

Meeting of the Executive Committee of the DPF

August 13, 1996

Present: Bagger, Cassel, Dawson, Devlin, Einhorn, Georgi, Grannis, Sciulli, Shaevitz

Guests: Barnett, Goshaw, Heller, Johnson

Agenda:

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For more on these items, see the DPF home page, <http://www.aps.org/units/dpf/>.

Report of Secretary-Treasurer

As of July 31, 1996, the DPF account balance stood at \$49,910. This amount does not include a \$6,250 Snowmass deposit, which will be refunded once the Workshop's expenses are finalized.

The Wilson Prize received a \$5,000 contribution from the Foundation for High Energy Accelerator Science in Japan. Frank Sciulli has written thank-you notes to all who contributed this year. As of June 30, the prize account balances stood as follows: Panofsky, \$64,095; Sakurai, \$151,120; Wilson, \$93,410.

The Executive Committee was asked for comment on the question of email conference announcements. After some discussion, the Executive Committee authorized the Secretary-Treasurer to distribute short and succinct conference announcements by email. It was also suggested that he explain how to access conference servers in the next DPF newsletter.

Report of Chair

Frank Sciulli reported that the ICFA Seminar will be held at KEK, from October 15-18, 1996. The focus will be on the LHC and NLC. The seminar will include a panel discussion on ``Various Modes of International Collaboration."

Participation in the seminar is by invitation only. Sciulli will attend and report back to the DPF Executive Committee. He will send the Executive Committee the list of US attendees.

Congressional Reception

Michael Barnett reported on the 1996 Congressional Reception, which was held June 5 in the House Science Committee Room. Eight Representatives attended the event, along with Jack Gibbons, Martha Krebs, Proctor Jones, and a large number of congressional aides.

Approximately 50 physicists attended the reception. Many of the legislative participants expressed appreciation for the opportunity to talk with physicists. Barnett was not able to say that the reception helped the FY97 appropriation. But he felt that "not doing it hurts."

Barnett reported that one aide suggested we move the reception to February, earlier in the budget process.

Bevill, Johnston, Myers and Walker will be retiring at the end of this Congress. The Executive Committee suggested that Frank Sciulli thank them for their support. It was suggested that Sciulli write to Domenici as well.

The Executive Committee expressed its appreciation to Michael Barnett for organizing such a successful reception.

DPF 96

Ken Heller reported on the status of DPF 96. He estimated that the conference attracted approximately 550 registrants, including 200 graduate students. The Executive Committee felt that from all appearances, the conference was a great success. The EC thanked Heller and the local Organizing Committee for their excellent effort.

The EC asked Heller to report on issues that might need more attention at future DPF conferences. He suggested three items:

1. The web-based program

The local organizers were planning to hire APS to construct the conference web pages. In the end, this was not feasible because it would have required freezing the program too far in advance. The organizers wound up developing their own software for sorting abstracts and constructing the web pages. The EC asked the

organizers to preserve their software for the organizers of DPF 98. The EC also urged the organizers to help transfer their technology to the APS.

2. The press office

The DPF 96 organizers let the University of Minnesota handle press relations. They felt that it would have been more effective to have handled the relations themselves.

3. Conveners

The DPF 96 organizers felt that it was important to choose conveners early in the planning process. They also felt it important for the conveners to contact speakers directly to confirm the time and place of their talks.

DPF 98

There are two potential problems with DPF 98. At present, there are no volunteers to host the meeting. Furthermore, the summer 1998 Rochester Conference will be in Vancouver.

The Executive Committee discussed whether the 1998 DPF meeting should be held during the summer of 1998, the winter of 1999 or the summer of 1999. If the meeting were moved to an odd-numbered year, it would conflict with the Lepton-Photon Symposium instead of the Rochester conference. There was some sentiment that this might be preferable because the Lepton-Photon meeting has no parallel sessions. A disadvantage of moving the DPF conference is that it would then conflict with the Europhysics Conference.

No decision was reached at this meeting. The DPF Executive Committee was charged to seek hosts for a meeting in 1998 or 1999. Bagger was asked to determine the dates and status of the Vancouver meeting.

HEPAP

The HEPAP Composite Subpanel for the Assessment of the Status of Accelerator Physics and Technology has issued its report. The report recommends that each OER program have proposal-driven peer-reviewed long-term accelerator R&D as part of its portfolio, and that the appropriate OER advisory committees be charged with recommending the appropriate level of support for this work.

