

Committee on Membership (CoMem), Report for 2009

The 2009 Committee on Membership was made up by ; Sudha Srinivas Chair, Terry Alford, Meghan Anzelc; Student Representative, Bruce Barrett, Brad Conrad, Robert Ecke, Judy Franz/Kate Kirby, Calvin Johnson, Udo Pernisz, Patricia Sparks and Ray Warner.

The Committee met twice in 2009. Issues addressed during the year are included below.

Membership Statistics:

- The official APS member count taken January 2009 was 47,189, which was a little over 900 more than the previous year's official count. Recruitment remained strong in conjunction with meeting registration promotions and the First Year Free Trial membership offer to students in North America.

Membership Dues:

- The Committee spent a considerable amount of time during the year discussing the impact of the current economic situation on members and recommendations for possible dues increases for the 2010 budget and beyond. Concerns over salary reductions and the inability for APS members to continue to pay their dues were key points in the discussion. CoMem recommended that there be continued focus on keeping expenses in check before requesting a larger than normal dues increase for future years.

Member Surveys:

- CoMem had oversight on a membership survey regarding student benefits and services. The survey was sent to all graduate students, approximately 9,000, with a 46% response rate. A Junior member task force was formed to assist in developing the survey and will also review the final report in 2010 and make any appropriate recommendations for changes or additional services to the Committee.

Friends of APS:

- The Friends of APS program, started in 2000, has increased to 160 participants. Friends are APS members who are identified at universities and institutions in order to help facilitate communication with current and potential members. Friends are sent information regarding membership, programs, and benefits throughout the year that is intended to be shared with colleagues and students. This program is useful tool in continuing to strengthen the APS membership.

Sudha Srinivas , Chair, CoMem 2009

Trish Lettieri, APS Director of Membership