

Meeting of the Executive Committee of the DPF

April 28, 2001

Minutes by Nick Hadley, Secretary-Treasurer

The meeting was held at the April APS Meeting in Washington DC. The meeting began at 8:30PM and ended at midnight.

Present: Jon Bagger, Vernon Barger, Gene Beier, Martin Breidenbach, William Carithers, Janet Conrad, Sally Dawson, Glennys Farrar, Nick Hadley, Young-Kee Kim, Chris Quigg, and Stanley Wojcicki
Marc Sher (visitor), and Judy Franz and Francis Slakey from the APS

Agenda for DPF Executive Committee Meeting April 28, 2001

Snowmass Update - Quigg - 20 min.
Thematic Survey Update - Quigg - 5 min.
AAAS 2002 - Wojcicki/Farrar - 5 min.
Federal Budget - Lubell - 15 min.
DPF 2002 - Sher - 15 min. (Judy Franz will join us for the discussion of future meetings.)
Future Meetings - Quigg - 15 min.
Other APS matters - Franz - 15 min.
HEPAP Subpanel Update - Bagger - 5 min
APS Council Meeting - Dawson - 5 min.
ICFA Meeting Update - Wojcicki - 5 min.
Carithers Committee - 45 min. includes Goldberg Education Initiative

Chris Quigg chaired the meeting.

The meeting opened with Marc Sher presenting the status and plans for the 2002 DPF Conference which will be held at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg Virginia from Friday May 24 to Tuesday May 28. (The order of the agenda was changed to allow Marc to make his report and get some sleep.) Marc noted that there are 600 dorm rooms and 300 hotel rooms located within 1 mile of the Conference site. The building where the meetings will be held is on campus and has a 850 seat auditorium which should be large enough to accommodate all those attending. Marc hopes to keep the registration fee the same as that of the Ohio State meeting (About \$250 for early registration and about \$50 for early registration for students.) The Executive Committee discussed the preliminary speakers list and made suggestions of possible speakers. It was also suggested that an Education and Outreach component be added to the meeting.

Francis Slakey from the APS office of Public Affairs then presented the proposed 2002 budget from the President. The budget numbers are not encouraging. Concern was expressed that the administration may not view science funding as a high priority. Physics at the NSF excluding the PFC's is down 5%, although total NSF research budget is only down 0.5%. The proposed NSF budget has no new starts for projects in the MRE program. The DOE High Energy Budget is up \$4.1 million. The DOE Nuclear Physics budget is basically flat. The DOE High Energy budget contains increases for both SLAC (\$6 million) and Fermilab (\$16 million), but the trend of miserable budgets for the university program continues. The actual 2001 budget for the university program was down \$4 million or 4% from 2000, and this happened in a widely touted "good year for science". The proposed 2002 budget is down another \$5 million or 5%. If inflation is included, the situation only gets worse. The APS is working with congress to improve these numbers. For example, the Senate Budget resolution has a 15% increase for NSF, the DOE Office of Science and NASA. It was noted that the DPF sponsored, with much help from the APS Office of Public Affairs, a Letter Writing Booth at the April APS meeting and that this is an important time for DPF members to write Congress and express their views on the budget. (Note added after the meeting. 496 letters were sent from the April meeting. Letters were sent to 165 separate legislators, including 61 senators.)

Judy Franz then discussed the concerns of the APS. The APS feels that the April meeting needs to get larger and to attract more younger physicists and students. The trend in attendance at the April meeting has been down for a number of years, and few major results in Particle Physics are announced there. Judy also announced that a new Forum, the Forum of Graduate Student Affairs, has been approved by the APS council. There was discussion of ways to improve DPF participation in the April meeting, and the Executive Committee agreed that the April 2003 meeting in Philadelphia would also be a DPF meeting. The Executive Committee also agreed that the current plan is to have official DPF meetings in odd numbered years at the April meeting and to have DPF meetings at other venues (typically university campuses) in even numbered years.

Sally Dawson, in her report of the APS council meeting, also noted that the Council had approved the Forum of Graduate Student Affairs.

Chris Quigg then led a discussion of Snowmass 2001 which will be held from June 30 through July 20. The Snowmass web page has been operational for some time (www.snowmass2001.org) and online registration and housing is now available. Chris reported that 10 National Laboratories have agreed to sponsor the meeting along with the DOE, NSF, NASA, and the URA. The graduate student and postdoc travel fellowship program has been very successful. The DPF is supporting 32 young physicists to go to Snowmass and the DPB is supporting 7 more. The registration fee will be waived for all graduate students who attend.

Chris noted that the production of the thematic survey is well under way and that there will be a completed draft in time for Snowmass.

Chris commented that Duke and the University of California have expressed serious interest in hosting the 2004 DPF Meeting.

Gene Beier announced that the Panofsky prize is now listed as "endowed" by the APS as opposed to "underfunded.". More than \$40K was raised for the prize in the last year.

Jon Bagger led the discussion of the HEPAP subpanel on the future of Particle Physics that he co-chairs with Barry Barish. (see http://hepserv.fnl.gov:8080/doe-hep/lrp_panel/index.cfm for the panel's web page.) The panel has already had two meetings, one in Germantown and one at BNL. There will be meetings at Fnl and SLAC. There was discussion of how best to present results from the Snowmass working groups to the panel, and of how the DPF should presents its views to the panel.

Stan Wojcicki then briefly discussed recent ICFA meetings. The question of whether and when to have a ICFA sponsored Technical Review Panel for Linear Colliders had not been decided at the most recent ICFA meeting. (Note added after the meeting: There is now discussion of such a committee possibly chaired by Greg Lowe with a timescale for its report of 2002.)

Glennys Farrar and Stan then discussed AAAS meetings and the possibility of having Particle Physics sessions at these meetings. Past Particle Physics sessions have been very interesting and well attended, but it was not clear that there would be time to arrange sessions for next year's AAAS meeting in Boston, and whether these sessions would be sufficiently different from previous sessions.

Bill Carithers led discussion of his committee report on possible future activities for the DPF. Bill's committee proposed the formation of three new DPF subcommittees: an Education Outreach subcommittee, a Government Liaison subcommittee and a Young Physics subcommittee. Carithers' committee also proposed that the DPF consider making early career awards, although it was noted that the NSF and DOE already have such awards. Bill asked that Executive Committee members consider these suggestions and send him their thoughts which he would incorporate into subsequent drafts.

The meeting concluded with a discussion of the desirability of university theorists spending extended time (e.g. a month) at laboratories.

Treasurer's report submitted after the meeting. As of March 31, 2001, the DPF had \$130K on hand. We have committed \$60K towards Snowmass fellowships, outreach, and the Thematic Survey.