

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the APS Forum on the History of Physics, Sunday, April 15, 2007, in Boardroom 2 of the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront Hotel in Jacksonville, Florida.

(Minutes—one paragraph—of the brief official annual business meeting of the Forum are also included.)

Present: Virginia Trimble (Chair), William E. Evenson (Chair-Elect), David C. Cassidy (Vice-Chair), Thomas M. Miller (Secretary-Treasurer), Robert H. Romer (Past-Chair), Roger H. Stuewer (APS Councillor), Michael Riordan (Newsletter Editor), and Members-at-Large John S. Rigden, J. David Jackson, Paul Halpern, and Peter Pesic. Newly-elected participants, with terms beginning at the close of the April meeting: Gloria Lubkin (Vice-Chair) and George O. Zimmerman (Member-at-Large). **Absent were Priscilla McMillan, Catherine Westfall, and Spencer R. Weart.**

Virginia Trimble opened the meeting and made introductions. The 2006 Nominating Committee was discharged with thanks. The 2007 Nominating Committee will be chaired by Trimble (as traditional), and Peter Pesic and George Zimmerman volunteered to serve on it. Suggestions were solicited for 2-3 non-Executive Committee persons as possible APS appointees or as possible appointees by the FHP Chair.

Bill Evenson reported on an SPS (Society for Physics Students) initiative which might provide a good opportunity for FHP interaction with students, though it would require a donor to provide funding for an FHP-SPS research project. See <http://www.spsnational.org/index.html> . A number of suggestions were offered by Committee members: the selected student should give a talk at an APS meeting; FHP might sponsor a small session at an APS meeting at which a journal article or book could be discussed among students. **About recruiting good student contributed talks, especially for the Gregor Wentzel/Maria Goeppert Mayer (and for any other donations that come in) sponsored talks: students should think about a history talk assembled from the background research that every dissertation contains.** The consensus of the Executive Committee was that a subcommittee of interested persons should discuss the possibilities and come up with a suitable proposal.

Evenson said that we need to make contact with members of the executive committees of the research divisions to see if it's possible to jointly sponsor a history talk at those divisional meetings which do not meet during the March and April APS meetings.

David Cassidy gave a report from the Program Committee on proposals for FHP sessions at the March and April 2008 APS meetings (see Attachment 1). Evenson noted that the FHP sessions at the March meeting were very popular, and he'll be writing up a summary for the Newsletter. There was discussion about what would be involved in taping history sessions in which the historical characters are themselves speaking. Cassidy discussed a proposition to fission the Program Committee into separate committees or subcommittees to handle (a) the March APS meeting (New Orleans in 2008), (b) the April APS meeting (St. Louis in 2008), and (c) other activities. Some suggestions were given for future

connections: next year is the 50th anniversary of Physical Review Letters; 50th anniversary of integrated circuits is coming in 2008 (Texas Instruments) and 2009 (Fairchild); and, Bethe, Teller, et al. on the nuclear connection with solid state physics. A suggestion was made that FHP might connect with the Forum on Industrial and Applied Physics and perhaps the Forum on Graduate Student Affairs.

Judy Franz, the Executive Officer of APS, came in and offered to answer questions. She discussed the future of the April meeting. It will continue, but not always in April. She noted that all meetings change over time, and, for example, the April meeting now has gravitation as a major part of the meeting. The first non-standard April meeting will be in February 2010 with AAPT. She said that there are 1100-1200 registered attendees at the Jacksonville meeting. She reaffirmed APS policy that persons attending only forum sessions need not register for the meeting, because forum sessions should be open to the public. She said that the APS will probably increase the allotment to fora from APS dues in a way that will give FHP an additional \$2k per year. (The APS presently allocates \$1000 from dues and adds \$4.50 for the first 1366 FHP members and \$3.00 for each thereafter. At election time, the FHP had 3731 members, and it looks like another 80 or so will be added as a result of signup sheets at the March and April meetings.)

Trimble asked Franz if FHP could have more than one sponsored speaker at the meetings. Franz responded, yes, it's very possible to have two sponsored talks per meeting, with the understanding that these come within our current allotment of invited sessions.

Joe Serene, the Treasurer of APS, came in and discussed the APS finances. He noted that the APS journals are by far the main in/out items on the ledgers, and that they return a surplus to the APS, which helps everybody. He discussed issues concerning open access to journal articles.

