

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**9th Semi-annual Symposium**  
**Meeting of NYSS/APS**  
**October 19, 2007**  
**Skidmore College**  
**Surrey, Williamson Inn**

**Time: 9:00 AM**

Members present: Chair, Bob Pompei (09); Sunil Laboo, (09) Vice Chair, Secretary/Treasurer, Larry Josbeno (09); Executive Committee: Shu Chang (09); Michael Kotlarchyk; (09), Jill Linz (11); Jay Newman (11); Stacie Nunes (09); Michael Rogers (09); David Trauernicht (11); Gianfranco Vidali (11) and Donnell T. Walton (11); Meeting with the Committee: Lora K. Hine, Cornell

Members absent: Section Council Observer, James Owens (11); Nicholas Bigelow (11); Enrique Galvez (11); Scott Heinekamp (09); and Cindy Schwarz (09)

**1. Approval of minutes from the 2007 Spring Symposium at West Point**

Motion to approve: Michael Kotlarchyk, seconded by David Trauernicht, Unanimous

**2. Report of the Local Committee**

a. Report of local organizers – Jill Linz

There are 108 people registered, 45 students.

b. Student support – The following policy, that was approved Spring 2003 will be followed;

Student support Sunil Laboo reported that 29 students have requested support.

c. Posters – Six posters entered at this point; the judging committee: Michael Kotlarchyk,

Stacy Nunes, and Michael Rogers.

POLICY: (PASSED October 15, 2004) the judging committee may award prizes (up to \$600) FOR POSTERS (no more than \$100 per poster), categories at the discretion of the judges. Motion to approve: Larry Josbeno, seconded by Stacie Nunes. Unanimous

THE FOLLOWING POSTER AWARDS WERE ANNOUNCED AT THE BANQUET:

Undergraduate category

\$75 Prize

Hofstra University

Brianna Burke, Daniel Richford, Dominick Bongiovi, Kara Finzel, and Melissa Garuthara

"Activation Dynamics in the BZ Reaction: An Experimental and Simulation Study"

\$75 Prize

Le Moyne College

Priyaranga Koswatta  
"Experimental Search for Techni-Omega and Techni-Rho via Decay into a  
Photon and Techni-PiZero"

d. d) Symposium Abstracts - **See Appendix E**

3. **Secretary/Treasurer Report** – Larry Josbeno - **See Appendix A**

Secretary/Treasurer Josbeno reported that while the finances are in good shape, the Fund Balance has decreased from \$68,000 (?) in 2001, to ~\$40,000.00 today. Prudent spending policies need to be established. Such policies were formed by the Finance Sub-Committee and will be presented subsequently. Michael Stephens, APS Comptroller, has suggested #30,000 as an appropriate Fund Balance. The IRS states that an Organization cannot have a Fund balance of more than two years operating expenses, (for APS/NYSS this is ~\$30,000), and have a tax exempt status. (NOTE: Although we have been above this in the past, we were not in violation of the IRS because we are part of APS National).

Motion to approve: David Trauernicht seconded by Shu Chang, Unanimous

4. **Proposal to expand membership of NYSAPS (Bob Pompi)**

The present membership of the New York State Section of the American Physical Society is 2,221 members. Chair Robert Pompi reported that there are 3971 APS members that live in New York State. To become a member of our Section an APS member has to check the appropriate box. We receive a base of \$1,000 plus \$4.50 per member up to 3% of total APS membership, plus \$3 per member over the 3% (or NYSS that's ~1,500 members). Chair Pompi suggested that we encourage all students who receive financial aid from NYSS join APS as a student member (they can presently join for one year for free), and check the box for NYSS membership. (This was done by furnishing said students with the appropriate forms. Robert also proposed that we send the following email to all members of APS who live in New York State, (we can send one free email to these members via APS national); this would give us more funds for Student Outreach.

See appendix D for the proposed e-mail:

Motion to approve: Michael Kotlarchyk, seconded by David Trauernicht, Unanimous

5. **Future Symposia**

- a. Spring 2008 – Joint Meeting with New York State Section of AAPT  
Topic: Accelerator-Based Science  
Sponsor: Wilson Lab (LEPP), Cornell University  
Location: Robert Purcell Community Center and Appel Commons  
Cornell University, Ithaca, New York  
Date: April 18/19, 2008  
Website: <http://www.lepp.cornell.edu/Events/APSAAAPT/>

Lora Hine reported that all is going well and there is grant money to sponsor all K thru 12 teachers for the Saturday meeting. Lora can be contacted at

[lkh24@mail.lepp.cornell.edu](mailto:lkh24@mail.lepp.cornell.edu)

- b. Fall 2008 – Corning Incorporated will host the Fall 2008 NYSS APS Symposium on 14-15 Nov. The meeting will be held in the Corning Museum of Glass in Corning, NY as part of a celebration of Corning's 100th year of research. The focus of the meeting will be optics and materials science. The topics covered will range from laser physics to advanced materials for industrial microreactors.
- c. Spring 2009 – (100<sup>th</sup>) – University of Rochester
- d. Fall 2009 – Vassar College(?) – Cindy Schwartz
- e. Spring 2010 (Or Fall 2009) - Ithaca College - Michael Rogers

**6. Outreach**

Jill Linz (Chair), Gianfranco Vidali and Shu Chang

There were two proposals submitted for this round.

