

Minutes from GMAG Business Meeting  
23 March 2004  
Room 513CD, Palais de Congres, Montreal, Quebec

Meeting called to order at 6:10 pm.

Approximately 12 GMAG members were in attendance, including members of the Executive Committee.

1. The minutes from last year were read by the Secretary/Treasurer, and were accepted without amendment.
2. Results of the 2004 Election were announced: Rhyne elected vice-chair, Ross elected sec/treas., Kent and Childress elected members-at-large.
3. GMAG-sponsored Fellows were announced: Chantrell, Dionne, Jin. There was a round of applause for this distinguished cohort.
4. The Student Dissertation awards were announced: Alvarez, Jiang, Vajk. There was a round of applause for this accomplished cohort as well.

It was suggested that in the future the Award Certificates should be presented at the GMAG Business Meeting.

It was moved that the Student Dissertation Award program be renewed for the next year. It passed unanimously.

5. The Secretary/Treasurer delivered the finance report, announcing that the GMAG Treasury had accumulated ~\$34,000 as of January 2004.
6. A show of appreciation for the Secretary/Treasurer (who leaves office this year) was made.
7. Lewis and van Dover discussed the electronic balloting procedure this year; all agreed that it was a good innovation.
8. The Chair of the Program Committee reported on various aspects of the 2004 March Meeting program. GMAG continues to take responsibility for all of Category 6; this year there were 730 talks in the category.

Thanks were extended to the thirteen sorters who worked on behalf of GMAG this year.

9. Stiles reported on the tutorial program, which elicited good attendance.

10. Sun reported for the Membership/Recruitment Committee.

It was moved that the Student Membership Program (GMAG makes student membership free) be extended indefinitely. The motion passed with no dissent.

Stiles suggested that GMAG should contact all APS members who submitted a Category 6 abstract but are not GMAG members, and gently suggest that they might consider joining GMAG. Sun agreed to look in on this and do it if possible.

11. Bass reported on the Unit Convocation and the DCMP/DMP/APS Sunday meeting.

12. The Chair reported on the 2005 International Year of Physics, and suggested that the membership consider ways in which GMAG might participate.

The floor was opened for discussion and proposals on this point. Bass suggested that formal proposals for developing outreach demonstrations should be solicited from the GMAG members. The proposals would be evaluated by the GMAG executive committee and potentially funded at the level of a few hundred to a few thousand dollars as appropriate and as funds permit.

It was suggested that this solicitation should be in the form of an email (and newsletter item) and should contain language along the lines of “we are beginning a program, are soliciting proposals on an ongoing basis, and will begin evaluation of the proposals on <fill in appropriate date>.”. That is, have a firm target date but no deadline.

It was moved: “GMAG should solicit proposals for outreach; accepted proposals would be funded for no more than \$2500 each (and proposals with much lower costs are encouraged as well); no more than \$10,000 of GMAG funds would be devoted to this; the program will last one year and then be reviewed; the proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by the Executive Committee.” The motion passed with no dissent.

13. The question of supporting someone to work on the GMAG web page was discussed; it was moved that the Secretary/Treasurer be authorized to spend up to \$2000 this year to support such work. It was anticipated that this might take the form of hiring a competent and interested undergraduate. This motion also passed without dissent.

14. At this point the Chair suggested a round of applause for the hard work by the Program Chair on behalf of GMAG over the past year, and passed the gavel to Schiffer.

15. The new Chair asked for a round of applause for the hard work by the GMAG Chair on behalf of the Topical Group over the past year.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.