Alan Chodos, the Associate Executive Officer of APS, came in and discussed prizes, awards, fellowships, and the Historic Sites Committee.

Tom Miller gave a report on finances (OK if donations continue), the 2007 election, and the Membership Committee. See Attachment 2. Evenson commented that the main job of the Membership Committee should be to make sure that signup sheets are handed out at every FHP session, at as many divisional meetings as feasible, and when FHP members give colloquium talks at universities and other venues.

Michael Riordan reported on the Newsletter. He said that personnel changes at the APS nullified a lot of effort he had put in toward designing an attractive and readable Newsletter. But in the end, it got out in time for the election. He is aiming for a 16-page Newsletter for early October and mid-February. He solicited material for the Newsletter. One possibility is an excerpt from Max Jammer's talk. He said that an "article" would be something like 3000 words, and a "report" on an APS session would be about 1000 words. He noted that the tradition is for the Associate Editor to take over after 3 years, but since the present Associate Editor (Bob Romer) can't do that, FHP should find an additional person who would take over after two more years. He would like to get the

cost of the Newsletter down, and one option is to have one paper Newsletter and one available only online. The paper version of the Newsletter is covered through the April meeting by a donation.

Roger Stuewer gave the Councilor's report. (a) FHP is 8.33% of APS membership. (b) The APS has a website on ethics with case studies well worth reading, on difficult ethical issues. (c) Ways of enabling access to journal articles are under discussion. (d) Year of Science 2009. APS is a Participating Society. Charles Darwin and Abraham Lincoln (the latter signed the bill founding the NAS) were born in 1809. FHP should consider how to cooperate with the APS. (e) COPUS: Coalition on Public Understanding of Science. The goal is to educate the general public on science issues. See <http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/COPUS/index.php> (f) The Pais Prize endowment is the 6th largest prize endowment, with a balance of \$217k at the end of 2006. (g) The Forum on Graduate Student Affairs has grown to the size where it will have one representative on the APS Council beginning with its next meeting. Stuewer then reported that at the APS Unit Convocation on February 17 that Evenson broached the idea that all APS Units should have a graduate student on their Executive Committees, an idea that he noted was implemented years ago with excellent results by the APS Four Corners Section. Stuewer and Evenson thus recommended that the FHP Executive Committee do the same. Recognizing, however, that this would require a change in the FHP Bylaws, unless the graduate student occupied one of the present at-large positions, the FHP Executive Committee passed without dissent the following MOTION: "That the FHP Executive Committee approves in principle that one slot be added to the FHP Executive Committee and that this slot be allocated to a duly elected graduate student." In light of this motion, a FHP subcommittee will be formed to determine the changes that would be required in the FHP Bylaws, to determine by e-mail if the FHP Executive Committee supports these changes, and if so, to take steps to implement them consistent with APS procedures. Meanwhile, a graduate student could be invited to attend FHP Executive Committee meetings and to participate in its discussions. Stuewer will report these actions to the APS Council at its next meeting in November in Denver and urge that all APS Units take similar actions.

Evenson reported on the Unit Convocation that was held by the APS in February. See Attachment 3.

Evenson reported on a June 2006 meeting at the History Center of people associated with physics history. It was the second such meeting, and may take place every other year. He recommended that FHP have a representative at future such meetings. See Attachment 4.

John Rigden reported on the efforts of the APS Historic Sites Committee. See Attachment 5. He said that it's difficult and time-consuming to arrange presentation ceremonies that include non-physicists (news media, politicians, teachers, public, etc.). The HSC would like to issue 3 plaques per year, but the lead time in making arrangements means that the timing may not be so evenly spaced. Canadians have asked him to give advice on setting up a similar committee in Canada. He might need

suggestions for a new member, if someone rotates off. There was discussion of whether it was appropriate to have a plaque on physicists' houses.

Cassidy reported on the work (past and in progress) of the Fellowship Committee. Martin Krieger had been nominated for fellowship, and the nomination was confirmed by the APS in the Fall of 2006. The nomination deadline is mid-May of each year.

David Jackson reported on the effort to get universities, lab, etc., institutional histories deposited with the AIP Niels Bohr Library. An article on this project appeared in the January 2007 issue of APS News. See Attachment 6. George Zimmerman commented that he is working on a history of the Boston University physics department. Zimmerman talked about conducting oral interviews with retired faculty. There was discussion on the procedures and cost for oral histories.

