

Meeting of the Executive Committee of the DPF (at the APS/AAPT meeting in Columbus, Ohio)

April 18, 1998

Minutes by C. Newman-Holmes (DPF Secretary-Treasurer)

Present: G. Beier, P. Burchat, T. Devlin, H. Frisch, H. Georgi, H. Gordon, P. Grannis, N. Hadley, K. Kinoshita, D. Naples, C. Newman-Holmes, H. Schellman, G. Trilling

Guests: M. Blume, S. Brown, R. Garisto, G. Kilcup, E. Merzbacher, S. Raby, J. Sandweiss

Agenda:

1. [DPF-99 update \(H. Georgi\)](#)
 2. [DPF 2000 \(G. Kilcup and S. Raby\)](#)
 3. [Physical Review report \(Blume, Brown, Garisto, Sandweiss\)](#)
 4. [Centennial Update - Eugen Merzbacher](#)
 5. [Future of the April APS/AAPT meeting \(J. Franz\)](#)
 6. [Centennial Symposia \(G. Beier\)](#)
 7. [Congressional Reception update \(H. Georgi\)](#)
 8. [PIC - Bob Cahn \(H. Georgi\)](#)
 9. [Treasurer's Report \(CNH\)](#)
 10. [Executive Session](#)
 11. [Tanaka Prize proposal \(H. Gordon\)](#)
 12. [Nominating Committee Report \(H. Georgi\)](#)
 13. [Report from the APS Council \(G. Trilling\)](#)
 14. [FNAL Director search \(G. Trilling\)](#)
 15. [Wilson Prize administration \(CNH\)](#)
 16. [NRC Report copies](#)
 17. [Other business - University representatives on HEPAP \(G. Beier\)](#)
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DPF-99 update (H. Georgi)

Howard Georgi presented a brief report on the next DPF meeting to be held 5-9 January, 1999 at UCLA (<http://www.physics.ucla.edu/dpf99/>). UCLA has applied to NSF and DOE for support for the conference. The Organizing Committee is working to finalize the program. Howard asked the Executive Committee to look over the proposed list of speakers and send comments.

Howard also noted that the College of William and Mary group may be interested in hosting DPF 2001.

DPF 2000 (G. Kilcup and S. Raby)

A proposal for DPF 2000 from Ohio State University was distributed. The local organizing committee consists of several physicists from OSU and other institutions in Ohio. OSU is enthusiastic about hosting the meeting and the university has already agreed to contribute \$15,000. A couple of possible dates in August, 2000 are being considered. Three proposals were presented for the conference location. The first was to have it on and near the OSU campus, using the Holiday Inn plus campus facilities. This has the advantage that dorm space may be used for inexpensive housing. In addition, it would be relatively easy to set up computer facilities for the conference. Other possibilities proposed were the Greater Columbus Convention Center and the Adams Mark hotel. The Greater Columbus Convention Center (site of the April 1998 APS/AAPT meeting) is very nice but would be more expensive and more difficult to set up computers. The Adams Mark hotel is a large downtown hotel in Columbus.

After some discussion, the Executive Committee recommended that the local organizing committee proceed with plans for the OSU campus site for the meeting. DPF meetings are usually held at universities and are widely attended by students and younger physicists so it was felt that the campus site was the best choice.

Physical Review report (Blume, Brown, Garisto, Sandweiss)

Jack Sandweiss again raised the issue of author lists for large collaborations (see Minutes of December, 1997 Executive Committee meeting, http://www.aps.org/units/dpf/committees/exec/minutes/97_dec.cfm). He still feels this is a serious concern as 2000 names will be the norm in the LHC era. He suggests a cosmetic change in which papers include the collaboration name with a reference to the actual author list. The author list could then be electronic or published as a separate paper. Jack mentioned that he had heard concern expressed about having only an electronic version of the authors since some people were afraid the Web might not be around in 50 years. This topic generated quite a bit of discussion with still no obvious consensus. It was generally agreed that it would be useful for papers by large collaborations to identify contact persons. There was not however agreement on whether these should simply be the collaboration spokespersons, or others.

