

# Minutes of the DPF Executive Committee Phone Meeting

## Jan 5, 2004

### Present:

Jon Bagger, Daniella Bortoletto, Marty Breidenbach, Marcela Carena, Sally Dawson, Stuart Freedman (guest), Howie Haber, Nick Hadley, Gail Hanson (guest), John Jaros, Boris Kayser (guest), Young-Kee Kim, Joe Lykken, Peter Meyers, Hitoshi Murayama, Liz Simmons, Stan Wojcicki, John Womersley

### Agenda:

DPF2004 (25) Gail Hanson  
Neutrino study (20) Boris Kayser, Stuart Freedman  
DPF/APS meetings group (5) Joe Lykken / Sally Dawson  
Report of Task Force on Ethics (10) Peter Meyers  
Ethics in Publishing (5) John Jaros / Jon Bagger  
April APS 2004 (5) Bill Carithers / Sally Dawson  
Outreach Committee Report (10) Liz Simmons  
Government Committee (10) Bill Carithers / Jon Bagger  
Plans for 2004 (15) Sally Dawson  
World year of physics (10) Sally Dawson  
Maternity Policy (10) Sally Dawson / Jon Bagger  
DPF University Rep to HEPAP (5) Jon Bagger  
Other business

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The meeting was held via phone conference starting at 2pm (EST). Jon Bagger opened the meeting by welcoming the new members of the DPF Executive Committee: Joe Lykken (Vice-Chair); Mike Tuts (Secretary/Treasurer); John Jaros (Divisional Councillor); Daniela Bortoletto (Executive Committee member); Hitoshi Murayama (Executive Committee member). He thanked the outgoing members for their outstanding service: Stan Wojcicki (Past Chair); Peter Meyers (Divisional Councillor); Marty Breidenbach (Executive Committee member); Young-Kee Kim (Executive Committee member).

The first agenda item was a report on DPF2004 by Gail Hanson. Gail reported that meeting plans are progressing well. The DPF Executive Committee was contacted by the organizers and gave their input to topics and speakers. A funding request has been

submitted to the NSF and the DOE. The format of the meeting will be similar to previous DPF meetings with plenary sessions in the morning and parallel sessions in the afternoon. Progress is being made in securing dorm and hotel rooms. Final decisions are being made on the plenary speakers and the public lecture speaker, although the organizing committee is still open to suggestions. The DPF Executive Committee expressed their concerns about meeting costs but found the proposed registration charges very reasonable. Gail will circulate the list of plenary talks to the DPF Executive Committee: members are invited to send suggested abstracts to Gail.

Next we heard a presentation on the status of the Neutrino Study being sponsored by the DPF/DNP/DPB/DAP. Boris Kayser is co-chair of the study. He outlined the purposes and methods of the study, the outstanding issues and action items. More details can be found at the website <http://www.neutrinooscillation.org/studyaps/>. Boris reported that Mike Turner emphasized that it is important for the field to have a coherent strategy for a future neutrino program and not a "laundry list". It is important to convey to Washington that this is important and exciting physics, because it will be compared to other exciting fields. It was made clear that Washington will be paying attention to the report of this study (stated by both Turner and Orbach). The study will serve to articulate the important questions, compare the strengths and different techniques of the various experiments, and provide a decision tree for the paths to follow as the physics landscape develops. The study will deal with the open questions through a half dozen working groups led by theorist/experimentalist group leaders. A tentative date of April 1 and 2 is being reserved for a mid-course meeting of the working group leaders, the study coordinators and divisional representatives. Among the issues and challenges to be addressed by the study are how to achieve the necessary coordination among experiments to articulate a program. The support of the DPF leadership was requested in getting this message out.

There are numerous tasks that are needed and brought up by the study leaders: there will be a need for infrastructure support for the various meetings, for which they have requested DPF support in encouraging institutions to provide it. It was suggested that coordinating with other Divisions would be helpful, so the DPF leadership attending the Unit Convocation will start that dialogue then. The financial situation is encouraging, although some help in bringing physicists from overseas will be necessary – Fermilab and NSF are expected to help with this. The action items are: the need for additional meeting organization (especially setting dates and in some cases locations, for example trying to piggyback on the other neutrino study at Aspen Center for Physics); establishing a group distinct from the working groups to convey the excitement of the field; complete the application for financial support; write specific charges for the working group leaders and another letter explaining what the working group areas are in more detail to a wider audience; the study's webpage will be located at <http://www.interactions.org> and the person who will maintain it needs to be confirmed. Boris requested that the DPF leadership provide support for this study through the encouragement of institutions to provide meeting infrastructure support, and by supporting the efforts to obtain agency funding for meetings and foreign travel. Boris ended by suggesting that it would be very helpful for the DPF leadership, on suitable occasions, to emphasize the importance of developing a coherent, cooperative plan, enjoying some degree of consensus, for the

future neutrino program.