Trimble commented that FHP needs better publicity on everything we do. Especially when the Pais Prize winner is announced, we should send a press release to the home institution and local newspapers. Do the same for our named lectureships and studentships, and include the university newspapers. Ditto everything else, like election to fellowship or Executive Committee. FHP should have a call for papers and other announcements in the History of Science Society Newsletter.

In 1675/6, Trimble coaxed Isaac Newton into signing elegant certificates of appreciation, in uncial, and presented the fragile documents to retiring Executive Committee members Bob Romer and John Rigden. Patricia McMillan will also receive one.

The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes of the annual FHP business meeting, April 16, 2007

Evenson gave a summary of the reports and discussions from the Executive Committee meeting. A suggestion was made that especially when the APS dues statements come out, an e-mail message to FHP members could urge them to get their colleagues to sign up for FHP. There was also concern about the poor quality of slides used in many talks at the meeting, being unreadable from even a reasonable distance, and the physical setup, with the speaker standing in front of the screen. The meeting was adjourned.

Attachment 1:

Report on Planning by FHP Program Committee for Spring 2008

As of April 2, 2007

Future Committee members (as of April 18, 2007): David C. Cassidy (chair), Gloria Lubkin, Clayton Gearhart, Jeffrey S. Dunham, other ex-officio members and, possibly, session organizers.

Currently, we have two sessions to submit for approval, and two possible sessions for discussion:

1. Session on history of the Manhattan Project, to be organized by Ben Bederson, who proposed it last year. We note that 2008 is the 65 anniversary of the start of Los Alamos and the 70th anniversary of the discovery of nuclear fission

2. Session in concert with the new international Quantum History Project coordinated by Max Planck Institute for History of Science, Berlin, to be organized by Michel Janssen and Clayton Gearhart.

3. For discussion: Gabriel Cwilich, a member of FHP, is on an advisory committee to the Sloan Foundation, which funds the creation of science-related theatrical plays. He proposes to organize a session on "Physics and the Theater." Following Frayn's play "Copenhagen" ca. 2000, a book has appeared on the subject (Phys Today, Feb 07), and several new plays have appeared with Sloan Foundation funding.

4. For discussion, since APS is focusing on the public themes of global warming and alternative energy resources, do we want to sponsor or co-sponsor a session on one or both?

The Forum on Physics and Society will continue to share its prize-award session with FHP at the April 08 meeting.

Efforts are underway to find additional topics for sessions to sponsor and to co-sponsor with other APS units. To date, only FPS has responded to an email to all units, but so far without specifics.

Bill Evenson, the Program Chair for 06-07, has made suggestions for reorganizing the work of the PC. We would like to experiment this year with a split of the PC into two subcommittees, one each for the March and April meetings. The incoming chair-elect and vice chair would each chair one of the subcommittees, with the chair-elect assuming overall responsibility. If this succeeds, we are considering a future third subcommittee to coordinate sessions with APS divisions that do not attend the March and April meetings.

Respectfully submitted,
David C. Cassidy
Future chair, Program Committee

Attachment 2:

Report to the FHP Executive Committee from the Secretary-Treasurer

1. Treasury. FHP funds are kept on deposit with the APS, which provides interest income and monthly accounting sheets. The FHP has maintained a balance of about

\$21,000 in the APS bank, though this amount is slowly decaying (it was \$23,000 two years ago).

FHP income derives from

- (a) an allotment from APS dues, \$14,224 in 2006;
- (b) donations, \$7,600 in 2006, but see explanation below;
- (c) interest income, \$1,636 in 2006;
- (d) an allotment from registration fees at the March and April meetings, \$1,302 in 2006 based on a formula which takes into account how many FHP members register and present papers, and how many sessions the FHP sponsors. The FHP allotment is thus increased by encouraging members to attend meetings and to submit abstracts for FHP contributed sessions.

A note about donations. I'll list here only the donations I know about, which consist of Virginia Trimble's \$5,000 donation (for the Newsletter), a \$1,000 donation from Richard Prange (studentships), and a \$600 donation from James Bardeen (studentship). Donations are difficult for me to keep track of because they don't pass through my hands. Donations may be specifically earmarked for speakers or for students, so they may come in and go out with no net affect on our balance sheet. Some donations may appear only on APS accounts, not on the FHP account, even if the FHP chair solicited the donation.