- 1. “A Portable Reflection Gallery”, submitted by George M. Thurston, RIT – approved for full amount requested - \$900.00 (note: this was submitted for the Spring 2007 round but was tabled until Fall 2007 – reason: late submission)
- 2. “Phenomenal Physics”, submitted by Dr. Peter Wanderer, Brookhaven National Laboratory – funding denied. Reason: proposal did not fit with objectives of Outreach Grants.

Two summaries were received from past grantees.

- 1. Robin Smith, Cornell University. “Expanding Your Horizons”
- 2. Jim Napolitano, RPI, “Electric Motors to Build and Take Home”

**Motion to approve: Outreach Committee Unanimous**

**7. Nominating Committee for Spring 2009 (Sunil Laboo)**

Sunil, as vice-chair is chair of the Nominating Committee for the next (Spring 2008)

Election. He requested volunteers from the Executive Committee that are not up for election. The offices up for contention are vice-chair, (Sunil automatically becomes chair), Secretary/Treasurer and six members of the Executive Committee.

The Nominating Committee for the 2009 Elections is:

Sunil Laboo (chair), Bob Pompei, Jill Linz, Jay Newman, David Trauernicht and Gianfranco Vidali.

The nominating Committee will met at the Spring meeting (at Cornell) and present a slate at the Fall 2008 meeting (at Corning)

**8. Report from Spring Symposium 2007 (Held at West Point)**

The semi-annual meeting of the New York State Section (NYSS) of the American Physical Society (APS) and the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) was hosted by the Department of Physics of the United States Military Academy, on 13 and 14 April 2007. The theme of the symposium was “Physics in a new Light.” The symposium was well attended with 184 registrants, of whom 90 were students – 3 times the expected number of students.

See Appendix B

9. **New Assignments:** (See appendix C for 2007/2008 assignments)

- a. Newsletter - Enrique Galvez has agreed to edit the newsletter as needed.
- b. Webpage – Should we have our own webpage? A long discussion resulted in the appointment of Mike Rogers to investigate establishing our own webpage. (APS maintains our current page on their website) <http://aps.org>. Jill Linz agreed to scan all the programs from the previous 96 Symposiums for said web site. The possibility of producing a vehicle on this web site that could be used for on-line registration was discussed at length. David Trauernicht stated that this could be done commercially for approximately \$6.50 per month, Donnell Walton, who is currently preparing an on-line site to be used for the Fall 2008 Corning Incorporated Symposium, stated that this was possible, Chair Robert Pompei appointed a sub-committee to report on this possibility at the Spring 2008 meeting at Cornell. **The Web-Registration sub-committee: Donnell, chair, Michael Rogers and David Trauernicht.**
- c. Outreach – Stacie Nunes was added to the Committee

10. **Convocation, February 23 (lobbying:21/22), 2008**

The APS Convocation is a meeting of all APS units, this is held at College Park MD, and NYSS can send three representatives (officers) at APS' expense, Robert Pompei, Larry Josbeno and Sunil Laboo will attend.

11. Section Council Observer – Chair Robert Pompei expressed concern about funding the Council Observer to attend the National meeting. ); Gianfranco Vidali stated that although the Council Observer is valuable to the section, (serving as past-chair), there is practically no value in sending a non-voting observer to the national meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:02 PM. **Motion to adjourn, Michael Rogers seconded by David Trauernicht, Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Josbeno, Secretary/Treasurer

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## Appendix A

### Treasurer's Report – October 19, 2007

Assets with APS as of 9/30/2007 were \$28,492.90 down from \$36,699.19, from a year ago, and down from \$43,874.69 from two years ago.

Expenses since that accounting:

Printing Services: \$2,040.40  
Approximate balance: **\$26,452.50**

NYSS – Membership	HIGHLIGHTS (2007)	
1999 – 1,962	Student Support	-\$2,099.91
2000 – 1,886	2006 Poster Awards	-\$350.00
2001 – 1,906	Outreach	-\$1,175.00
2002 – 1,856	Dues	+\$9,160.00
2003 – 1,842	Investment Income	+\$1,645.71
2004 - 1,871	Newsletter (Printing)	-\$712.00
2005 - 1,938	Spring Symposium	-\$8,046.93
2006 – 2,167	Travel	-\$3,228.45
2007 – 2,221	Postage & Mailing	-\$1,708.14

This is primarily because of symposium expense subsidies, speaker travel, poster awards, and outreach grants. The Section has been committed to increasing outreach (Our Outreach program was lauded, again at the January 2007 APS Convocation), and our Newsletter expense was both Outreach and an attempt to provide information for our members, and to solicit more members so we can continue to provide student support and promote physics education, especially in Elementary education.

