

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICS TEACHERS

Minutes, Section Representatives Sunday, January 22, 2006 Anchorage, Alaska

Randy Peterson called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

He asked the Section Representatives and guests to identify themselves.

There were no new business items.

The minutes of the Salt Lake City Section Representatives meeting were approved as presented.

The attendance list of Section Representatives was circulated, with a request to indicate willingness to preside at a session in Syracuse, and the date and attendance of the last meeting of the section.

Expense Sheets were distributed and discussed. Everyone was asked to include their name and address. The association will cover 2 nights, 3 days of food at \$35 per day, and transportation. We need receipts for the transportation. Mileage will be reimbursed at \$.35 per mile. PLEASE do not add the rows or columns. The forms and receipts go to

Randy Peterson
109 Curlicue Rd
Sewanee, TN 37375

They need to be postmarked by Feb 8, 2006. It would help if everyone would list their email at the top of the form.

The Report from the Section Reps Chair : Randy reminded us of several duties of Section Reps.

1. It is a responsibility of Section Reps to report a list of their section officers once a year to Valerie Evans. Please include expiration dates.

A report of the activities of the Section goes to the Announcer. (Daryl Malloy)

All of this can be sent to [AAPT-pubs @ aapt.org](mailto:AAPT-pubs@aapt.org)

2. Please look in the Announcer(p55) or on the AAPT website for the committee list. Please volunteer! Please recruit volunteers from your section! We need you!
3. Executive Board Actions will be covered in later reports from Charlie Holbrow, and (tomorrow) from Ken Heller.
4. Publications: (Alan Gibson) Work is almost done on a New High School Teacher Resource Book. Much of it will be on comPadre. Please start checking comPadre for it and related items.

The Report from the National Office: Warren Hein had 7 items of importance.

1. The inside front cover of the Announcer has all of the email addresses for the National Officers. These officers have a budget to cover giving talks at Sections meetings.
2. There are three \$500 mini grants available to cover some of the cost of Section activities on Teacher Prep, Standards, or Certification. Send email to Warren or Bernie Koury with a short description of your plans with a request for \$.
3. In your packet there is a Handbook for Section Reps. Please provide the date of your upcoming Section meetings for the AAPT website.

4. AAPT will host a list serve for your section. You need a contact administrator. It is easy to do. The guidelines are on the last page of the packet.
5. The World Year of Physics went very well. GOOD JOB everyone! The Young Talent Search, on a grant from NSF sent 5 students from the states, and 5 African student to Taiwan over Winter Break for a conference.
We also have lots of leftover WYof P items for sale.
6. 2007 will be "The Year of Cold" There will be a PBS Special on Absolute Zero and other things.
7. ComPadre is funded for 4 more years by NSF. Bruce Mason is the PI. It will feature Pathways, ideas in Physics and Astronomy for Intro and Upper Level Courses. Please keep checking its increasing content.

Charlie Holbrow: Senior Staff Physicist.

The purpose of the SSP is to increase activities for and participation by 4 year and University members. So Far:

1. The Topical Conference on Teaching Relativity to Undergraduates. It will be just before Syracuse. We are asking participants to bring model syllabi on 3 levels indicating what and when they are used. The 3 levels are
Mathematical, Uses Equations, and more general. Lygo is giving support.
2. Workshop of Graduate Teaching Assistants will be with the New England APS/AAPT meeting April 1, 2006.
3. The Conference of Leading Research University on Teaching Physics will be June 2 in College Park.
4. We envision about 4 Topical Conferences per year in conjunction with National of Section meetings, or stand alone.

Mara Elana Koury: Programs

The Physics Olympiad applications are due Jan 23rd. Fax them in by the end of the week. Our Team will go to Singapore this summer. Bob Schurz is the new director.

The Physics Bowl applications are available near registration, and at the booth. The deadline is March 20, 2006. There are lots of gifts for participating students and their teachers, in addition to the prizing winning students.

Dick Peterson, President AAPT

The main goal of suggested changes for the Winter meeting is to make the Winter Meeting more attractive to more of the membership, including APS members who are passionate about teaching. We need to be flexible about dates if we want to meet with other organizations.

Bernie Koury will propose locations for future meetings at the Council meeting tomorrow night (Mon).

Harvey Leff

Program Chairman outlined proposed changes in the Winter meeting format. We need flexibility in dates and formats, including more free time for conversation. Here Monday afternoon was left free, except for committee meetings, and sessions were moved to Monday evening. He expects more Poster Sessions, and fewer Paper Sessions for Syracuse, and

subsequent meetings. We know that in teaching Lecturing is the least effective means of communication. Posters offer more interaction.

The Poster Sessions should provide longer sessions, not opposed by other sessions, and closer to food. The Contributed papers will have less time (10 min total, instead of 15)

Ted Zaleskiewicz (Western PA) contributed that the Division of Plasma Physics only has Poster Sessions.

Alex Burr(Southwestern) asked “What is the Driving Force for change?”

Harvey ‘s reply included:

1. Relativity low attendance in Winter Meetings – we lose more \$ on the Winter meeting.
2. The schedule is jam packed, it is much too tight.
3. We seem to have less Physics in the meetings.
4. The meetings don’t serve 2/3 of the membership
5. The meetings don’t serve APS members

Randy commented that “the biggest expense at a meeting is our time”

These proposals should give us more time.

Elections: The Section Rep Nominating Committee proposed the following candidates.

Secretary: Ann Brandon – Chicago Section

Membership & Benefits: Doug Lombardi - Arizona Section

John Zwart – Iowa Section

National Nominating Committee: for 2007 elections

David Wright - Chesapeake Section

John Fitzgibbons – New York Section

Section Reps Nominating Committee:

Paul Robinson – Northern California & Nevada Section

Eric Peterson – Illinois Section

David Donnelly – Texas Section

With no further nominations received, Nominations were closed and the candidates were elected.

Syracuse: Sam Sampere

There will be a conference on Relativity the Thursday and Friday before the Meeting

The PTRA Activities are the week before the Summer Meeting.

The dorms are not airconditioned.

The meeting spaces should be close together.

The food is great, cycling and running paths are great, and the Finger Lakes Cruise is very good!

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Submitted Ann Brandon, Secretary