

2002 DAP Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Saturday, April 20, 2002 at 6:30 pm (dinner meeting)

Hyatt Fiesta 4

Attending: Chuck Dermer, Susan Lamb, Chryssa Kouveliotou, Virginia Trimble, Steve Holt, Mark Leising, Mel Ulmer, Brenda Dingus, Josh Frieman, Elena Aprile, Judy Franz (APS), Michael Lubell (APS), Alice Harding (AAS/HEAD)

Absent: J. Hewitt, J. Primack

1. **Welcome and Introductions: Dermer**
2. **Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Leising**
 - 2001 Meeting Minutes Approved
 - Election Results (See handout)
 - Financial Report (See handout)
Summary: 2001 budget essentially balanced
 - Membership Status Report (handout)
Summary: no significant change
 - Will ask for approval of electronic elections at Business meeting (bylaw change proposed to membership in newsletter)
3. **Student Grants and Student Presentation Prizes: Lamb, Trimble**
 - judging continues; winners (probably one grad oral, one grad poster, one undergrad) will be announced at Business meeting.
 - ten student travel grants offered (usually \$500 each) most (maybe all) are here at meeting
ACTION: Leising - find and give travel forms
4. **Council Report: Trimble**
 - APS Prizes : now \$1.2M required to establish one
 - APS Elections : ZERO DAP candidates this year!
ACTION: ALL - provide nominations of more better candidates
 - Council plans(?) to offer 1/2 price APS membership to AAS members
 - Encourage Dept. Chairs to meet with AAPT 7-9 June in College Park
 - Two new topical groups encouraged (incl. counter-terrorism)
5. **Fellowships Status: Lamb**
 - Eight DAP nominees all selected for fellowship (see handout: only Simon Swordy is actually at this meeting.)
ACTION: Leising - mail pins and certificates to others
 - We should be proactive in suggesting DAP members for nomination to fellowship. It seems some exceedingly worthy DAP members have never been nominated.
ACTION: Lamb - obtain and email lists of DAP non-fellow members.
6. **View from Washington, DC: Lubell**
 - science clearly not a priority of new administration (overall 1.5% cuts suggested)
 - little communication between administration and science organizations and societies
 - president's science advisor "demoted"
 - physical science budgets weakened relative to others
 - support on Capitol Hill is strong, however
 - you (we) can and should write letters. Good evidence that even of order fifteen letters to a representative can have a significant impact (and results)
ACTION: ALL - use electronic letter writing stations set up here at meeting to send letters. Encourage others.

7. Joint HEAD/APS meeting: Lamb and Harding

- Overall, meeting seems to be a great success for astrophysics and its visibility. Posters not well-attended.
- need online registration for non-APS-members
- need “student presenter” box on abstract form
- should have more overall organization of schedule, to avoid obvious conflicts and allow for time for posters.
- Hotel prices are extremely high (compared to AAS meeting in same place six weeks later.) APS should consult with Dianne Alexander for help with negotiations.

8. New Initiatives: Leising

- we basically run one meeting and attend to membership, election, and awards. Should we do more? We have funds.

ACTION: ALL - discuss suggestions by email

- organize and fund our own public lecture? Conflict with APS?

9. 2003 DAP/APS meeting: Kouveliotou

April 2003 -- Philadelphia, we can organize six invited sessions

ACTION: ALL - suggestions (and volunteers) to Chryssa

10. Items from APS: Judy Franz

- APS very satisfied with joint meeting (continue every 4.5 years)
- possibility of adding \$1 to all division dues for APS (why? we ask)

11. Future Student Travel and Prizes

- communicate more directly with student organizations?
(dept chairs, SPS chapters, posters)
- different approach to prizes desired?
ACTION: Holt - investigate benefits of more numerous prizes of smaller amounts
- Organize “Student astrophysics” sessions

Mark Leising
20 April 2002