

Minutes of the Ohio-Region Section of the American Physical Society (approved)  
Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the Ohio-Region Section of the American Physical Society met on Friday, 10 October 2008, in Room E107 of the Student Center at Wright State University. In attendance were Gordon Aubrecht, Mellita Caragiu, Michael Crescimanno, Jeff Dyck, Elizabeth George, Robert Hengehold, Bob Kaye, Dennis Kuhl, Chris Lemon, Terry Sheridan, David Weeks, Paul Wolf, and Perry Yaney.

1. Mellita Caragiu presided over the meeting, calling it to order at 10:10 am, and beginning with a welcome and introductions.

2. Secretary's Report: Elizabeth George  
The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report: Jeff Dyck  
The treasurer's report was presented. There have been several meeting advances since the last report, as well as reimbursement for the purchase of several CPEP posters for door prizes at local AAPT section meetings. Interest income is still at 6.5% (but will probably change in the future).

The final report from the Fall '07 meeting (Miami University) was received; they collected \$585 in abstract fees, which was forwarded to the OSAPS account, but there's been no charge yet from APS for abstracts for this meeting. Preliminary cost to OSAPS is \$3000 pending resolution of the abstract fees.

The final report from the Spring '08 meeting at Youngstown State was received; the preliminary cost to OSAPS is \$3512.27. Jeff wasn't sure whether abstract fees are included in that or not (we will see when the report from this meeting is presented later).

Jeff is still waiting for the final report from the Eastern Michigan meeting, but thinks it will eventually come.

The revised abstract publication fee structure was discussed. The new policy is that the first 100 abstracts per year will be free, and abstracts will cost \$25 each after that. Jeff thinks that now every abstract will be "published" in the pdf document APS produces for each meeting, not just those whose authors request (pay for) them to be published. The old practice was that APS charged \$180 per page in BAPS, which works out to about \$45/abstract. The new structure supposedly went into effect at beginning of calendar year 2007. APS hasn't charged us for abstracts for several meetings now, so Jeff hasn't yet seen how the new process will work. We have been continuing to collect abstract fees according to the old system (\$45 for each abstract whose author wishes it published in BAPS).

At the last two meetings we've had 78 and 98 abstracts, respectively. Subtracting off the 100 free abstracts and billing the rest at \$25 each would mean about \$1900 due to APS in a given year (this is about \$10 per abstract). Jeff thinks this is a somewhat higher number than in a typical year.

It was suggested that we should look at recent abstract submission statistics to set an interim abstract fee, and monitor the situation to see how it goes. Alternatively, we could fold the estimated extra cost for the abstracts into the registration fee for everyone. It was pointed out that OSAPS could generally simply cover the extra amount for abstracts, but we want to avoid big swings in cost from year to year.

There was discussion about whether charging an abstract fee would discourage people from presenting. The consensus was that if it's on the order of \$10 it won't.

It was pointed out that folding the abstract fee into the registration might make it more difficult for the local host to deal with. The local host would tend to see the entire registration fee as income, whereas in reality some amount of the registration fee should be kept (at least mentally) separate from meeting income, since the abstract fees need to go to OSAPS to pay for the APS abstract charges. On the other hand, it's more work to keep track of (separate) abstract fees as well as registration fees.

It was suggested that a line for a \$10 APS abstract publication fee, per paper, to be paid by the presenter, be added to the standard registration form. Dennis Kuhl moved/Chris Lemon seconded that this policy be adopted. The motion was approved.

Paul Wolf will send the recent registration form to Jeff Dyck so he can make a modification and send it around for comments and approval of the wording.

#### 4. Honors and Awards: Robert Hengehold

This committee is made up of Bob Hengehold, Scott Lee (Toledo), and Mike Crescimanno (YSU). Bob has gone through his files and has come up with a list of names of 10-12 people who have significantly served the section for a long period of time or in some special way. Mike and Scott gave Bob feedback on these names. Out of that process, 4 names have emerged. Bob has contacted these people to let them know of their awards. At this meeting, Bruce Craver (UD) and Paul Scholten (Miami) will accept the Maxwell Award. Barbara Andereck (OWU) will accept the Maxwell Award at the OWU meeting, and Roger Rollins (OU) will accept his at a future meeting.

Bob has had award plaques made up with our new logo. These plaques are still in the shape of Ohio. It was suggested that (given the new geographic reach of the section) they should be some other shape (square?) in the future. Others felt that since Ohio is still in the name of the section, we should leave it in the shape of Ohio until someone from outside Ohio wins it. It was agreed to continue to think about the options.

Bob reported that he is still having trouble getting nominations for the Fowler Award.

#### 5. Membership report: Dennis Kuhl

Dennis will share a membership report with us by email.

#### 6. Meetings reports

Fall 2008: AFIT/Wright State: Paul Wolf

Paul reported that we will have four invited speakers on the theme of "Frontiers in Chemical Physics;" the after-banquet speaker is Marc Abrahams (of Ig Nobel Prize fame). Since three different institutions are involved, it will take some time to sort out the finances. Paul presented a handout with statistics: there were 160 pre-registrations (virtually all from Ohio) including 79 students; there were 96 banquet reservations, 52 oral presentations, and 41 posters.