FHP expenses are due to

- (a) travel costs, \$10,297 in 2006, for the April meeting, abstract sorters meetings, etc.;
- (b) printing the Newsletter, \$4,159 in 2006;
- (c) mailing costs (99% for the Newsletter), \$5,426 in 2006, 1/5th of which is foreign;
- (d) costs of programs, \$3,300 in 2006, in grants to speakers from donations or general funds;
- (e) overnight mail and telephone, \$176.00 in 2006.

Bottom line: the FHP "profit" for the year 2006 was \$1,400. However, without donations, we would have a \$5,200 loss, and the treasury would be empty in 3 years time. (The profit figure given here depends on successful litigation of an \$1,800 fee-waiver charge by the APS, from the April 2006 meeting. FHP attorneys assure me that FHP will prevail, because the FHP never offers registration fee waivers to anyone.)

Budget for 2007. The income and spending has been pretty much the same for the past three years, but because donations cannot be counted upon, it would be prudent to discuss reducing costs and/or increasing income. I'll note that the APS gives us a good return on the money we have in their bank, so one way of increasing income is to solicit unrestricted donations for our bank account.

2. 2006 Election. Of the 3731 FHP members, 517 voted online and 53 used paper ballots. The voting percentage, 15.3%, was higher than last year's 13.5%. The new Vice-Chair is Gloria Lubkin of Physics Today; the two new Executive Committee members-at-large are Gordy Kane of the University of Michigan and George Zimmerman of Boston University. And the Secretary-Treasurer, Miller, was re-elected.

3. Membership Committee. The standing (i.e., established by the bylaws) Membership Committee didn't do anything in 2006. Only individual efforts took place, mainly, passing around signup sheets at FHP sessions to bring in new members. For this reason, the Executive Committee should discuss allowing the standing Membership Committee to be empty and inactive, or appoint a chair and charge the Committee to carry out specific activities.

Attachment 3:

Report on APS Unit Convocation at APS, Saturday, 17 February 2007

FHP representatives: D.C. Cassidy, Bill Evenson, Roger Stuewer

APS urged all attendees who could do so to visit their congressional representatives on Friday, 16 Feb, in order to make themselves known to their representatives and to urge passage of the federal budget with sufficient funding for science.

The Saturday meeting began with introductions and overview of APS. APS has 38 units: 14 divisions, 6 fora, 8 sections, 10 topical groups. The membership has reached a record high of 46,293, which has steadily increased from 42,830 in 2003. The March meeting has a record number of 7800 attendees. Still, the APS is seeking increased participation of industrial physicists and students, many of whom account for the recent increase.

According to data provided, the FHP has 3854 members, 8.33% of APS, of whom 592 (15.4%) are fellows. There has been a steady increase in FHP members from 3066 in 2003. The FHP has 2910 male members of whom 561 are fellows, 336 female members of whom 28 are fellows, and 608 (with 3 fellows) of no specified gender.

The largest revenue and expenses for APS arise from journal publications. The journal editors are attempting to find a balance between providing free, on-line content and the need for revenue to keep the publications afloat.

Tracy Allinger, Director of Information Technology, stated that the APS would like all units to have a uniform Website. A template is provided for this purpose. Every unit should also appoint a webmaster and a public information specialist.

In addition to reaching out to industrial physicists, APS is attempting to reach out to physics students and the general public. Student memberships, Physics Central (on APS Website), and the award-winning Einstein video on YouTube are among the student outreach efforts. For the general public and Congress, APS is emphasizing the issues of global warming and alternative energy resources.

Amy Flatten, Director of International Affairs, noted the availability of the Beller-Marshak Lectureships providing travel grants for foreign scholars to speak at APS

meetings. She also suggested that units consider establishing their own systems of travel grants (or contribute and participate through the International Affairs Office) for international scholars to speak at meetings. She would like to be invited to unit EC meetings.

The meeting then broke out into parallel sessions on specific topics.

Representatives of all fora met to discuss matters of common concern.

It was suggested that each unit include a student member on the executive committee, especially in view of the large number of new student APS members. Roger Stuewer will suggest that APS Council make this recommendation. The Four Corners Section has done this since its inception and might provide a useful model.

