

**APS Forum on Education  
Executive Committee Meeting (teleconference)  
Friday, January 14, 2005  
Minutes and Notes by Ernie**

**Voting Members Present:** Wolfgang Christian, Karen Cummings, Robert Ehrlich, Paula Heron, Ramon Lopez, Ernie Malamud, Peggy McMahan, Gay Stewart, Larry Woolf

**Voting Members Absent:** Michael Zeilik, Pete Zimmerman

**Non-voting Members Present:** Joe Redish (CoE), Tom Rossing (Newsletter Editor), Ted Hodapp (APS Director, Education and Outreach Programs)

**Non-voting Members Absent:** Charles Holbrow (AAPT)

Gay called the meeting to order at 9 am Pacific Time.

Minutes of our last official meeting, May 19, 2004 were approved.

Ramon, Peggy and Ernie will attend the February 19 (Saturday) convocation at APS Headquarters. If anyone feels there is an issue they want raised, e.g. meeting organization and logistics or getting more support from APS Headquarters in some specific area please contact one of us.

**Treasurer's Report for the 11-month period ending 11/30/04 (Ernie)**

**Revenues**

|  |                 |        |
|--|-----------------|--------|
| Membership Revenue                           | \$15,208        | 72.23% |
| Meeting Revenue: Mar = \$169; April = \$2794 | \$2,963         | 14.07% |
| Allocated investment income                  | \$2,883         | 13.69% |
|  | <b>\$21,054</b> |        |

comment: *note: it is important that we retain our members and increase them*

**Expenses**

|   |                 |        |
|---|-----------------|--------|
| Newsletter  | \$1,463         | 7.85%  |
| Meeting Expenses  | \$1,900         | 10.19% |
| Postage (Telephone, postage, supplies)                      | \$1,344         | 7.21%  |
| Travel (includes reg. Fee waivers for new fellows)          | \$5,841         | 31.32% |
| One-time ballot set up charge (for APS to run our election) | \$600           | 3.22%  |
| FEd WYP grant to Four Corners Section                       | \$500           | 2.68%  |
| Match to first two Excellence in Physics Ed Award gifts     | \$7,000         | 37.54% |
|   | <b>\$18,648</b> |        |

comments: Newsletter and postage includes printing copies of the summer issue for distribution at the Sacramento AAPT meeting and mailing that issue to the Chairs of 253 Departments that give graduate degrees along with a cover letter by Gay. The objective is to increase FEd membership. The newsletter total also includes \$300 to Andy Morrison (NIU student) for newsletter formatting. We plan to continue doing this.

|                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| We began the Fiscal Year with  | \$37,675        |
| Income-expense is positive     | \$2,406         |
| <b>current funds available</b> | <b>\$40,081</b> |

We will receive another approximately \$15,000 (membership revenue) at the beginning of 2005

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was approved.

### **Nominating Subcommittee (Peggy)**

Peggy reviewed the list of nominees that she emailed to us. Election will be run by the APS. It will begin at the end of January and end at the end of February.

### **Foundations and Frontiers in Physics Education Research (Paula)**

Paula presented the details of this PER conference to be held August 14-19 on the campus of the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine. After discussion a motion was made and passed to recommend APS endorsement of the conference and to support it with \$3,000 of FEd funds. It was agreed by Paula that the Fall 2005 FEd newsletter could be devoted to proceedings of the conference.

### **Fellowship Subcommittee (Wolfgang)**

Six new APS fellows have been elected: Robert Beichner, Corinne Manoque, Mary Beth Monroe, Richard Peterson, Greg Snow, Stephen Thornton. Their certificates and pins will be presented at the Business Meeting/Reception at the Tampa APS meeting on Sunday, April 17. (Ernie has sent each of them a congratulatory letter and offered to mail the certificate and pin if they prefer). Also Ernie will make a web page (as was done for the 2003 and 2004 fellows) with citations and if possible photos.

Wolfgang pointed out that the 2006 Fellowship Subcommittee needs to be constituted and begin its work in May to meet the APS schedule for naming new fellows. The subcommittee will be appointed by Ramon when he becomes Chair. Gay, as past-Chair will chair this subcommittee. Suggestions for members were Jack Hehn and Duncan McBride. Wolfgang stressed that we need to look through APS member lists to be sure that obvious candidates (e.g. some winners of AAPT awards) are not missed.