Other items: There is now an on-line journal called PR Focus (<http://publish.aps.org/FOCUS/>) consisting of short write-ups addressed to non-experts. This is available on-line only and is reachable through the APS home page. Several Divisional Associate Editors are due to be replaced. There was some discussion of possible candidates for these positions. Finally, the Executive Committee noted that there has been great progress in electronic publishing in the last few years.

Centennial Update - Eugen Merzbacher

Eugen Merzbacher of University of North Carolina joined the Committee to discuss the upcoming APS Centennial (<http://www.aps.org/centennial/index.html>). He is working on

many aspects of the centennial including contact with APS units, unit exhibits, reunions and public relations. He mentioned that the APS is creating a volunteer network of 15-20 physicists with the following qualifications:

Broad familiarity with current advances in one or more subfields of physics.
A concern for improving scientific literacy of the general public.
The ability to communicate physics to the general public cheerfully in simple terms.

These people would help APS "spread the message of physics through print, radio TV and other media." Nominations should be sent to Judy Franz (franz@aps.org) at APS or to E. Merzbacher (merzbach@physics.unc.edu).

Future of the April meeting (J. Franz)

APS Executive Officer Judy Franz joined the Committee to discuss the future of the APS/AAPT April meeting. She mentioned that the April meeting will be in Long Beach in 2000. (In 1999, the April meeting will be combined with the March meeting for the APS centennial in Atlanta). A site has not been chosen for the meeting in 2001. APS would like to move the April meeting to Fall and combine it with a meeting of the Division of Plasma Physics. It is difficult for APS to have two large meetings so close together in March and April. The proposal is to move the meeting to October; this will also be proposed to Plasma Physics. Judy noted that the co-sponsorship of AAPT would probably not continue. They have other meetings and have not been very active in the April meeting. Several people commented that the AAPT component of the April meeting is important but Judy said that most of the sessions on education could be retained; most are co-sponsored with the Forum on Education now. Judy also suggested that APS would be happy to have the DPF Divisional meeting held jointly with the April (or October) meeting. The Executive Committee felt that the DPF divisional meeting was quite different and should be kept separate.

Centennial Symposia (G. Beier)

Gene Beier discussed DPF plans for the APS centennial. There are two areas where we have to do something: Centennial Symposia and divisional exhibits. DPF will have eight symposia at the centennial meeting. At least one of them is supposed to be "special", appealing to a broader audience, particularly good speakers, etc. These "Centennial Symposia" will be coordinated with APS as a whole. There seems to be some overlap between some of the speakers DPF has in mind and some of those of other units, including DNP and the Forum on History. Eugen Merzbacher mentioned that there will be 15 time slots for Centennial Symposia and two lecture halls for them. This means 30 Centennial Symposia altogether and since there are about 30 units in APS, DPF will get ~1. Since DPF is one of the larger units and may have joint symposia with other units, we may be able to use two of our eight symposia slots as Centennial Symposia. Titles and brief abstracts for Centennial Symposia speakers are due about the end of May. The deadline for other invited talks is not until early September. Gene wants to wait until after

the ICHEP conference in Vancouver this summer to settle the other invited talks, but that will not leave much time. Gene mentioned the importance of talking about our future outlook as well as past accomplishments in the invited talks. There was some discussion of possible speakers. Gene will send the Executive Committee a list with requests for comments, additions, comments on speakers' ability, etc.

Exhibits: We have a couple of ideas here. One is to use an exhibit from Fermilab that has detector and accelerator components viewed as art. There may be a problem getting enough space for this though. Another idea is the Particle Adventure (<http://pdg.lbl.gov/cpep/adventure.html>). Other ideas were suggested including a spark chamber to show cosmic rays. There were some concerns expressed about maintenance and staffing of the exhibits. Also, funds will be required to transport and set up the exhibits.

