



**NEW YORK STATE SECTION
AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY**

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
118th Semi-annual Symposium
158th Meeting of NYSS/APS
April 13, 2018
Binghamton University, Binghamton NY

The minutes were taken by Harold Hastings, Acting Secretary

Members Present: Erica Simoson (Chair, 19), Eric Cotts (21), Harold Hastings (19), Donell Brandon Hoffman (21), Ken Podolak (Vice-chair, 19), Rajesh Vaddi (19).

Members Absent: Samuel Amanuel (19), Abram Falk (21), Joel Giedt (21), Shashi Kanbur (19), Jenny Magnes (19), Carl Ventrice (21), Michael Rogers (19), Gianfranco Vidali (Secretary/Treasurer, 21), Zachary Robinson (21).

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am by Erica Simoson.

1. Approval of minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting at the 2017 Spring Symposium:

The minutes were approved as presented.

2. Report of the Local Committee – Bruce White (Binghamton Univ.):

Local Committee Report - As of 9 am today there are 108 registrants and 17 posters. Projected budget (approximate estimates): Income: registration - \$1200, Binghamton University contribution: \$2500, total income: \$3700. Expenses: food - \$ 4800, speakers - \$2000, miscellaneous - \$400. Income – expenses: –\$3500. The local SPS will provide activities for students: a physics trivia contest tonight (Friday) and a pizza party Saturday after the last talk.

a. Posters – see Appendix A

- i. Reminder of the policy: (PASSED October 15, 2004 with amount revised at this meeting) the judging committee may award prizes (up to \$1,000) for posters in categories at the discretion of the judges. Gianfranco proposed to increase poster awards up to \$2,000 at the discretion of judges and for this time only. Harold seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- ii. The poster judging committee was set up. From the Executive Committee: Erica Simoson, Brandon Hoffman. From Binghamton University: Stephen Levy.
- iii. Results of posters judging – **See Appendix A**

c. Student support – see Appendix B

- i. Student support. Samuel Amanuel had emailed a request for \$ 170 to provide support for two students from Northeast Clinton High School, Champlain NY. The request as approved.
- i. Reminder of the policy passed at the Executive Committee Meeting, Spring 2013 **Overall student support maximum is increased to \$150 per student for travel and hotel. To encourage pre-planning, student support requests received two weeks prior to the symposium will receive full consideration for full reimbursement of expenses (double occupancy and ride sharing) pending availability of funds. Students are expected to pursue alternative sources of funding also. The total amount to be allotted per symposium for this purpose is \$2500. Amounts exceeding this need prior approval of the Executive Committee.**

3. Secretary/Treasurer's report

- a. In Gianfranco Vidali's absence, there was no formal financial report. Erica reported on behalf of the Secretary/Treasurer that NYSS has 52,714.53 at the end of 2017 which is only slightly less than at the end of 2016. However, there is still pending invoice from the Union College Fall meeting so the actual balance is likely between \$50-52k. The NY State Section has 2800 members, including 1400 students. There has been a steady increase over recent years. Erica reported on new reimbursement submission requirements from the APS.

4. Future Symposia

There is a healthy pipeline. Erica projects RIT in Fall 2018 (the industrial pipeline), IBM in Spring 2019 (the physics of AI), Corning in Fall 2019, and Brockport in Spring 2020. Houghton College is highly interested in hosting, but concerned about the fact that most housing is located 30-45 minutes away from the college.

5. Outreach Grants– Harold Hastings

Harold reported that there was one inquiry, but the that the corresponding application will be made in the fall. There were thus two grants for the year 2017-2018, totaling \$4000.

6. Nominating committee

The nominating committee will consist of Ken Podolak as chair, Eric Cotts, Carl Ventrice and Joel Giedt. Pending approval by electronic vote.

7. Newsletter

The newsletter is published on-line once a year. There is a mid-January deadline to get material to Eric. It was decided to increase the visibility of the NYSS Symposia by using social media. Zak is looking into setting up a Facebook page.

4. Other Reports

- i. The APS is asking the NY State Section to update its bylaws to bring them into agreement with APS bylaws. Questions include a student on the executive committee and the number of meetings per year. Sentiment favored the current two meetings per year. No action was taken.

- ii. Report on APS convocation. Ken Podolak reported on the APS convention, including an extensive discussion of congressional visits and APS support for such visits, as well as discussions among sections.
- iii. There will be a business meeting of the Section after the second session this afternoon (Friday) – Erica.
- iv. There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.

Appendix A - Spring 2018 Student Poster Awards

Graduate Student Awards:

Two Main Awards at \$150 each

- Mohammed Genanu: "Microstructure and performance of micro Cu pillars solder caps and assemblies."
- Mariam Kawai: "Emergent Kondo behavior in pyrochlore iridate Pr₂Ir₂O₇"

4 Posters with Honorable Mention at \$100/each

- Jeremy Mehta: "In-plane pathways facilitate out-of-phase charge transport in organic solar cell active layers"
- Taylor Juran: "Density functional theory modeling of MnO₂ polymorphs as multivalent cathode materials"
- Stuart Shepard: "Ab initio study of the electronic structure of copper-doped nickel tungstate"
- Krishanu Roychowdhury: "A classification of magnetic frustration from topology"

Undergraduate Student Awards:

Undergraduate Honorable mention \$100 total, so \$50 to each student presenter)

- Alex Hepburn and Vihan Wickramasinghe: " Surface plasmon resonance studies of iron/silver films"

Rising Stars Award, at \$50, so \$25 each

- Dalton Benjamin and Seth Albertus: "Theory of Probability Through Galton Boards"

Appendix B – Travel Support to Students to Attend the Fall 2017 Symposium at Union College

A total of \$256.67 was requested for the travel of students.

Appendix C –Report of Fall 2017 Symposium at Union College

Financial Report: Fall 2017 NYSSAPS Meeting

Total APS/ASNY Registrants: 233 + 9 (invited speakers) = 242

Students: 119

Non-students / HS Teachers / Retirees: 6

INCOME:

On-site Registration / Banquet: Credit Card	205.00
Checks	395.00
Cash	230.00
Registration/Banquet collected by APS (off-site)	4,425.00
Union College Donation (DADP 2K, DOF 2K, Phy&Ast 300)	4,300.00
ASNY (to cover registration of the members)	2,000.00

Income Total **(5255+4300+2000)** **11,555.00**

EXPENSES:

Catering	12,398.90
Rentals (Hall, vans, etc.)	150.00
Invited Speakers Support	2,942.60
Parking	
Name Badges	
Program Printing	
Folders and Labels	
Audiovisuals	550.00
Others (supplies for name badges, folders, etc.)	301.00

Expenses Total: **16,343.40**

Net cost to NYSSAPS **4,788.40**

Submitted by Samuel Amanuel