

**Minutes of the Spring 2013 DPP Executive Committee Meeting**  
*Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Denver, Colorado*  
Saturday, April 13, 2013

**Members and Officers Present:** Fred Skiff, Mark Koepke, Karl Krushelnick, Vincent Chan, Fatima Ebrahimi, Catherine Fiore, John Goree, Rajesh Maingi, David Montgomery, Cary Forest (via telephone)

**DPP Administrator:** Saralyn Stewart

**Guests:** Terri Gaier, Paul Miller, Zoltan Sternovsky, Richard Berger, Kate Kirby, Alan Chodos

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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. Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

Karl Krushelnick presented the minutes from the previous Executive Committee Meeting held on Sunday, October 28, 2012 in Providence, Rhode Island. He also presented the minutes from the APS/DPP Business Meeting held on Wednesday, October 31, 2012 in Providence, Rhode Island.

**Motion:** (Goree/Montgomery) To approve minutes of the Fall 2012 APS/DPP Executive Committee meeting and 2012 APS/DPP Business Meeting with minor corrections.

**Approved unanimously.**

3. Chair's Report

Fred Skiff reported on several topics.

a. 2012 Invited Presentations on AIP Physics of Plasmas website. Fred reported that 75% of invited presentations/talks from the 2012 APS/DPP conference were available on the *Physics of Plasmas* website.

b. 2012 Student Travel Grant Awards. All Travel Grant awards were allocated for the 2012 DPP meeting and, in addition, there were supplementary awards provided by the discretionary funds of the Program Committee Chair.

c. Fusion Energy Sciences Advisory Committee. The recent FESAC report is available at [fire.pppl.gov](http://fire.pppl.gov).

d. The new National Science Standards do not mention plasma physics. Fred discussed whether the DPP should take action to correct this in future versions of the National Science Standards.

e. Graduate Fellowship Award. Professor Weston Stacey of Georgia Tech has offered to fund a graduate student fellowship in magnetic fusion research. He wished to initially donate \$150,000 with potentially a future donation of \$350,000. It would be necessary for the Plasma Physics Division to provide matching funds to fully fund the fellowship.

**Motion:** (Skiff/Goree) To respond favorably to Weston Stacey with regard to the fellowship offer and to explore the options for proceeding with the establishment of this fellowship by forming a committee.

**Approved unanimously.**

**Action #1:** Fred Skiff will respond to Weston Stacey about the proposed student fellowship in magnetic fusion and will establish a committee to investigate mechanisms for raising matching funds.

#### 4. Old Action Items

Fred Skiff went through the written list of Action Items from the Fall 2012 meeting.

**1)** *Mark Koepke will contact the GEC executive committee and indicate that DPP will be happy to participate in co-location of DPP annual meeting and the GEC in the future. Since DPP annual meetings are scheduled far in advance we anticipate that it will be mainly up to the GEC to determine the timing of such co-locations.*

**Done.** The GEC executive committee is aware of the dates of future DPP meeting and will propose dates for a possible co-located meeting in the near future.

Vincent Chan noted that he believes that the APS Division of Fluid Dynamics would be interested in a future joint meeting with DPP. There is also significant interest in this possibility within DPP.

**Motion:** (Chan/Montgomery) To proceed with investigating the possibility of a joint meeting with the APS Division of Fluid Dynamics.

**Approved unanimously.**

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

**2)** *The committee for the DPP Early Career award (David Montgomery, Hantao Ji, Christine Coverdale and Cary Forest) will develop a proposal for a new award to be submitted to the APS. This committee will determine the wording of the award, the proposed source of funding for this award and establish a name for the proposed award.*

**Done.**

**3)** *Fred Skiff to circulate the FESAC subcommittee report to the Executive Committee and coordinate a response from DPP.*

**Done.**

The FESAC report is available on the FIRE web site at PPPL. It was determined that a coordinated response from APS/DPP was not necessary.

**4)** *Saralyn Stewart will contact Amitava Bhattacharjee regarding mechanisms for further print runs of "The Plasma Universe" book.*

**Done.**

There are about 500 copies of the "The Plasma Universe" remaining and about 100 are used per year. At present a new print run is not needed, however it will be possible to print more copies from the same publisher in the future.

**5)** *Fred Skiff and Mark Koepke will obtain logistical and cost information from APS regarding web streaming for the 2013 APS DPP plenary and tutorial talks.*

**Done.** The cost is \$2200 per session.

**Action#3:** Mark Koepke will investigate setting up an initial trial run for web-streaming of the Maxwell prize plenary session during the 2013 APS/DPP conference.

6) 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#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.