Congressional Reception update (H. Georgi)

Howard Georgi (for reception chair Bruce Barnett) gave a brief report on plans for the annual DPF Congressional reception. The reception was held in Washington D.C. Tuesday May 5 from 5-7 p.m. At the time of the Executive Committee meeting, Bruce had received responses from 40 physicists, 21 congresspeople and staff and 10 from DOE, NSF, and URA.

PIC - Bob Cahn (H. Georgi)

Physics Information Coordinator Bob Cahn has developed a Web page (<http://phyweb.lbl.gov/~rncahn/pic.cfm>).

Treasurer's Report (CNH)

The Secretary-Treasurer believes that the DPF balance as of 28 February 1998 was \$83,920. The most recent report available from APS at the time of the Executive Committee meeting showed a different number, but seems to contain an error. The Prize balances as of 28 February 1998 were as follows: Panofsky \$65,612; Sakurai \$178,152; Wilson \$110,232. The Panofsky fund is still under-endowed. Howard Georgi indicated that he planned to work on fund-raising for it this summer.

It was reported that the APS Task Force on Prizes had recommended a \$10,000 minimum for prizes. If endowments were too small to support this amount, the prizes could either be changed to awards, or they could be awarded less frequently than every year. The APS Council rejected this recommendation however. The Wilson, Panofsky and Sakurai Prizes are all currently \$5,000. The Task Force on Prizes also recommended that excess funds from Divisional meetings could be used to supplement prize funds or reimburse travel. This recommendation was accepted by the APS Council.

Tanaka Award (H. Gordon)

Howard Gordon presented a proposal for an award to be established in memory of Misuyoshi Tanaka. There was some enthusiasm among Executive Committee members for a thesis award. Further discussions will continue through e-mail.

Nominating Committee Report (H. Georgi)

Howard Georgi presented the slate of nominees for DPF offices from the Nominating Committee chaired by JoAnne Hewett. The following people have agreed to run for DPF office:

For Vice-Chair

Michael Barnett (LBNL)
Chris Quigg (FNAL)

For Executive Committee:

Vernon Barger (University of Wisconsin)
Chip Brock (Michigan State University)
Glennys Farrar (Rutgers University)
Ron Poling (University of Minnesota)

These selections were accepted by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee had previously selected **Sally Dawson** (BNL) and **Al Mueller** (Columbia University) to run for Divisional Councilor.

Report from the APS Council (G. Trilling)

Divisional Councilor George Trilling provided the following report: The APS Council met April 17, 1998 in Columbus. Here are some relevant items from that meeting:

1. The membership of the Society is 41,000. This includes a substantial fraction (of order 20%) from abroad, the largest single nationality being Japanese.
2. Judy Franz (Executive Officer) noted that two new Task Forces have been put in place. a) On Academic Tenure (membership includes Raymond Brock from MSU), with the main goal of studying the impact of possible changes in the tenure system on the vitality of research and teaching of physics.
b) On the Structure and Responsibilities of the Council, with the main goal of making Council meetings more useful.
3. Report of the Nominating Committee (Wick Haxton, Chair): The electoral slate for the APS was provided in the documentation provided to the Council. George will provide a full list before the November meeting to receive guidance on how he should vote for those candidates subject to Council election (Chair and

members of POPA and Nominating Committee). For the others ballots will be sent by APS, probably this Summer. Candidates who are connected to HEP, NP, and Astro include:

Vice-President -- H. Grunder, G. Trilling;
Chair-Elect of the Nominating Committee -- M. Turner;
General Councillor -- L. Gladney, L. Lederman.
POPA Chair -- W. Frazer;
POPA members -- M. Riordan, L. Schroeder;
Nominating Committee -- J. Bagger .

