

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
92nd Semi-annual Symposium
143rd Meeting of NYSS/APS
October 15, 2005
Colgate University
Merrill House

Time: 9:00 AM

Members present: Vice Chair, Bob Pompei (07); Secretary-Treasurer, Larry Josbeno (09); Enrique Galvez (Colgate University), Section Council Observer (07); Gianfranco Vidali, Section Councillor (07); Executive Committee: Lawrence Brehm (07); Scott Heinekamp(09); Roman Kezerashvili (07); Michael Kotlarchyk (09); Jill Linz (07); Stacie Nunes (09); Michael Rogers (09); Cindy Schwarz (09); and David Trauernicht (07)

Members absent: Chair, James Owens (07); Azar Alizadeh (07); Mike DeMarco (09); Joel Kubby (07) and Jay Newman (07).

1. Approval of minutes from the Rochester Institute of Technology, April 15, 2005.

Motion to approve: Jill Linz, seconded by Lawrence Brehm, Unanimous

2. Report of the Local Committee

a. Report of local organizers – Kiko Galvez
There are 126 people registered, 79 students.

b. Student support – The following policy, that was approved Spring 2003 will be followed;

i) Student support will be a maximum \$150 per student, with discretion on the part of the student support coordinator on the amount. Banquet will be \$6 for pre-registered students (with certification by a faculty member at the institution).

ii) Bob Pompei reported that ? students have request support.

c. Posters – ten posters entered at this point; the judging committee: Larry Brehm, Jill Linz and Roman Kezerashvili.

POLICY: (PASSED October 15, 2004) the judging committee may award prizes (up to \$600) FOR POSTERS (no more than \$100 per poster), categories at the discretion of the judges.

Motion to approve: Larry Josbeno, seconded by Stacie Nunes.

Unanimous

THE FOLLOWING AWARDS WERE ANNOUNCED AT THE BANQUET:

1st Place (\$100)
Charles Anderson
Smithtown, New York
“Absorbative Nonlinearities of Cd/Se Quantum Dents”

2nd Place (\$75)
Amber Beckley
Binghamton, New York

2nd Place (\$75)
Christina Fennimore
Kings Park, New York

3rd Place (\$50)
Lindsey Goodman
New York, New York

3rd Place (\$50)
Bradford Melius
Hamilton, New York

3. Secretary/Treasurer Report - See report attached at end.

Motion to accept Treasurer’s Report – Cindy Schwarz, Second – David Trauernicht – Unanimous

4. Newsletter Report – Kiko Galvez

Kiko plans to publish a newsletter in January...

There was a major discussion on funding for the newsletter, the resultant opinion, was to continue producing a quality newsletter and mailing copies to all NUSS members and all APS members who reside in New York. The deadline for submission of articles is December 1, 2005.

5. Report from Spring Symposium 2005 - Mike Kotlarchyk

The APS/NYSS Spring Section Meeting was held at RIT College of Science on April 15-16, 2005. The Symposium “Frontiers in Squishy Physics” attracted 59 participants, six student posters, three of which received awards.

Summary of expenses:

Physics Board Meeting, RIT Inn, April 15 \$ 608.15
Banquet, RIT Inn, April 15 \$2,707.25

Coffee breaks, April 15 \$ 123.20
Coffee breaks, April 16 \$ 369.60

Total Expenses \$3,808.20
Checks payable to NY APS Section
(enclosed in US Mail separately) \$ 80.00

Receipts
Cash \$ 130.00
Checks (payable to RIT Physics) \$ 780.00

Amount paid by APS/NYSS
(\$3,808.20-(\$130+780)) \$2,898.20

6. Outreach Grants – Stacie Nunes

Two Outreach Proposals were considered:

1) 'Relativistic Motion of Cosmic-Ray Muons'
Organization: University of Rochester
Principle Proposer: Jennifer Seger
Supervising Faculty Member: Prof. Kevin McFarland
TOTAL REQUEST from NYSS/APS \$1,000

High school students will explore particle physics and relativity by using a hot air balloon to carry a cosmic ray detector to various altitudes from ground level up to approximately 3,000 ft. The muon rates at each altitude measured in this experiment will be compared to the number of muons that would be predicted to travel through the atmosphere based on classical and relativistic calculations. Since muons travel close to the speed of light, students expect that the observed number of muons will agree more closely with the relativistic predictions. The students participating in this project will learn about cosmic rays, relativity and experimental techniques. They will communicate their results and research experiments to students attending PARTICLE DAY, a poster conference for area high school students involved in the PARTICLE Program through the University of Rochester.

There was considerable discussion and numerous concerns on this proposal. The first concern was funding a continuing research experience; this was determined not to be a factor as long as the Proposer does not expect continued funding. The other concerns were concerning liability from students riding in the hot air balloon.

