

## DBIO – Executive Committee meeting 2015

Members present:

Sonya Bahar  
Omar Saleh  
Megan Valentine  
Steve Hagan  
Josh Shaevitz  
Wolfgang Losert  
Ilya Nemenman  
Jennifer Ross  
Steve Schwartz  
Jose Onuchic



### At DINNER 6.45pm-8pm

#### **1. Future of Biological Physics**

##### a. Additional Activities /Meetings?

- i. DBIO Sessions similar year-to-year. Some areas – no representation. Can we find a way to grow in those directions.
- ii. Focus session proposals – propose two year proposals.
- iii. Condensed matter physics – this is your meeting. If you do biophysics, this may not be your favorite because there are many, and meetings are expensive. Create a mechanism to help bring students to this meeting in addition to others you want. Support students to travel grants. We give out 10 travel grants per year.
- iv. Apply for support from NSF/NIH for travel for students?
- v. Physics depts. Have increased representation in biophysics. Are we proactively bringing in the young people?
- vi. Be proactive to solicit sessions.
- vii. Membership in DBIO is flat. Can we grow the membership in division. Should we come to this meeting?
- viii. Why do we come to APS? To network with physicists. To see other fields of physics. To organize sessions.
- ix. Paired focus sessions and invited sessions.
- x. Consolidate DBIO to 2-3 days per week?
- xi. Willing to go out and come up with new areas of focus sessions.

##### b. Additional Services?

- i. Newsletter (Volunteers?)
- ii. Job listings?

##### c. Increasing Membership in DBIO?

- i. Young faculty to make focus sessions.
- ii. Helping to get new areas of bio represented as focus sessions.

2. **Top five policy priorities for Physics Policy Committee**

*[ #1 and #2 will be continued at end of meeting ]*

**At HOTEL 8.15pm-10.15pm**

3. **Expanding Biophysics in PRE –Ilya (at start of meeting in hotel)**
  - a. **PRE more responsive and better for biological physics.** 200 articles per year. PRE doesn't say the word biological physics anywhere in the title. Only 2 of 8 editors are biological.
  - b. **PRL premier journal.** Then PRE will be the journal to go to after that.
  - c. Expand in PRL – and PRE will come.
  - d. **Action Plan:** Make a committee to find an editor. Ilya N, Jose O, and Sonya B on the committee to talk to PRL people about what we should have as an editor. Representative of the community and able to identify reviewers.
4. **Report of the Chair.** New members: Yuhai, Megan, Sarah.
  - a. **Poster session.**
  - b. **Review in trends in biological physics** – instead of Sunday tutorials. Wednesday at 6:30 – 7:30pm in Room 217B
  - c. **Membership:** one of few divisions that grew in 2015.
5. **Report of Program Chair – Steven**
  - a. **Same size/ 3 sessions smaller than last year. At stasis in DBIO.**
6. **Report of Membership committee chair – Ilya**
  - a. Went through all fellows that dropped DBIO membership. Some reinstated themselves.
  - b. Talked with APS – look at previous DBIO members who did not renew and did stay APS. Look at DBIO members who dropped APS members. Emailed all APS, dropped DBIO. Some rejoined. Some retired. About 80 people who dropped but stayed at APS. About 400 dropped APS and DBIO.
7. **Sec/Tres report – Jenny**
  - a. **Why do we have so much money?** Because we are saving for the Delbruck prize. Working with APS.
  - b. **\$10k for speakers from the Moore Foundation.**
  - c. **Use \$10k for expanding the Delbruck this year.** Fundraising for matching \$60k for the endowment.
8. **Fundraising report – Wolfgang /Jeff** (to continue an annual Delbrueck Prize in the long term we need to raise the endowment of the award)
  - a. **Approach Burroughs Wellcome (postdocs), Simons Foundation (neuroscience), Moore Foundation (biologists), Kavli, Newport for speakers**
  - b. Megan, Sarah, Ilya help on approaching foundations.
9. **US News biophysics biological physics specialty area – Ilya**
  - a. Under physics programs there is no biophysics. It is listed under biology programs in biomedical. Ilya called US News. Will help to increase visibility of biophysics in physics depts. Is the entire ExComm of DBIO behind this idea?

- b. Call it biological physics instead of biophysics.
10. **Changes in APS organizational structure and questions about executive compensation- Steven/Jose**
- a. **Kate Kirby:** change of the structure of APS from a triumvirate into a single head with a single point person for responsibility.
    - i. **Journals:** Make 70% of income for APS. Need a professional publisher because we are separate from AIP. Open access needs to be addressed.
    - ii. **What is the value of APS?** To have a meeting? To have a journal? What is the current value of APS? Not needed to connect people quickly or to communicate. SO what is the value of APS now? To have a publisher that is responsive to community with close ties to the community. Low cost publishers. Broad in physics. Education and international affairs. PhysTech – education program to educate high school physics teachers in physics. We have a turn over of 400 (20%) within the division each year – similar to other divisions. We are losing a lot of students when they graduate.
  - b. **Salaries for APS top leadership** – why so much?

11. **Executive Committee – Committee assignments – Steven/Wolfgang**

Program committee:

2014: Steve Schwartz, Jenny Ross, Ilya Nemenen, Lisa Lapidis, Omar Saleh

2015: Ilya Nemenman (chair), Jenny Ross, Yuhai Tu, Josh Shaevitz, Arpita Upadhyaya, Sarah Sola

Sorters Meeting: December 3-4

Tutorial/Workshop – or Overview Talks?

2014: Wolfgang (chair)

2015: Steven Schwartz (chair)

Fellows Committee 4 total in addition to Yuhai Tu

(2 fellows, 2 DBIO executive committee members)

2014: Ilya Nemenen (chair), **Fred Mackintosh, Dongping Zhong, Arpita Upadhyaya, Steve Hagen**

2015: Yuhai Tu (chair) **Dongping Zhong, Herbert Levine, Arpita Upadhyaya, Steve Hagen**

Thesis Committee

2014: Wolfgang Losert (Chair) Sonia Bahar, Josh Shaevitz

2015: Steven Schwartz (Chair), Omar Saleh, Sarah Solla

Travel Award Committee (Postdoc and Grad Students)

2014: Wolfgang Losert (chair), Link, Xavier, Arpita Upadhayaya, Lisa Lapidus

2015: Steve Schwartz (chair), Megan Valentine, Xavier Link, Jose Onuchic

Nominating Committee: Chair: Wolfgang Losert

Kalina Hristova (12/15)

Joshua Shaevitz (12/15)

Peter Jung (12/15)

Pick two names to send to Kate Kirby for this committee.

Membership committee: Chair: Yuhai Tu 2015-2016,

Past chair: Ilya Nemenen, 2014-2015

Fundraising Committee

2014: Wolfgang Losert, Jeff Gore, Josh Shaevitz, Pupa Gilbert

2015: Megan, Sarah, Ilya, Yuhai (Wolfgang)

Delbrueck committee

2014: Ray Goldstein (Chair), Phil Nelson (Vice Chair), Joanna Aizenberg, Michelle Wang, Bob Austin

2015: Phil Nelson (Chair), Joanna Aizenberg, Stan Leibler, [OPEN - needed from Steve]

**12. Continue discussion of #1 and #2**