### **Fundraising for the Excellence in Physics Education Award (Wolfgang)**

Wolfgang reported on the “quiet” phase of the fundraising and announced that in February we will go to the public phase where all members of the FEd are asked to contribute. In return for donating \$100 or more they can name a teacher they wish to honor. (Subcommittee: Wolfgang (chair), Ernie, Joe Redish).

Ernie gave the latest figures: as of January 7, 27 gifts and pledges have been made. Together with investment income this totals \$26,239. Adding the \$7,000 of FEd match with investment interest (as of Nov. 30) brings the total to \$33,488 or 33% of our goal of \$100K. When the time is appropriate, the FEd web page will be updated frequently to show progress towards the goal.

We have approved an additional \$23K of match. After some discussion it was decided to hold off on putting that towards the award at this time.

### **Program Subcommittee (Ramon)**

We discussed optimal times for the Executive Committee Meeting and the Business Meeting/Reception. After the meeting Ramon and Ernie agreed on the following:

- Executive Committee: Sunday, April 17, 12:45 to 3:15. Ernie will arrange for buffet lunch.
- The Business Meeting/Reception (were Fellow Certificates are given out and new members of the Executive Committee introduced) will be 5 – 7 pm, also on Sunday, April 17. Ernie will arrange for snacks, wine, beer, soft drinks.

Paula has suggested an attractively designed card listing the FEd sessions for distribution at the meetings.

### **Newsletter**

**Summer 2004.** As commented in the Treasurer's Report the Summer 2004 newsletter was distributed at the summer AAPT meeting. Leftover copies were sent to AIP for distribution at other meetings (e.g. AGU). Copies were printed and mailed to Department Chairs. The theme of this issue was reports from other member societies in AIP on their education and outreach programs.

**Fall 2004.** An email letter (by Gay) to announce the fall issue was sent to all 769 Physics Departments. Again, the goal is to increase FEd membership. The theme of this issue was reports on physics education in several different countries.

**Spring 2005.** (Karen)

With this issue will begin a regular section on Teacher Preparation, edited by Chance Hoellwarth from California Polytechnic (choellwa@calpoly.edu). The theme of this issue is Teaching Thermodynamics. Karen has received several articles and there was an extensive discussion of other possible authors on this topic that she might contact. In addition the issue will include:

- o Report from the Chair (Gay)
- o Excellence in Physics Education Award (Wolfgang)
- o Announcement of the PER conference
- o Browsing through the journals (Tom is not sure if he will have time to write this popular column)
- o FEd-DAMOP session at the AAPT Summer Meeting, Salt Lake City, Aug. 6-10

**Summer 2005.** (Ernie will edit). There were two suggestions for a theme:

- National Lab and Industry programs in physics education and outreach
- Articles on WYP Events (e.g. the Physics Talent Search). Teaching Einstein's Physics.

***Other newsletter discussion.***

Ted is having a nice header designed for our newsletters.

Wolfgang raised the question of whether or not the FEd newsletters were going to be entered into the COMPADRE database.

Tom raised the issue of publicizing the March and April FEd sponsored sessions in the fall Newsletter. The difficulty is that at the time the fall newsletter usually goes "to press" and given the APS schedule for submitting speakers etc. the titles of the planned invited and focus session are probably known but most of the speakers haven't yet been lined up. Still it seems advantageous to put whatever information is available in the fall issue. Paula suggested a nicely formatted card to be distributed at the meeting.

**Teacher Licensure Action Plan (Ted)** Ted reports that he has hired part-time staff to work on it. (At our May 19, 2004 meeting FEd approved \$5,000 to help Ted get this going). This effort will be handled by permanent, part-time APS staff, principally, Pahola Elder.

**New business**

The issue was raised about a possible way to remove inactive members of the Executive Committee. Ramon will investigate the possibilities.

Joe Redish is attempting to get education mixed into APS lobbying efforts. He requested that Executive Committee members communicate their ideas to him or Ted.

Meeting adjourned ~ 10:45 AM Pacific Time