FGSA said they would be willing to share a session at one of the meetings with FHP.

Some suggested holding forum receptions at the meetings, but this can be very costly, so it was suggested that fora investigate holding a joint forum event.

FGSA suggested that other units sponsor students to attend the CAM (Canada, America, Mexico) Physics Conference held every two years.

Program issues: Some FHP sessions should be plenary. All fora should coordinate session scheduling. Perhaps one forum team leader could handle each Sorters Meeting. It was suggested that units be asked to consider possible joint sessions prior to the first program committee meeting that is held at the previous year's meeting so that specifics can be discussed as early as that first program committee meeting.

It was suggested that units consider a mechanism for regular inclusion of international members on executive committees or an international liaison officer or coordinator. The fora should first consider the job description for such a coordinator.

Fora would like a regular information update from the APS Washington Office.

The APS Committee on Education suggested that each unit add appropriate education links to its web site, and that each unit designate an education liaison on the executive committee to coordinate with the Committee on Education.

Attachment 4:

From: Bill Evenson [mailto:Bill.Evenson@uvsc.edu]

Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2006 4:44 PM
Subject: Meeting of History Representatives at AIP

Last Friday I attended a meeting of history committee representatives for physics and allied sciences, convened by Spencer Weart at AIP.

There is a very nice AIP 75th anniversary exhibit at the American Center for Physics that Spencer Weart and colleagues have prepared. I recommend that you take the opportunity to see it if you are in the area. There is also an AIP 75th Anniversary video on the AIP website.

FYI, I reported on recent activities of FHP with a PowerPoint presentation [not attached here, but available from Evenson or Miller].

Other reports mentioned activities that might be of interest to FHP, so I am listing below those that I happened to make note of. If anyone on the FHP EC is interested in following up on anything in the list below, I can try to get you information about who to contact.

1. AAPT has established an oral history program with past officers and executive officers. (I suspect someone in the APS staff, separate from FHP, takes responsibility for this—but I don't know if it is done.)
2. AAPT is also reviewing their archives and setting protocols for preserving AAPT documents.
3. AAS has some history of preparing obituaries of members. I will get more information from Sara Schechner as I look into our obits project.
4. HAD (Historical Astronomy Division) is proposing to AAS the formation of a working group on preservation of documents, records, instruments, site information, editorial archives, etc.
5. AAPM has a continuing collection of video interviews. They are considering criteria for memorial sessions, whom to collect obits for, etc.
6. AGU also has an oral history project. They have an annual history book prize. And they are raising funds for a Postdoctoral Fellowship in history of science.
7. International Commission on History of Meteorology has an extensive history web site: www.meteohistory.org.
8. AVS is working on archival records of photos and subjects as well as apparatus collections. They have had a program of republication of classic technical books.
9. OSA reported projects similar to preceding.

10. AMS is raising money to support graduate student travel to present history projects at meetings. They also have AMS history fellowships (offered every 2 years) supported by AMS central budget grant to the history committee, as I understand it. They have an oral history and interview program.

11. IAU (Commission 41 on History of Astronomy) and IUHPS reported similar interests.

Best regards,
Bill Evenson

Attachment 5:

To: Members of APS-FHP Executive Committee
From: John S. Rigden (on behalf of the APS HSC)
Date: April 15, 2007
RE: Report from HSC

A. Current Committee: Gordon Baym, Gerald Holton, Katharine Gebbie, Steven Weinberg, and John Rigden.

B. Eleven sites have been named.

1st Round: 1. Compton (WU.), 2. Franklin (Franklin Institute), 3. Gibbs (Yale), 4. Michelson (CWRU), 5. Rowland (JHU).

2nd Round: 1. Bardeen, Brattain, Shockley (Bell), 2. Joseph Henry (Albany Academy), 3. MIT Rad Lab, 4. Millikan (Chicago), 5. Rabi (Columbia), 6. Jefferson Lab (Harvard). [2nd round decisions made Feb 06]

C. Six plaques presented. Two presentation ceremonies scheduled: Gibbs/Yale, 4/20 and Henry/Albany Academy, 4/27. Three presentation ceremonies, Columbia, Harvard and MIT. scheduled for the fall. [The slow step is getting a presentation ceremony scheduled.]