There are 3971 APS members living in NYS as well as others in surrounding states, so we have the opportunity to grow.

The Section receives a base of \$1,000 plus \$4.50 per member up to 3% of total APS membership, plus \$3 per member over the 3% (or NYSS that's ~1,500 members).

There is talk of increasing the base to possibly \$2,000 next year. The dues are recorded in January.

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## **Appendix B**

### **Report for the Spring 2007 meeting – West Point**

#### **NYSS APS/AAPT 2007 Spring Meeting After Action Review**

**Synopsis:** The semi-annual meeting of the New York State Section (NYSS) of the American Physical Society (APS) and the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) was hosted by the Department of Physics of the United States Military Academy, on 13 and 14 April 2007. The theme of the symposium was “Physics in a new Light.” The symposium was well attended with 184 registrants, of whom 90 were students – 3 times the expected number of students.

The meeting started on Friday morning with the NYSS APS Executive Committee (EC) meeting. Registration started at noon. The eight lectures started at 1300 on Friday and lasted

until 1445 on Saturday. A conference dinner with poster session took place on Friday evening in the West Point Community Club. Prof. Margaret Murnane who is a well recognized leader in optics from JILA in Boulder Colorado spoke on "Extreme Light." CDT Galgano presented Prof. Murnane with a book on West Point.

The conference was chaired by Dr. Jenny Magnes with LTC Hartke, MAJ Gregory Schwarz, MAJ Keith Haufler, MAJ John Page, and Dr. Mitch Pfenning on the local committee. Many enthusiastic comments were received from the APS and AAPT leadership as well as the general audience on the quality of the talks and conference organization.

**Facilities:** Facilities used for the conference were Bartlett Hall room 211, the West Point Club Grand Ballroom, the physics conference room (BH302) and the conference room in the Photonics Research Center (PRC). We coordinated for the West Point Club about 8 months out, and this should be done as soon as the conference is approved by the Academy. The West Point Club requires a deposit for each meal that you schedule with them.

**Food:** We scheduled 4 food periods: Friday afternoon refreshments, Friday Dinner, Saturday breakfast and Saturday lunch. The dinner and lunch were both held in the West Point Club. We were able to get checks from APS made out directly to the West Point Club to pay for the food costs. The number for the catering office at the club is x5120.

Especially, the dinner buffet should be labeled so that people know if they are eating pork, veal, lamb...

Breakfast and refreshments were coordinated through the West Point Club and picked up by faculty. The refreshments were set up in the hallway across from BH211. This was enough room for the 150 guests that we had. We only had refreshments on Friday.

**Schedule:**

<b>Friday - April 13, 2007</b>		
0900-1200	Executive Committee Meeting	
1200	Registration	
1300-1315	Introductory Remarks	
1315-1415	National Synchrotron Light Source	Dr. Larry Carr
1415-1500	Gradient Index in Nature and High Efficiency Solar Cells	Dr. Duncan Moore
1500-1530	Refreshments	
1530-1630	Laser Spectroscopy of Complex Systems	Dr. N. Melikechi
1630-1730	Nuclear Detection Scans	MAJ Mike Shannon
	AAPT Board Meeting	
1730-1830	Student and General Posters	

1845	Dinner		
1930-2015	Extreme Light	Prof. Margaret Murnane	
2015-2030	Announcements		
<b>Saturday - April 14, 2007</b>			
0830-0900	Coffee and Bagel		
0900-1000	Physics Teaching - ComPADRE, or PhysTEC or both	Dr. Warren Hein	
1000-1100	Physics Teaching - LIGO	Dr. Eric Myers	
1100-1230	Lunch		
1230-1330	Negative Index of Refraction	Dr. Susanne Yelin	
1330-1430	Medical Applications of Light	Dr. Andrew Berger	
1430-1445	Concluding Remarks		
1445-1545	West Point Walking Tour		

**Signs:** We did a good job with the signs outside the building, but signs inside the building would have been nice as well. Signs directing people to the restrooms would have been most helpful.

**Shuttle Service and Parking:** We were able to reserve 10 parking spots on Thayer roof for Executive Committee Parking. Regular attendees had to park at Buffalo Soldier's Field and use the shuttle to the central post area. The shuttle service was scheduled to bring to bring guests to the library corner on the Friday of the conference because of the lack of parking in the central area. We were able to pay for the shuttle from a Physics account, and then get a check from APS made out to US Treasury.

