

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, 24 April 2009, in Conference Room 202 of the McIntosh Center at Ohio Northern University. In attendance were Gordon Aubrecht, Mellita Caragiu, Jeff Dyck, Elizabeth George, Robert Hengehold, Dennis Kuhl, Jason Pinkney, Terry Sheridan, Hyundeok Song, Brad Trees, Perry Yaney, David Weeks, and Paul Wolf.

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

2. Secretary's report: Elizabeth George

Dennis Kuhl moved and Brad Trees seconded that the minutes be approved as presented. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Treasurer's report: Jeff Dyck

Jeff reported that we had income from interest, dues, and abstract fees (for the Fall 2008 meeting); expenses were due to outreach expenditures, meeting advances, travel grants, and a BAPS charge. Our financial resources are holding steady.

The new BAPS pricing is in place (the first 100 abstracts a year are free, \$25/abstract after that). We will need to work out how to allocate charges to particular meetings. Also, Jeff thinks that the BAPS charge includes a charge for the preamble, as well as for each abstract beyond the first 100 of each year. Jeff isn't sure whether we've been charged yet for the Fall 2007 meeting—he's following up on that. At this time, the \$10 fee we're charging for each abstract seems like it will cover our BAPS expenses.

4. Membership report: Dennis Kuhl

Dennis presented a handout with the statistics and pointed out that while we're still growing, the growth rate is decreasing. Our student membership is up. We've also seen growth in members from many states bordering Ohio, especially Pennsylvania, which is now our third biggest state. The recent loss in members from Illinois is probably due to the formation of the Prairie Section.

Jeff Dyck raised the question of whether APS gives us dues for all members or only US members (since the membership and dues numbers don't quite seem to agree). It wasn't immediately clear what the source of the discrepancy is.

5. Unit Convocation: Terry Sheridan, David Weeks, Elizabeth George

Terry reported that APS plans to raise membership fees, and also reported on his interaction with officers from the new Prairie Section.

David reported on a discussion of various methods of collecting fees online for meetings (for example, using PayPal); also, other sections expressed some interest in having APS collect fees for

section meetings. We discussed the pros and cons of online payment, with some consensus that it's easier for the local organizers to get the money directly and to have control over the process.

Elizabeth reported that APS wants sections to include outreach information on their webpage—Perry will work on this.

6. Honors and Awards committee: Bob Hengehold

Bob reported that we will give one or two Maxwell awards at the fall (Ohio Wesleyan) meeting. The committee is still having a hard time getting nominations for the Fowler award, but they have one lead that Bob is following up.

7. Webmaster's report: Perry Yaney

Perry requested that organizers of future meetings send him information and images, especially so that he can put images (flyers, etc.) on the section webpage to draw attention to future meetings. Images should be small (say, 100k).

Mellita Caragiu mentioned that the list of past officers on the website is in need of updating.

8. Spring 2009 meeting: Mellita Caragiu/Terry Sheridan

Ten students received travel grants totaling \$940; every student who applied received money. It was pointed out that APS takes a long time to cut checks for the travel grants, so that many students won't receive the checks till after the end of the semester. We should talk to students receiving travel grants at this meeting to let them know the check will be coming and get the information we need (mailing address and SSN). The practice has been for Jeff to contact students by email to get this information, but not all students respond. In the future, especially for spring meetings, it might be useful to clarify on the application form that checks will be sent several weeks after the meeting and students should provide an address where they'll be at that time. Language such as "address where check should be sent (checks will be sent in 4-6 weeks)" was proposed.

There are currently 120 people registered for the meeting; there are 61 abstracts, including 27 posters; there will be 94 at the banquet. The Division of Plasma Physics is paying the travel expenses for the invited speakers.

9. Fall 2009 meeting: Brad Trees

Brad handed out copies of the meeting announcement flyer. The meeting will be October 9-10, 2009, at Ohio Wesleyan. The topic is Synchronization; they have 4 invited speakers and are working on one more. The website will be up over the summer. The two hotels in town are full due to another convention, but there will be a reduced rate at the Hampton Inn 10 miles east (at I-71), and there are many other hotels within a 20-30 minute drive in Columbus.

10. Local chair's final report: Fall 2008 (WSU/AFIT): Paul Wolf

Paul presented a handout summarizing the meeting. There were 179 attendees, including 78 students; banquet attendance was 100. In response to a question about the honoraria, Paul said that the only pre-negotiated honorarium was for the after-dinner speaker; honoraria for the other speakers hadn't been promised ahead of time, but were paid out of funds left over.