D. On 4/9 three new sites were named to be added to the APS Register of Historic Sites: Berkeley (Lawrence and Livingston for Cyclotron), Cornell (the birthplace of Phys Rev), and Illinois (BCS - Note 2007 is 50th anniversary of BCS, and a major event is scheduled for Oct. 11-13 where the plaque will be presented.)

E. Sites discussed for future consideration: 1. A site appropriate for recognition of the Penzias/Wilson discovery and 2. the WWII Oppenheimer house at Los Alamos.

F. To speed up the process, selected sites will, upon notification, be immediately involved in planning a plaque presentation ceremony. As part of the planning local and campus newspapers will be contacted.

G. We discussed an expansion of site types beyond site where ground-breaking physics (concentrated at the top tier physics departments) occurred. For example, we discussed recognizing liberal arts colleges where a particular professor reigned for decades and sent scores of students to grad school and into the physics profession. We further recognized that top tier places are somewhat blasé about a new honor; by contrast, a plaque would be a major event for a liberal arts college.

H. To implement **G** above, Rigden was asked to contact *Physics Today* and propose that he write a HSC report to the community and include a call for nominations.

Attachment 6:

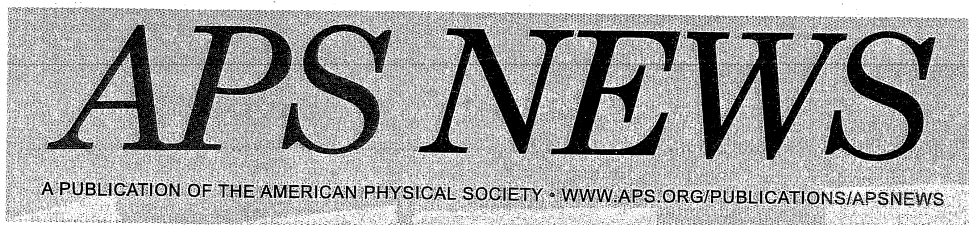
April 15, 2007

From: J. D. Jackson

To: Executive Committee, A.P.S. Forum on History of Physics

Subject: FHP Register of Departmental Histories

(1) **Announcement in APS News, January 2007**



January 2007
Volume 16, No. 1

www.aps.org/publications/apsnews



Physics Departments Urged to Preserve Their Histories

The APS Forum on the History of Physics (FHP) is encouraging department chairs and colleagues to help preserve the history of their department and its accomplishments by updating an existing history or preparing a new one and by depositing it with the Niels Bohr Library and registering it with the Forum's new Register of Departmental Histories and Records.

Preparing a history is a big job, but it's an important job, said David Jackson, a member of the Executive Committee of PHP.

If starting from scratch on a history, it may help to sample some existing ones, the Forum suggests. Several can be found in the Niels Bohr library catalog, which can be searched online by going to www.aip.org/history, clicking on Book Catalog and then clicking on the tab labeled "archives keyword." In the "general" box, enter "physics departments" and highlight "institutional histories held at AIP" in the Limits box.

If an up-to-date historical record is not already on file at the Niels Bohr Library, the Forum urges a department to prepare or update a his-

tory of the department and/or research laboratories, and send a copy to the Library, in care of Dr. Spencer Weart, AIP Center for History of Physics, One Physics Ellipse, College Park MD 20740-3843 (sweart@aip.org).

Separately, the Forum is establishing a Register of Departmental Histories and Records to be published periodically in the FHP Newsletter and on the Forum's web site. Register entries should be standard bibliographic citations with indications of availability in institutional or departmental libraries, through web links, and/or the Niels Bohr Library.

The register will provide another tool for finding information about past activities in physics research and education as a starting point for more focused searches.

Register entries for histories and other materials should be sent to: J.D. Jackson, 50A5104, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley CA 94720 (jdjackson@lbl.gov). The materials themselves should be sent to the Niels Bohr Library.

(2) **Register items**

The response to the news item has been underwhelming so far. Listed below are the entries received (and the U. Chicago items found by chance by me).

AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY

History of the APS Forum on Physics and Society

<http://units.aps.org/units/fps/history.cfm>

Contact: David Hafemeister < dhafemei@calpoly.edu > [Rec'd 01.17.07]

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

Physics at a Research University: Case Western Reserve 1830-1990

by William Fickinger, Professor Emeritus < wjf@case.edu >

(Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, 2006), pp.360.

