

APS Division of Polymer Physics, DPOLY, Business Meeting
Minutes, March 4, 2014, Denver, CO

The meeting was called to order by Winey (Chair) at 5:45 pm.

Today's minutes recorded by Hudson (S/T).

Minutes for the meeting of March 19, 2013 were approved, and an outline of today's meeting was presented.

Reports

Winey expressed thank you to the rest of the Executive Committee for their diligence and reviewed this year's actions to organize soft matter physics in APS. Some actions were already reported in DPOLY's May and October newsletters and in separate emails. Winey reported that more than 1000 signatures were collected already this week in support of a petition to propose a new Topical Group in Soft Matter (GSOFT). Winey encouraged DPOLY and its members to work closely with GSOFT, particularly during organization of the March Meeting program, and to be its closest ally.

Hudson (S/T) reported the finances and noted that healthy finances depend on robust March Meeting participation and membership.

The auditors (Burghardt and Ganesan) reported that they had inspected DPOLY's financial records and found them to be in order.

Winey announced election results. Balsara will become Chair; Cheng will become Chair-Elect; Burghardt was elected Vice-Chair; Ganesan was elected Member-at-Large; and Winey will become Past-Chair. Dhinojwala and Sukhishvili were thanked for standing for election. Retiring members Foster and Torkelson were thanked for their service to the Executive Committee.

Foster reported that membership was stable this year. Membership at the end of 2013 was 1451, which is 2.87% of the 50,578 total APS membership.

Dalnoki-Veress reported about 2014 March Meeting program organization. He, the program committee and his team of sorters organized approximately 900 abstracts (10% of the APS total). New features included a joint poster session with DBIO, DCP, GSNP with no competing oral sessions and a poster art gallery.

Epps described the program organization process for the 2015 meeting, to encourage members to participate in this process. Please contact him at thepps@udel.edu.

Lodge asked why not replace the sorter's meeting with an electronic process? Winey replied that face-to-face trading of abstracts is valuable and effective. Glotzer agreed, but suggested that the magnet board is archaic and that its matrix could well be computerized.

Winey reported that the Short Course on computer modeling of polymers had 73 student, postdoctoral and faculty participants. Everyone expressed thanks to the organizers Grest and Perahia, and for the support of NSF and DoE.

Burghardt discussed suggested topics for the next Short Course. Please contact him at w-burghardt@northwestern.edu, to volunteer or give suggestions.

Winey recognized Karl Freed as winner of the 2014 Polymer Physics Prize. Winey encouraged any member to nominate anyone whose research has been essential to yours. The nomination process is outlined at: <http://www.aps.org/programs/honors/prizes/polymer.cfm>. The policy for nominating and seconding letters was clarified. Specifically,

- Nominators are permitted to submit one nomination per award and should refrain from providing seconding letters to other nominees for the same award. While nominations remain active for 3 years, nominators are encouraged to update their nominating letters annually.

- Authors of seconding letters may write one letter per award per calendar year. Seconding letters can be included with nominations for up to 3 years.

Glotzer asked members to consider diversity of their nominations.

Simon asked whether selection committee members can nominate or second. Winey replied that they can do neither.

Russell asked for clarification: any refreshed letter will have a new current date.

Soles asked if updating letters is optional. Winey replied that it is encouraged but not required.

Winey recognized Ryan Hayward as winner of the 2014 John H. Dillon Medal. She noted that for the 2015 Dillon Medal the terminal degree of nominees must be 2003 or later. The nomination process is similar and outlined at: <http://www.aps.org/programs/honors/awards/dillon.cfm>.

Balsara presented fellowship certificates to Hongyu Chen, Costantino Creton, Charles Glinka, Christopher Ober, Alejandro Rey, Klaus Schmidt-Rohr and Jiang Zhao. The nomination process was reviewed. See <http://www.aps.org/programs/honors/fellowships/index.cfm>

Winey introduced the finalists for the Padden Award, and announced Justin Pye as this year's winner.

Winey reviewed the UKPPG/DPOLY lectureship. See <http://www.aps.org/units/dpoly/awards/ukppg.cfm>.

Winey noted the following nomination deadlines this year:

- June 2: APS fellows
- July 1: Polymer Physics Prize and John H. Dillon Medal
- November 14: Frank J. Padden Jr. Award
- December 31: UKPPG/DPOLY lecturer

Ediger reported about upcoming reorganization of APS leadership. The reasons for reorganization are: 1.) the current structure does not comply to new law; 2.) responsibilities are currently not clearly delineated, and 3.) APS Council is too large for its current governing responsibilities. The new structure to be proposed is still being determined. It is likely that APS Council will become advisory and that a smaller body will act as Board of Directors. Expect a vote on a new governance structure perhaps as early as late summer. If you have concerns or input, please contact any Executive Committee member.

New Business

Upcoming March Meetings: San Antonio, TX March 2-6, 2015; Baltimore, MD March 14-18, 2016; and New Orleans, LA March 13-17, 2017.

Simon and Gray announced the upcoming Gordon Research Conference on Polymer Physics and affiliated Graduate Research Seminar. Details were published in the Feb 2014 newsletter.

Expressions of Gratitude

Balsara thanked Winey for excellent leadership and service and presented her with a certificate of appreciation. The membership expressed its gratitude in applause.

The meeting was adjourned just after 6:30 pm.