4. As usual, there was a lot of discussion on publications, electronic publishing, and how to recover costs. Suffice to say the following: a) In January 1999, journal prices will increase by 7%. b) Access to PROLA (PR On-Line Archive) will be provided through institutions at an additional cost (just to the institution) of \$350. c) Individual member access to PROLA will cost \$100. d) The new Physical Review Focus is available on the APS Web Site. e) The new Physical Review Special Topics - Accelerators & Beams is being launched, and will be available on the Web free. Partial support for this enterprise is coming from your favorite national labs.
5. POPA came up with a proposed APS statement entitled "**What is Science?**" to be endorsed by the Council. Surprisingly such a statement, intended to be rather brief, is quite difficult to write, especially since social science, which is quite different from what we think as science, also considers itself as a form of "science". The Council sent the proposed statement back to POPA to rework into something more acceptable. George noted that he thought the whole issue was too difficult and better forgotten.
6. As usual there were lots of discussions of Centennial activities. Eugen Merzbacher has been pressed into service to help in the organization. A great deal of work has gone into the preparations. A beautiful wall chart, intended for distribution to every high school, has been prepared and is focused on the development of 20th century physics, particularly the U.S. contributions.
7. There was some discussion of the report of the Task Force on Prizes and Awards. This has been mentioned in these minutes above under the Treasurer's report.
8. Electronic balloting: The APS divisions and other units have already been encouraged to adopt electronic balloting in their elections. George believes that this only requires appropriate modifications of the Division Bylaws. It is now also proposed that APS-wide elections (for Vice-President etc., and for constitutional changes) be conducted electronically. This requires approval of a constitutional amendment that will be submitted to the APS membership this Summer. It is understood that, even while adopting electronic balloting, the opportunity to vote

by U.S. mail for those not used to extensive e-mail communication, must be preserved. The main benefit hoped-for in going electronic in elections is to have a larger voter response (like from 10% to 20%).

FNAL Director search (G. Trilling)

DPF Divisional Councilor George Trilling is also Chair of the search committee for the new Director of Fermilab. George mentioned that there is a Web page with information about the FNAL Director search (http://www.fnal.gov/directorate/ura/dirsearch/director_search.cfm). There will be a meeting 28-29 May 1998 at Fermilab to solicit views of the Fermilab staff and community. The search committee has asked for input from the community; e-mail may be sent to search@ura.nw.dc.us. Howard Georgi was invited to express views on behalf of DPF but there was no groundswell of support on the Executive Committee for a DPF-drafted statement. The search committee will be interviewing candidates starting in mid-August, 1998. The deadline for the search to conclude is 5 October 1998 at which time the search committee is asked to recommend three candidates to the URA Board of Overseers. Howard Georgi expressed satisfaction with the composition of the search committee.

Wilson Prize (CNH)

The Wilson Prize is administered jointly by DPF and the Division of Physics of Beams. Following a misunderstanding about the appointment of new members to the Wilson Prize committee, the DPF and DPB chairs agreed that the DPF and DPB Secretary-Treasurers should write down the procedures for administration of the Wilson Prize for clarification. This was done and the result distributed to the DPF Executive Committee. The Executive Committee accepted the procedures as documented by C. Newman-Holmes (DPF Secretary-Treasurer) and M. Month (DPB Secretary-Treasurer). Some alternative procedures proposed by M. Month were discussed briefly but the DPF Executive Committee expressed a preference to leave things as they are.

NRC Report copies

A committee appointed by the National Research Council has released a report called Elementary-Particle Physics: Revealing the Secrets of Energy and Matter. It was decided to defer the issue of ordering copies of this report to an e-mail discussion.

Other business - University reps on HEPAP (G. Beier)

Currently there are three university representatives to the DOE's High Energy Physics Advisory Panel (HEPAP) for the areas of U.S. accelerator-based physics, non-U.S. accelerator-based physics and non-accelerator particle physics. Gene Beier is the non-accelerator particle physics representative and his term ends this year. Gene was asked if he felt the university representatives were useful and he responded that the role was still evolving with the potential to become more influential. Gene's replacement should be

nominated by the DPF Executive Committee. Possible candidates were mentioned and discussed briefly. After agreement is reached on a candidate, DPF Chair Howard Georgi should send the name to HEPAP secretary Bob Diebold.