

Minutes of GMAG Business Meeting, March 2008

Location: New Orleans Convention Center, Room 219, Tuesday March 6th 2008, 5.45pm

Attending: Chair Dan Reich, Vice Chair Axel Hoffmann, Secretary/Treasurer Caroline Ross, Sara Majetich, Chris Leighton, Steve Hill, Bill Butler, Michael Pechan and Michael Fitzsimmons, Vice Chair Elect Berry Jonker, Secretary/Treasurer Elect Maria Varela, Evgeny Tsybmal, John Freeland, GMAG members (approx. 22 attendees)

1. Recognition of New Fellows and PhD Awardees. Dan Reich announced the new Fellows, Bogdan Dabrowski, Sadamichi Maekawa, Sara Majetich, Jonathan Sun, and the Student Award winner, Keith Gilmore.
2. The minutes from the previous year were displayed by Caroline Ross and approved unanimously.
3. Treasurer's Report. Ross described the GMAG finances. Funds of \$48,726 were available at the end of 2007, compared to \$44,676 in 2006. There was an increase in our funds of \$4050, less than the previous year increase because of a \$2500 outreach grant. Our revenue is \$14,002 (investment income, March Mtg income, and membership) and our outlay was \$9952 (newsletter, meeting meals/facilities, postage, travel, outreach, and student awards).
4. GMAG Program Chair's Report. Bill Butler explained that magnetism-related papers accounted for 14% of the March Meeting total, 839 papers, similar to the previous year. 265 abstracts were submitted in the Focus topics (6.11.1- 6.11.7) and 574 into the Subcategories (6.1 – 6.10) but the sorters moved most of the subcategory abstracts into focus topics, so there were only 2 contributed sessions from the subcategories (these have no invited speakers), and 61 sessions in the focus topics (these can have invited speakers). All focus topics are healthy except 6.11.1 (theory of spin dependent phenomena) and 6.11.6 (information storage) which had only 2 -3 sessions each. Two topics (6.11.3 complex oxides and 6.11.5 spin dependent phenomena in semiconductors) are large and may be considered for splitting in the future
5. Fellowship Committee Report. Axel Hoffmann explained that we are allowed three Fellows based on our membership size, plus an alternate. We proposed three plus an alternate and all were awarded.
6. Nobel Reception. Dan Reich mentioned the Reception in honor of A. Fert and P. Grunberg, Weds. 12 March at 5.30pm in the Marriott.
7. Outreach and Education. Bill Butler described the funded program at MINT, called MINT Soup, which Renee Horton organized to purchase kits for magnetism demos for high- and middle-school girls.
8. New Business. International Conference on Magnetism, sponsored by IUPAP, 1500 – 2000 attendees. Dr Maekawa described the next conference planned in 2009 at Karlsruhe, Germany. The summer 2012 meeting is likely to be in North America and suggestions are being solicited. David Jiles described previous discussions on this topic. It will require some significant organization to set this up before the 2009 conference. There is no continuity for organizational structure and the local organizers have to assume financial responsibility.
9. The gavel was turned over to the new Chair, Bill Butler, and the meeting was adjourned at 6.30pm.