If a shuttle is required after the schedule dinner to return guests to their cars at Buffalo Soldier's Field, then it is imperative to double check to make sure that the bus is going to show up.

**Poster Session:** We had about 12 posters registered to present, and about 24 posters showed up at the session. The poster session was just prior to the scheduled conference dinner. The poster session was in the same room as the dinner in the West Point Club. We borrowed easels from Chemistry and the foam core boards from the PRC.

We should have been more specific as to the maximum size of the poster. It is also important to allow people to annotate if they will need a table to display anything.

**Security:** LTC Hartke arranged clearance for post access.

**Administration:** Submit request through Executive Officer at least 10 months before conference and set date.

**Speakers:** Speaker selection was completed 3-4 months ahead of time. Some speakers had funded travel such as the dinner speaker and several other speakers. We tried to make sure that the speakers understood that there was a broad audience. Talks were of a broad range and suitable for students, teachers and faculty.

Abstracts from the speakers could have been solicited sooner for dissemination during registration.

**Website:** The website should be available as soon as possible. There was too much delay. Also, manipulation of the website seemed to run into delays. It would be good if one of the organizers had direct access to the site.

**West Point Tour:** Having a tour at the end of the conference that is open to conference attendees and their guests/family made the conference more attractive.

**Schedule:** Having 10-15 minutes built in the schedule for questions allowed us to stay on schedule.

**Advertisements:** Flyers were sent out about 3 months before the conference. It appears that the mailing list from AAPT needed updating.

**Registrants:** 184 total. 90 students.

**Vendors:** We were not able to accommodate vendors since West Point is a government institution. Nevertheless, there was at least one person that solicited for unauthorized sales. It would be good to have a policy in place on how to deal with this situation.

**Ethics:** There was at least one audience member that made remarks that were perceived as offensive. Also, for this type of situation, a policy should be in effect.

**Expenses:**

<b>Expenses</b>	
Executive Committee Breakfast	\$309.82
Refreshments	\$350.00
Dinner	\$5,564.88
Breakfast	\$1,238.00
Friday Shuttle	\$173.54
Lunch	\$3,833.69
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$11,469.93</b>
<b>Fees Collected</b>	<b>\$3,645.00</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>-\$7,824.93</b>

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## **Appendix C**

### **ASSIGNMENTS - NYSSAPS EXECUTIVE BOARD 2007-2008**

#### **NEWSLETTER:**

Enrique (Kliko) Galvez

#### **OUTREACH:**

Jill Linz

Gianfranco Vidali

Shu Chang

Stacie Nunes

#### **SYMPOSIUMS:**

Donnell Walton

Nick Bigelow

Mike (Bodie) Rogers

Jill Linz

#### **FINANCE:**

Sunil Labroo

Bob Pompei

Larry Josbeno

David Trauernicht

#### **ALL APS CONTACTS, WEB SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION**

#### **DEVELOPMENT**

#### **SECRETARY - TREASURER**

Larry Josbeno

#### **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

Jay Newman Cindy Schwartz

Michael Kotlarchyk Scott Heinekamp .

James Owens Gianfranco Vidali

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## **Appendix D**

### **Email to all APS Members living in New York State**

The Executive Board of the New York State Section of the American Physical Society (NYSSAPS) is writing to request that you consider joining our section if you are not already a member. We currently have 2200 members in our section out of the 3900 New York State members of the APS. If you are already one of the 2200, we thank you for your support. If you are not yet a member or are not sure, please continue reading. We are requesting that you join

the NYSSAPS which is ABSOLUTLY FREE TO YOU AND IS IN ADDITION TO ANY DIVISIONS OF THE APS YOU ARE ALREADY A MEMBER OF.

We are asking you to join us so we can continue to underwrite outreach grants for educational purposes and also to provide support for graduate and undergraduate students in defraying costs they incur in attending one of our biannual topical symposia. Last April we provided support for seventy students so they could attend the program West Point hosted. Although the New York State Section membership costs you nothing, the APS remits \$4.00 per year to the NYSSAPS for each of our members.

Enrolling in the NYSSAPS is extremely simple. You will need your Physics Today mailing label with the account number above your name. Go to [www.APS.com](http://www.APS.com). If you have previously established a login account, use it. If not, click on the secure login. Using the account number found on the Physics Today mailing label, you can establish your own login user name and password. Once you have done this, you can access your account. Click on membership. If you are not a member of the New York State section, click on the ADD Unit box and enter New York State Section. By doing so, you help us make it possible to continue student support and our outreach programs.

Thank you for partnering with us in these very important educational efforts.

Sincerely,

The NYSSAPS Executive Board  
Listed on <http://units.aps.org/units/nyss/>