7) Cary Forest will link results from the RFID study at the APS DPP 2011 meeting in Salt Lake City to the DPP website.

**Done.**

8) Karl Krushelnick will send an Education and Outreach announcement regarding fundraising in an upcoming DPP E-newsletter.

**Done.**

9) Cary Forest will discuss the procedures for the Landau-Spitzer award committee with the EPS Plasma Physics Division Executive Committee.

**Done.**

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

**Not done yet.**

**Action#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.

#### 5. Secretary-Treasurer Report

Karl Krushelnick submitted a written report. He also presented some powerpoint slides describing the present state of the division finances. The DPP finances are basically healthy although money was lost on the Providence RI meeting in 2012 mainly due to the effects of Hurricane Sandy. He also presented information about the state of the divisional award accounts, which are healthy. Because the annual DPP conference has been more expensive than anticipated in recent years (losing about \$100,000 in 2012) he recommended increasing the registration fees for the 2013 DPP in Denver by an average of 2%. This is about the rate of inflation.

**Motion:** (Krushelnick/Chan) That the registration fees for the 2013 APS/DPP conference in Denver be increased by about 2% as indicated in the written submission by the Secretary/Treasurer.

**Passed.** There were 9 votes for the motion and 1 vote opposed.

The DPP Unit quarterly counts were also presented as a written report.

The budget for the Women in Plasma Physics event at the upcoming event in Denver Colorado was presented including the lunch and registration fees which are proposed to be the same as last year. The requested budget for WIPP was \$7200.

**Motion:** (Skiff/Krushelnick) That the budget for the Women in Plasma Physics event at the Denver 2012 APS/DPP conference be \$7200. This would be funded from the APS /DPP account.

**Passed.** There were 9 votes for the motion and 1 vote opposed.

David Montgomery described the resumé writing help desk which will be part of the Job Fair. He needs additional names of interested people who would be willing to help with this.

**Action#6:** David Montgomery will notify the membership about the resumé writing help desk which will be part of the Job Fair at the Denver APS/DPP Conference.

**Action#7:** Mark Koepke will contact Mike Lubell about whether APS staff is available to assist with the letter writing campaign at the upcoming APS/DPP meeting.

The annual APS Membership Demographics report was presented as a written report.

#### 6. Additional Committee Reports

- a. Committee on Women in Plasma Physics  
Mary Ann Sweeney submitted a written report.
- b. Committee on Concerns of Junior Scientists  
Tim Tharp submitted a written report.
- c. Fellowship Committee  
Riccardo Betti submitted a written report.
- d. Nominating Committee  
Robert Kirkwood submitted a written report.
- e. Publication Committee  
Peter Gary submitted a written report.

#### 7. APS Public Affairs Office

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

#### 9. APS Reports

##### a. Executive Officer

Kate Kirby, the APS Executive Officer, spoke about the overall status of the American Physical Society. The membership of APS is over 50,000 and is slightly lower than last year. 27% of members are students and 21% are from foreign countries. The APS journals are doing very well. Issues with the Department of Energy attendance at APS conferences seem to have been resolved and she is having a meeting with DOE to discuss the effect of travel restrictions on meeting attendance. The finances at APS are also stable.

She discussed issues related to open access requirements for research, which is funded by public money as recently mandated by Congress. There is an OSTP memorandum to establish open access to publications funded by US government funding agencies. She discussed a possible solution by having open access articles on publishers' web-sites.

In May, APS will be creating a committee for Re-imaging Meetings to discuss how well this meeting is serving the Physics community. Mark Koepke will represent DPP on this committee. She also discussed work done by APS to better serve Early Career

members of APS to improve outcomes for grad students and postdoctoral fellows by making more society resources available for early career members of APS.

There has also been a taskforce established with regard to APS relations with the American Institute of Physics. AIP publishing has split off from AIP and has become AIP Publications LLC. It is planned that AIP corporate will become a much smaller and different organization.

b. Honors Program

Alan Chodos of APS discussed the status of the Awards/Prizes. There was no award of the Nicholson prize last year. He stated that it is necessary for the APS membership to develop good nominations for the award.

**Action#8:** Saralyn Stewart will include a request for Nicholson award nominations in an upcoming DPP E-news.

Alan Chodos also spoke about the DPP proposal for an early career award in plasma physics (Stix prize). There is a similar proposal for an early career award (Parker award) from the topical group in laboratory astrophysics. There will be an opportunity in the Fall of 2013 for the APS Council to approve new awards and DPP should make sure there is no perceived overlap between these proposed awards.