Motion: To approve request, contingent on Stacie Nunes determining from APS and the University of Rochester that APS/NYSS is NOT liable for any accidents or problems occurring from grant funded activities.

Motion – Cindy Schwarz, Second – David Trauernicht – Unanimous

2) "Physics Circus"

Ithaca College Chapter of the Society of Physics Students
TOTAL REQUEST from NYSS/APS \$1,000

The Ithaca Chapter of the Society of Physics Students (SPS) proposes the creation of a "Physics Circus" that will regularly visit local K-12 schools in the Finger Lakes Region. This will benefit not only the K-12 students by teaching them physics, in a hands on manner, but will enable the SPS members to get valuable experience teaching and interacting with K-12 students. Depending on the audience there will either be numerous stations that small groups of people rotate through or one stage where all demonstrations are done for one audience. The Physics Club will cover topics in mechanics, optics, electricity & magnetism, fluid mechanics and thermodynamics. All of these demonstrations will be in ready to go transportable crates. The Club will also develop instructional materials to make it easy for future SPS members.

Although, this is the type of outreach activity that we want to encourage and fund, there are some serious concerns. The proposal was very light, late arriving on the day of this meeting. The use of the funds is sketchy and faculty enrolment is not mentioned. (Executive Committee member Michael Rogers, (from Ithaca College), stated that he would be the Supervising Faculty member). Robert Pompei expressed a concern on how appropriate this project would be, considering that Ithaca has one of the best Science and Discovery Centers in existence.

Motion: To NOT approve of this request at this time. This proposal should be resubmitted, in a timely manner, and with appropriate documentation.

Motion – David Trauernicht – Second – Lawrence Brehm -Unanimous

7. Future Symposia

The following future sites and topics were approved:

i) Spring 2006 Symposium – April 7/8, 2006 – Finger Lakes CC
"Physics and Technology of Microsystems" - David Trauernicht

ii) Fall 2006 Symposium – SUNY at Potsdam – October 29-31, 2006
"Acoustics; Musical and Physical" - Larry Brehm

iii) Spring 2007 Symposium – Vassar – Cindy Schwartz
"Women in Physics"; Joint Meeting with AAPT/NYSS

iv) Fall 2007 Symposium - A proposal was made by Jill Linz to host this symposium at Skidmore, as a joint conference with AASNY (the American Astronomical Society, New York (section)). The topic will be on some aspect of Astrophysics. Concern was expressed about the joint meeting. The only joint meetings held by APS/NYSS have been with AAPT/NYSS. Gianfranco gave assurance that this was not against policy, as long as we use the same ground rules we do with AAPT/NYSS. Motion to approve: Larry Josbeno, seconded by Lawrence Brehm, Unanimous

New Business

8. Report from APS - Gianfranco Vidali, Council Advisor.

Dear Council Observers or Chairs,

A Section Councillors to the APS Council, Gianfranco Vidali (NY Section) and I (Ohio Section) believe it's important the each section receive the latest information from the Council that may be of value to your members. Therefore, we have assembled a set of relevant information from the last APS Council meeting (15 April 2005) and I provide it in the attachment to this e-mail. Our intent is to continue this practice after each Council meeting to ensure you have timely and valuable information.

Please let us know if this information is useful to you or if there's other information you think we should provide to the Sections. You can also use us to transmit concerns, requests, or comments to the Council if you so desire.

I invite you to contact Gianfranco or myself should you have any questions or comments.

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Next meeting is ion November 20 in Chicago.

9. Report from AAPT/NYSS – Robert Pompei

Robert Pompei attended the AAPT/NYSS Executive Board, on October 1, at SUNY Brockport, (he is also a member of that Board) and expressed the following concerns:

1) Outreach – During 2004/2005 academic year AAPT/NYSS acted as a co-sponsor for outreach grants, (a maximum of two) and provided \$4,080, in co-sponsoring four grants. They do not feel that the grants awarded were an appropriate outreach for their organization. (There was concern expressed that there funds were going out of New York state, however APS/NYSS granted six outreach requests during this time period, the four that were co-sponsored remained in New York State). They have placed a moratorium in co-outreach involvement. .

2) AAPT/NYSS is willing to participate in joint meetings, only if they are involved in the planning and presenting, not as just invited attendees

10. Other

Larry Josbeno reported that the APS sponsored Convocation will be held at College Park, Maryland on February 18. We are authorized to send three participants that APS will pay for expenses to this meeting. Usually this is the Chair, vice-Chair and the Secretary/Treasurer. Other members of the Executive may attend but the section will have to pick up the travel costs for these individuals. This is valuable experience for any member, especially the Newsletter Editor. If any member of the Executive Committee is interested in attending they should contact the chair.

11. The meeting adjourned at 12:18 PM. Motion to adjourn Robert Pompei, Roman Kezerashvili. Unanimous!

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Josbeno, Secretary-Treasurer