give a talk. The endowment should target \$30k, half from DPP and half from community fundraising.

Motion: (Drake/Mauel) DPP will recommend to APS the establishment of this award with revised wording (Glendinning will revise) to the effect the award may be presented every three years.

Action: Passed unanimously.

Motion: (Drake/Brown) DPP would be willing to provide matching fund up to \$15k for this award.

Action: Passed unanimously.

Action Item: Boozer will transmit to Alan Chodos DPP's recommendation.

Action Item: Glendinning will report in November the status of fundraising.

Motion: (Gary/Koepke) DPP will abolish the Human Rights Committee because APS already has a committee with overlapping function.

Action: Passed unanimously.

There was no other committee report.

DPP Production and Advertising (Stewart)

Announcement is up on the web for all nominations.

Action Item: Chan will check with APS regarding putting key words in DPP announcements.

Next ExCom Meeting

The next meeting will start at 10:00 a.m., Sunday, October 28, 2001 at the Hyatt Hotel in Long Beach.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.