New business:

11. OSAPS election results: Brad Trees for the Nominating Committee

Congratulations to those elected (Vice Chair, Jason Pinkney; Member-at-Large, Herbert Jaeger; and Student Representative, Hyundeok Song) who will take office at the banquet tonight.

Appreciation was expressed to the Nominating Committee and to Fred Trexler, Web Ballot Administrator. Fred's report indicated that 228 web votes and 7 paper votes were received, which is a turnout of 16%.

12. Congratulations were expressed to Bob Hengehold, who was elected as an APS Fellow, and to Perry Yaney, who was elected to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee of APS Council. Paul Wolf is on the APS Committee on Committees, and would be happy to receive nominations for committees.

13. Future meetings

Spring 2010 is open but Bahram Roughani at Kettering has expressed interest in his institution hosting the meeting. David Weeks will confirm this after Bahram has had time to talk with his faculty.

Fall 2010 will be at Marietta College. They are working on a theme.

Spring 2011 is open. Jeff Dyck said that John Carroll will have a new hire next year and so they may be able to take that date.

Fall 2011: Ball State may be interested in hosting; the contact there is Thomas Robertson.

Dennis Kuhl pointed out that Pitt, Carnegie Mellon, Allegheny, and Penn State Erie all have a number of OSAPS members and so these Pennsylvania institutions may be good choices for future meetings. West Virginia (where we have members at institutions such as Marshall and Wheeling Jesuit) was also discussed, but we have only 12 members from that entire state.

14. Financial aspects of hosting an OSAPS meeting: Mellita Caragiu

Mellita pointed out that we came close to the \$1000 limit for student travel for this meeting and raised the question of what meeting organizers should do if requests exceed this limit. After some discussion, the consensus was that the \$1000 is a guideline, not intended to be a firm limit.

Mellita also pointed out that the OSAPS contribution to a meeting has been established at "up to \$3000" for many years (sometime before 2001?). This is also a guideline rather than a firm limit (we have given more than that if needed in the past).

It was agreed that it should be better communicated to organizers that more money may be available. It's the responsibility of the Chair-Elect to keep in touch to make sure that the meeting planning is proceeding well, and to approve reasonable requests for extra money (for example, paying speakers' travel expenses) if needed.

15. Possible membership in the Affiliate Societies Council of Dayton (ASC): Perry Yaney

Perry presented a handout explaining the mission, vision, and values of the ASC. The ASC runs TechFest, sponsors professional development programs for young managers in technology, and

recognizes outstanding engineers and scientists in the Dayton area. Perry proposed that OSAPS could become an associate member at \$50/year. Perry would be the delegate to the ASC from OSAPS.

Paul Wolf asked whether APS would allow this. Terry Sheridan asked for more information about the connection between ACS and the OSAPS mission. Perry will gather more information, including looking at the OSAPS bylaws, and will get back to us.

16. Update on the status of the “Guide to Executive Committee Duties”: Elizabeth George
Elizabeth will send the current document to David Weeks, who will work on the Vice Chair section, and to Mellita Caragiu and Terry Sheridan, who will work on the Chair-Elect section. The other sections are reasonably up to date.

17. Outreach

State Science Day: Gordon Aubrecht

Gordon thanked OSAPS for its support of the State Science Day physics prize. He has 18 judges for this May’s event, and estimates that he needs a total of 30, so volunteers are still needed. Last year \$700 in prizes were awarded (the usual 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes in each of grades 7-9 and grades 10-12, with one extra prize that was awarded at the judges’ discretion). Checks are requested from Jeff after the event. The current amount budgeted is up to \$1000.

Science Olympiad: Dennis Kuhl

Dennis has contacted the organizer of this event by email. He plans to have more information in time for the fall meeting so that we can discuss possible participation in this event.

CPEP posters for AAPT sections: Someone needs to be in charge of getting these to the AAPT sections (Michigan, Ohio, Southern Ohio, Appalachian) in time for each of their meetings. Dennis Kuhl volunteered to take this on. Jeff Dyck will pass on information to him about the specific types of posters that have been given in the past. It was suggested that it would be great to have our section logo on the posters eventually.

TechFest: Perry Yaney

Perry gave a report on TechFest 2009 and thanked OSAPS for its support.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth George
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