**Action#9:** Fred Skiff will interact with the Topical Group in Laboratory Astrophysics with regard to Early Career award proposals and to ensure there is no overlap between the proposed new awards.

10. Prize and Awards Committee Reports

a. Maxwell Prize

Howard Milchberg submitted a written report.

b. Marshall Rosenbluth Thesis Award

Todd Ditmire submitted a written report.

c. John Dawson Excellence Award

Bill Daughton submitted a written report.

d. Landau-Spitzer Award

Fred Skiff submitted a written report.

11. Education and Outreach, and Plasma Physics Support

Paul Miller submitted a written report which he also summarized.

a. 2012 Providence Summary

Hurricane Sandy had a negative effect on the Teachers' Day in 2012 and there was a considerable reduction in the number of teacher attendees (the total was 17). Despite this the evaluation scores from the Teachers were quite positive.

There needs to be more exhibits for the Plasma Expo. Also the weather in Providence had the effect of reducing the number of exhibits although the Expo was a success overall.

b. 2013 Denver Activities

The Teachers' Day plans for the 2013 Denver meeting are underway. It will be possible to advertise Outreach events on the event board outside of the conference hotel.

c. 2013 Estimated Budget

He presented the estimated budget for Education/Outreach Activities in Denver.

**Motion:** (Koepke/Goree) To approve the Education/Outreach Budget as proposed by Paul Miller.

**Passed unanimously.**

12. Future of Physics

Mark Koepke discussed a proposed leadership convocation at APS on the Future of Physics. This is unlikely to happen this year.

13. Distinguished Lecturer Program

Mark Koepke submitted a written report. He is developing a new list of speakers for the Distinguished Lecturer Program.

14. 55th Meeting: DPP 2013 Meeting Report

Mark Koepke discussed the plans for the upcoming Denver meeting.

a. Annual Meeting Initiatives

He described the Web App for the meeting, the proposed Mini-Conferences and the proposed Town Meetings.

He also described a proposal to partially pay for travel to the Sorters Meeting.

**Motion:** (Koepke/Fiore) To provide up to \$5000 to pay for travel to the Sorters' Meeting in the summer from the APS/DPP account.

**Passed.** 5 voted to approve the motion, 3 were opposed.

c. Discretionary Funds Request

**Motion:** (Skiff/Fiore) To fund the student travel grants up to \$20k for up to 20 students to attend the APS/DPP annual conference. In addition there will be \$15,000 for the program committee chair's discretionary budget.

**Passed unanimously.**

d. Banquet Entertainment

Fred Skiff discussed the banquet speaker for the 2013 conference.

**Motion:** (Skiff/Montgomery) That the APS/DPP spend up to \$5000 for costs associated with the after-dinner speaker at the DPP banquet in 2013.

**Passed unanimously.**

15. DPP Meetings

Terri Gaier discussed the sites for the upcoming DPP conferences. These are:

DPP 2013 (*November 11-15, 2013, Denver, Colorado*)

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

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

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

For the 2017 location there was a discussion between two potential sites: Knoxville and Milwaukee. There was a vote by the Executive committee to choose between Knoxville and Milwaukee. Milwaukee WI was selected as the location for the 2017 APS/DPP conference. Terry Gaier will establish dates for the meeting in October/November 2017 and will try to avoid dates which include Halloween.

16. International Union of Pure and Applied Physics Commission 16

Robert Merlino submitted a written report.

17. Coalition for Plasma Science Activities

Lee Berry submitted a written report.

18. Plasma Physics Representation in the National Academy of Sciences

John Goree submitted a written report.

**Action #10:** John Goree will gather further information about the distribution of national academy membership.

19. Career Panel and Industrial Representation

Dick Berger submitted a written report. He described a proposal by the Committee on Concerns of Junior Scientists to fund travel to enable speakers from industry to attend the Junior Scientists event at the 2013 APS/DPP conference.

**Motion:** (Krushelnick/Montgomery) To fund the travel costs for 4 industrial scientists (up to \$1000 each) in order to enable them to attend the 2013 APS/DPP meeting and participate in the Junior Scientists event. The registration fees would also be waived for these 4 participants who would be chosen by the Committee for the Concerns of Junior Scientists.

**Passed unanimously.**

20. Other New Business

There was no other new business.

21. Date for 2013 Fall Executive Committee Meeting

Fred Skiff announced the date and time for the next Executive Committee meeting. It will take place on Sunday, November 10, 2013 at the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel with a start time of 10:00 a.m.

22. Adjourn

**Motion:** (Skiff/Fiore) That the Executive Committee meeting be adjourned.

**Passed unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:27 pm.

## ACTION ITEMS

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

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