Spring 2009: Ohio Northern University: Mellita Caragiu

The meeting will be April 24-25, 2009 (note change of date). The theme is "Plasma Fundamentals." Currently they have commitments from three invited speakers and are looking for a fusion speaker as well. They will talk with SOS/AAPT about their participation as well. Hotel and banquet arrangements have been made, and they are working on an after-banquet performance.

Fall 2009: Ohio Wesleyan University: Bob Kaye for Brad Trees

The dates of Oct 23-24 have been requested from APS; we're still waiting for word on those dates. The theme will be in the area of "Interdisciplinary approaches to synchronization." They have three confirmed invited speakers. They plan to talk to AAPT sections about participation and are thinking about the possibility of a joint SPS zone meeting as well.

7. OSAPS officer elections: Mellita Caragiu

Paul Wolf's Councilor term ends in December 2008. The voting councilor position will be rotating away from OSAPS at this time, but we still need a council observer (this is an appointed position). Elizabeth George moved and Bob Kaye seconded that Paul Wolf be appointed to the council observer position. The motion passed.

For the next election cycle this spring, we will need a Vice-Chair, a Student Member-At-Large to replace Chris Lemon (2-year term), and a Member-At-Large to replace Bob Kaye (3-year term). The nominating committee consists of Brad Trees (chair), Dennis Kuhl, and David Drabold (Ohio U).

8. Future meeting planning: Mellita Caragiu and David Weeks

Spring 2009: Ohio Northern University

Fall 2009: Ohio Wesleyan University

Spring 2010: open

Fall 2010: Marietta College; this will be a joint meeting with the Appalachian and Southern Ohio AAPT sections

Spring 2011: open

Fall 2011: Ball State

We will need someone for Spring 2010 soon. It would be good to find a Michigan host. Kettering last did it in 1999. There are a number of other sites we haven't been back to in about 10 years (Toledo, Cincinnati) and these could be good to try. We also need to go back to northeastern Ohio (Kent, John Carroll) soon. David will start making contacts.

9. Session timers: Robert Hengehold

OSAPS used to have a set of timers for session chairs to use. Bob proposed buying 10 at about \$15 per timer. The AFIT group will take charge of them for now.

10. Abstract fees for current meeting: Jeff Dyck

As stated earlier, Jeff thinks we will owe something like \$1900 for abstracts this year given the number of abstracts, so it was agreed that we should keep the abstract publication fees we've already received for the meetings this year in order to help defray this amount.

11. Student Travel Grant Policy: Terry Sheridan

Terry proposed revising the policy to make it clear that actual expenses/receipts aren't needed. Jeff confirmed that APS doesn't require us to have receipts. It was proposed that we will use estimated expenses as the basis for reimbursement. Perry Yaney suggested copying the faculty advisor/endorser when making the award.

Elizabeth George moved and Terry Sheridan seconded that the wording in the student travel grant policy (under Procedures, item #3) be changed from "may be reimbursed, after the meeting, for expenses up to a maximum of \$100" to "will be reimbursed, after the meeting, for the previously agreed-upon amount, up to a maximum of \$100." This modification was approved unanimously.

The Chair-elect will be responsible for keeping track of who's gotten a grant in the current academic year.

12. Changes in "Guide to the Executive Committee Duties of the OS/APS": Elizabeth George

All sections have been updated, though Jeff is still waiting to include the information about how to handle abstract fees. Elizabeth will send around the updated document once that's done.

The function of the Program Committee was discussed. The Program Committee serves as the means for the Executive Committee to keep in touch with developments in meeting planning.

#### 13. OSAPS logo: Mellita Caragiu

Mellita announced that Cameron Reed was the designer of the winning logo. Congratulations to Cameron were expressed. Cameron might be at the Spring 2009 meeting to receive his check. It was suggested that Cameron's name be listed on the section webpage as the designer of the winning logo. Mellita also showed a bag she made with the new logo.

#### 14. Outreach

State Science Day: Gordon Aubrecht asked for judges for the Physics prizes awarded at State Science Day, which will be the second Saturday in May 2009. Gordon stated that in 2008, 7 prizes were awarded, and thanked the section for providing the prize money.

Dennis Kuhl mentioned that the State Science Olympiad has a Physics laboratory event. Dennis knows someone to contact about possible OSAPS involvement with this, and will report back to us.

TechFest: Perry Yaney gave a report about TechFest. OSAPS has agreed to donate \$2000 to TechFest in each of 2009 and 2010. Perry said that the next TechFest would be Feb. 14-15, 2009. They expect about 3000 students. There was some discussion of ways to make OSAPS more visible at the event, perhaps by having a booth with giveaway items.

#### 15. Job bulletin board: Bob Kaye

Bob reported that currently there are no ads on the job bulletin board, but that he had a flyer advertising the service placed in each registration packet at this meeting. He also plans to send a message to the section reminding people of the service.

#### 16. Spring 2008 meeting report: Mike Crescimanno for Jim Andrews and Pat Durrell

A written report on the Spring 2008 meeting at Youngstown State was provided. There were 176 attendees, including 80 students and 27 AAPT section members. There were 31 contributed talks and 34 posters.

Jeff Dyck asked about abstract fees, since there was no separate listing for those under income. Jeff will follow up on this directly with Jim and/or Pat. It was also suggested that it would be helpful to show honoraria amounts separately so future organizers would know what the typical amount for these is. For similar reasons, it would also be helpful to list the number of banquet attendees.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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