Copyright 2005. ISBN-10: 0-9773386-0-6, ISBN-13: 978-0-9773386-0-3

Availability: Library of Congress Catalog LCCN 2005933988

Also available at the CWRU bookstore and on the web at

<http://www.phys.cwru.edu/history/>

MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

History of the Physics Department, Michigan Technological University

<http://www.phy.mtu.edu/alumni/history/>

Contact: Bryan H. Suits < suits@mtu.edu > [Rec'd 01.10.07]

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

History of the Physics Department, University of California, Berkeley, 1868-1950/

by Raymond T. Birge.

Publisher Berkeley, University of California, 1966, 1967, partially corrected, 1970

Description 5 vols. in 3 (1-3, 4, 5), total of 844 p., 8.5" x 11", spiral-bound.

Includes enrollment and other statistics, bibliographies, and indexes.

v. 1. The first half century, 1868-1918.--v. 2. The decade 1918-1928.--v. 3. 1928-1932.--

v. 4. The decade 1932-1942.--v. 5. The period 1942-1950.

Availability: UC Libraries (UCB, UCD, UCR, UCSC), CSL, Institutional Histories-NBL; and LOC

History of the Physics Department, University of California, Berkeley 1950-1968 / by August Carl Helmholz; edited by John David Jackson.

Publisher Berkeley : University of California, 2004.

Description soft cover, 75 p., 8.5" x 11".

Contains 50 pages of narrative plus four appendices: Departmental Chairs, 1869- 2000;

Physics faculty, 1932-33 and 1967-68; Ph.D. statistics, 1902-2004; selected enrollment statistics.

Availability: UCB Physics Dep't; UCB Library; Books-NBL

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

Historical Sketch, 1893-1986

This review was written by Hellmut Fritzsche when he was Chairman of the Department in 1986.

http://physics.uchicago.edu/historical_sketch.html

Ryerson Physical Laboratory: A Brief History

This review appeared in the Winter/Spring 1973 issue of the University of Chicago Division of the Physical Sciences Reports. The Ryerson Physical Laboratory served the Department of Physics from 1894 until 1985; now the renovated building is the home of the Department of Computer Science.

http://physics.uchicago.edu/ryerson_history.html

Archive - list of links to present and past members of the UC Physics Department

<http://physics.uchicago.edu/newsarchive.html>

WILLIAMS COLLEGE

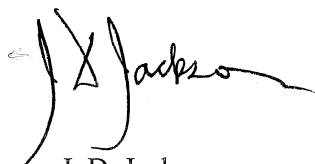
Jay M. Pasachoff, 1998, "Williams College's Hopkins Observatory: The Oldest Extant Observatory in the United States." *Journal of Astronomical History and Heritage* 1 (1), 61-78.

(3) **Future activities?**

Continuing passivity is a possible mode. Perhaps departmental scribes are busy at work as we meet. In due time a flood of entries will appear on my doorstep. It seems rather redundant to comb the NBL for the variously filed histories there, but that could be done. Another activity could be examine the web sites of the physics departments of the top 50 (100?) research universities to see whether they have histories listed that they are too lazy to report to the Register.

Suggestions for the future that effective and effortless are welcomed.

Respectfully submitted,



J. D. Jackson

FHP Officers and Committees 2007-2008 (many incomplete at this point):

Executive Committee

OFFICERS

Chair (to become Past-Chair following the April 2008 meeting)

William Evenson, 711 E 3100 N, Provo, UT 84604-4277; phone: 801- 863-6440; email bill.evenson@uvsc.edu

Chair-Elect (to become Chair following the April 2008 meeting)

David C. Cassidy, Hofstra University, New Science Bldg 106, Hempstead, NY 11549, phone: 516-463-5537; email: chmdcc@optonline.net

Vice-Chair (to become Chair-Elect following the April 2008 meeting)

Gloria B. Lubkin, 10201 Grosvenor Pl #509, North Bethesda, MD 20852, phone: (301) 209-3050; glubkin@aip.org

Secretary-Treasurer (term expires April 2008)

Thomas Miller, Boston College, Air Force Research Lab, Space Vehicles Directorate/VSBXT, Hanscom AFB, MA 01731-3010; phone: 781-377-5031; email thomas.miller@hanscom.af.mil

Members-at-Large

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