The report's conclusions led to dissension from some advisory panels within OER. HEPAP, as the lead panel for this report, decided to submit it anyway. The full report can be reached on the web, at <http://www.science.doe.gov/hep>

HEPAP has appointed Mel Shochet, Gene Beier and Don Reeder as its University Representatives.

The issue of university infrastructure continues to receive attention. There will likely be a subpanel appointed to address this and other issues.

APS News

Paul Grannis is coordinating this year's submission to APS News. He will forward a draft article to the DPF Executive Committee for comment.

Electronic Publishing

PRL On-Line is in a state of upheaval because OCLC is moving to a web-based distribution system. Big changes are expected by January 1, 1997.

A beta version of PRD is now on-line. Check it out at <http://publish.aps.org/PRDO/prdohome.html>. Send comments and suggestions to Erick Weinberg, the new Editor of PRD.

Negotiations are progressing slowly between APS and the editors of the proposed electronic journal. There will be an important meeting on August 20 between Weinberg and Ben Bederson, (representing APS) and Andy Cohen, Tom Appelquist (representing the journal).

The Executive Committee discussed pricing schemes for electronic publications. The EC decided not to endorse any particular scheme for the electronic versions of Physical Review and Physical Review Letters. Instead, the EC expressed its appreciation for the recent developments with PRD, and its great hopes for further progress in the future.

Contemporary Physics Education Project

Michael Barnett reported on the status of the Contemporary Physics Education Project. He described the CPEP CD-ROM project which will bring multimedia education to high school and college students, to the general public, and to science museums across the country.

The CD-ROM project has received substantial contributions from SBIR and McGraw-Hill. Barnett feels it still needs creative input from the particle physics community. CPEP organized two workshops with high school teachers and physicists to develop physics activities for inclusion in the CD-ROM.

CPEP has commissioned a major update of their WWW offering, The Particle Adventure, including a preview movie, mini-animations, classroom activities, and a history/chronology feature. CPEP continues to hold workshops for teachers at AAPT meetings and on other occasions. These workshops train teachers in the use of CPEP materials.

NSF Educational Outreach

The NSF is seeking to increase the educational outreach of its experimental groups. The NSF initiative engendered a lively discussion. The general consensus was that -- in principle -- increased educational outreach is very a good idea.

There was much back-and-forth about exactly what HEP collaborations can do. The members of the EC agreed that it would be desirable to beef up web pages throughout the field. Furthermore, they felt that particle physicists could do more to reach out to students and teachers at undergraduate colleges through the AAPT and through summer internships.

High school outreach was another matter. Several people questioned whether physicists are sufficiently trained to develop high-school curricula. The general feeling was that K-12 outreach should be done in close partnership with school teachers.

There was a strong consensus that people involved in outreach should be in close contact with each other. The main question is who should take the lead?

DOE Out-Year Budgets

Al Goshaw and Jim Johnson discussed OMB's out-year projections for DOE Office of Energy Research. The projections call for a 35% cut in HEP funding by the year 2000.

The DPF Executive Committee agreed to coordinate a campaign to write letters to President Clinton. The campaign will be announced by e-mail to the DPF membership. Bagger and Sciulli will set up a Web site with the pertinent information. Bagger will request that he be sent copies of letters so that he can tally the response.

APS Meetings

Frank Sciulli led a discussion about APS meetings. The discussion was motivated by a question from Judy Franz, who asked whether the DPF might consider merging its Divisional meeting with the April meeting of the APS.

The strong consensus of the Executive Committee was that the present format of APS meetings does not serve the needs of our field. Furthermore, the EC felt that the APS meetings could be more effective in fostering communication between fields.

Sciulli was asked to write a letter to Franz outlining the DPF concerns, and suggesting that more effort be devoted to fostering communication at the April meeting. One idea would be for every morning of the meeting be devoted to parallel sessions, which would include contributed papers. Every afternoon would be scheduled as a plenary session in a schedule made by representatives from all divisions and forums acting in concert. These talks would give a broad exposure to the most exciting current topics in each of the participating subfields of physics.

Howard Georgi asked that specific suggestions for the 1997 meeting be forwarded to him.

APS Fellowships

The DPF Executive Committee felt that the DPF should take a more active role in soliciting nominations for APS Fellowships. In particular, it agreed that

1. The Fellowship deadline should be publicized to the membership.
2. The DPF Fellowship Committee should send the names of nominees to the Executive Committee for comment.
3. The Past Chair should coordinate any suggestions that arise from the Executive Committee itself. This year's suggestions should be directed to David Cassel.

Bagger will circulate to the EC a list of the present DPF Members and Fellows.