Peter Myers summarized the activities of the APS Task Force on Ethics of which he was a member. He covered the charge of the task force which grew out of some high profile cases of scientific fraud in the field. The charge was to study the awareness of scientific ethical issues in physics and to study the present situation regarding formal courses in scientific ethics. The position of the APS on scientific ethics can be found in statements 02.2, 02.3, and 02.4 on the web page <http://www.aps.org/statements/>. The task force itself was not charged with developing guidelines, but focused on surveying and interviewing different segments of the community, including: physics department chairs, junior members of the APS (less than three years after their PhD), the APS units, editors of APS journals, and large collaborations in HEP. The survey of the junior members drew a large ( 50%) response. The results of the survey were presented orally and written up for the November APS Council meeting. The survey findings are expected to be made public. Among the results were the observations that generally there is little or no scientific ethical training for students, and that 10% of departments reported that they had at least one ethics related incident in the last decade. The voluminous written comments from the junior member survey suggested that what was viewed as ethical issues should be expanded beyond the well defined area of scientific fraud. The task force will also encourage the development of educational materials which will allow the development of courses in scientific ethics. These proposals are the principal message that will be communicated to APS Panel on Public Affairs (POPA).

John Jaros, the new Divisional Councilor, will continue this work. The DPF Executive Committee suggested that these types of ethical issues are probably not restricted to the APS but cut across other scientific societies. The committee encouraged Jaros to explore this possibility in the future. After the presentation Jon Bagger thanked Peter Meyers for his service.

Jon Bagger presented a related topic, ethics in publishing. The Executive Committee will setup a subcommittee to study this issue to see if sensible guidelines can be developed. The Ethics in Publishing subcommittee will consist of John Jaros (chair), John Womersley, and Howard Haber.

In the absence of Bill Carithers, Sally Dawson discussed some issues relating to the April 2004 APS meeting. The most pressing issue is the need to supply help in sorting abstracts for the APS meeting which will occur on January 17. Presently Bill Carithers is the only one signed up to do this. He can use more help. Nick Hadley said he would inquire about additional help from his Maryland colleagues. It was noted that sorter travel expenses are paid by the DPF for this service work.

Joe Lykken discussed the joint APS/DPF meetings scheduled for 2005 and 2007. A number of issues were raised including: the cost (the APS meetings tend to be more expensive than DPF meetings); the format (how does one merge the different meeting formats); evening program (both APS and DPF would like to hold evening programs); talk infrastructure (the DPF meetings are better at getting talks posted on the web). Judy

Franz is willing to work with the DPF on these types of issues. A subcommittee was appointed to address these issues. The chair is Joe Lykken with members Marty Breidenbach and Nick Hadley.

Jon Bagger (for Bill Carithers) reported on the work of the Government Affairs subcommittee. The subcommittee membership is B. Carithers (chair), C. Potter, J. Stone, H. White, J. Womersley, and M. Zeller. Bill has asked to step down as chair given his additional duties as Chair-Elect. A new chair and members need to be appointed to this subcommittee. The charge for the subcommittee can be found in the 2002 minutes. Although the DPF efforts in this area may be ahead of other divisions, it needs to become more sustained and professional. The APS stands ready to work with the DPF in this area. There was a discussion about some of the past successful activities such as Congressional receptions. Jon Bagger and Sally Dawson would like to hear your ideas on how to re-energize this subcommittee. One suggestion was to appoint more members in order to make a transition towards a committee composed of members with staggered three-year terms..

Liz Simmons discussed the activities of the Education and Outreach subcommittee. The subcommittee membership is E. Simmons (chair), M. Bardeen, M. Barnett, M. Carena, I. Karliner, E. Malamud, H. Prosper, G. Snow, and J. Wittlin. The subcommittee held a phone conference on December 11, 2003, and Liz Simmons forwarded the minutes of that meeting to the full DPF Executive Committee. They will hold another meeting in four weeks. The principal areas of concern are: to make sure that outreach and education talks are given at DPF meetings (we heard from Gail Hanson that there is just such an outreach talk scheduled for DPF2004); how to involve grad students in outreach activities when they seem in many cases to be discouraged by their advisers from doing that; should there be an "Outreach" prize in HEP. Liz is seeking input from the Executive Committee on this last point. Other areas of activity include discussions on APS/AAPT and HEP/Cosmology joint meetings, an Aspen Center for Physics outreach meeting, developing an outreach web page for the DPF website (this has been done in collaboration with <http://www.interactions.org>). While outreach activities have focused on bringing physics to the public and high school audiences, the Executive Committee asked about efforts at outreach to our colleagues in other fields of physics. Hitoshi Murayama volunteered to join the subcommittee to further study this aspect of outreach. As with the Government Affairs subcommittee, it was suggested that members serve staggered three-year terms.

At this point in the meeting Jon Bagger turned over the meeting to the new chair, Sally Dawson. Sally outlined the principle activities that the Executive Committee will be focusing on in the coming year: the DPF/DNP/DPB/DAP sponsored neutrino study; DPF2004; and the World Year in Physics in 2005, for which planning must begin now (for example if one were to update the Quarks Unbound publication). She also asked for other ideas from the committee. There was a discussion of the DPF representatives to HEPAP, with the suggestion that the membership might be changed to provide staggered terms in the future. The final issue raised was that of maternity policies (especially for younger physicists). The upshot of this discussion was an agreement to appoint a

subcommittee to look into this issue.

The meeting ended at 5:15pm (EST) with a final thanks to all the outgoing Executive Committee members for their service to the field. Finally, the new Secretary/Treasurer would like to offer a special thanks to the outgoing Secretary/Treasurer, Nick Hadley, for his dedicated service and for smoothing the way for the new Secretary.

Submitted by Mike Tuts (Secretary/Treasurer)