



**NEW YORK STATE SECTION
AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY**

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
108th Semi-annual Symposium
149th Meeting of NYSS/APS
April 19, 2013
Wells College, Aurora NY

Time: 9:00 AM

Members Present: Chair - Sunil Labroo (13); vice-chair: Michael Rogers (13); Secretary/Treasurer Gianfranco Vidali (17); Executive Committee: Harold Hastings (15); Scott Heinekamp (15); Erica Snow (18); David Trauernicht (15); John Noe (17);

Members Absent: Jim Hannon (13); Michael Kotlarchyk (13); Stacie Nunes (13); Jay Newman (15); Bruce White (15)

1. Approval of minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting at the 2012 Fall Symposium at Canisius College:

A motion to approve the minutes as amended was put forward by Harold Hastings (seconded by Dave Trauernicht). It was approved unanimously.

2. Report of the Local Committee – Scott Heinekamp (Wells College):

- a. Preliminary numbers for this meeting: 75 registrants (about 60% students); 45 banquet tickets; 9 posters. A committee of three (Bodhi, Harold and a local person) was formed to judge the posters. The total amount that can be awarded is fixed at \$800.

b. Posters – see Appendix A

- (i) Reminder of the policy: (PASSED October 15, 2004 with amount revised at the last meeting) the judging committee may award prizes (up to \$800) for posters in categories at the discretion of the judges. Poster judging committee: Bruce White, Jim Owens and a local person (name to be added);
- (ii) Results of posters judging – **See Appendix A**

c. Student support – Sunil substituting for Bruce White – See Appendix B

- (i) There were only two requests for \$100 each by students from SUNY - Oneonta.
- (ii) Reminder of the policy passed at the Executive Committee Meeting, Spring 2011: up to \$100 per requesting student for deferring travel costs to attend the Symposium (see guidelines on the Web for expenses eligible for reimbursement). The student support coordinator has the discretion to reimburse a higher amount/student.
- (iii) A discussion took place whether we should increase the travel support in order to have more students coming to the Symposia. Anecdotal evidence of students unwilling to spend \$20 for the banquet was brought up. Sunil put forward the following motion.

Motion: **Student banquet fee is reduced to \$10 and banquet is free for poster presenters.**

John seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Bodhi proposed the following motion:

Motion: **Overall student support maximum is increased to \$150 per student for travel and hotel. To encourage pre-planning, student support requests received two weeks prior to the symposium will receive full consideration for full reimbursement of expenses (double occupancy and ride sharing) pending availability of funds. Students are expected to pursue alternative sources of funding also.**

The total amount to be allotted per symposium for this purpose is \$2500.

Amounts exceeding this need prior approval of the Executive Committee.

Dave seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Secretary/Treasurer's report –Gianfranco Vidali – see Appendix C

The assets as of the last day of February 2013 are: \$50,306.72. Not included in that figure is the outlay for the Fall Outreach grant for \$1,000 and some small other items. Last year at the same time we had \$43,70.08. We have more assets now because of fewer outlays for Symposia support and fewer Outreach Grants awarded.

4. 2013 General Election

Dave Trauernicht ran the election because the Secretary/Treasurer who is in charge of the election was one of the candidates. Dave reported that the election was easy to run. One of the elected members, Natalia Connolly of Hamilton College, resigned because she relocated.

5. Future Symposia

- a. There is no confirmed site for Fall 2013. Abigail (Abby) Flower from Philips Laboratory (Tarrytown, NY) who is one of the speakers at this Spring 2013 Symposium expressed an interest at hosting the meeting.
- b. Oswego 2014 – Theme: Astrophysics
- c. Other potential sites: SUNY Stony Brook, RIT
- d. It has become harder to find hosts for the Symposia. One solution would be to have one Symposium per year but this would require modifications to the Bylaws.

6. Units Convocation

- a. Sunil reported on the Units Convocation.
 - i. For Web services, such as updates, contact Web-updates@aps.orgregistration - as per regulations
 - ii. Use social media to communicate with membership
 - iii. APS can handle the putting together the Newsletter, including graphics
 - iv. Registration to NYSS meetings: as per regulation, registration needs to be handled by APS
 - v. We are exempt of NY State taxes
 - vi. Financial support to students; the names of all students must be reported even if only one check is issued (as in the case of student travel support)

7. Outreach – Harold Hastings/Scott Heinekamp/Erica Snow – See Appendix D

One proposal was reviewed:

- a. Harold recommended funding of the proposal "START Science" at the requested \$1,000 level. Project START Science is a Yeshiva University student-led program that brings college students into public school classrooms to lead hands-on lessons in science

8. The new Executive Committee

Sunil was commended for work in getting this meeting organized. The new Executive Committee was installed. The members are: Chair: Michael "Bodhi" Rogers (05/13 - 04/15); vice-Chair: Bruce White (05/13 - 04/15); Secretary/Treasurer: Gianfranco Vidali (05/13 - 04/17); Members-at-Large: Harold Hastings (05/11 - 04/15), Scott Heinekamp (05/11 - 04/15), Jay Newman (05/11 - 04/15), David Trauernicht (05/11 - 04/15), Michael Wood (05/11 - 04/15), Abigail Flower (05/13 - 04/17), Michael Hennessey (05/13 - 04/17), Sunil Labroo (05/13 - 04/17),

John Noe (05/13 - 04/17), Kenneth Podolak (05/13 - 04/17), Erica Snow (05/13 - 04/17), and Carl Ventrice (05/13 - 04/17). Sunil passed the chairmanship to Bodhi.

9. Assignments – Bodhi

- a. **Student Support** – Ken Podolak
- b. **Outreach – Harold, Erica, and Scott**
- c. **Newsletter:** John. It was agreed to have the newsletter once a year and to make use of APS expertise; there should be a narrative of outreach grants and of SPS activities. John's name should be on the Web site so he can be reached easily.

10. New Business

- a. The vacancy of the position of member-at-large held by Natalia Connelly was discussed. The Executive Committee has the choice of letting the position go unfilled or of nominating someone to fill it. It was decided that Abigail Flower of Philips Laboratory should be contacted to see whether she would like to be on the committee. See Appendix E for actions taken by the Executive Committee after the adjournment of today's meeting.

11. Sunil moved that the meeting be adjourned. Dave seconded and it was unanimously approved.

New Business

Appendix A - Spring 2013 Student Poster Awards

Undergraduate Category:

1. \$300

Comparison of Optical and Multi-Waveband Variations of Selected g-Ray Bright Blazars in 2012, Benjamin Schultz, SUNY Plattsburgh.

Address: Benjamin Schultz
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

2. \$100

Design and Construction of Optical Tweezers, Pavel Aprelev, Union College.

Address: Pavel Aprelev,
Union College

High School Category:

1. \$300

Surface Plasmon Energy of Nickel Iron Films, Keenan Hunt-Stone & Joshua Labounty, Plattsburgh H.S.

Address: Joshua Labounty,
Plattsburgh

2. \$100

Ferromagnetic Granular Exchange Interactions of Nickel-Iron Blends, Jason Spellman & Thomas Urtz, SUNY Plattsburgh, and Ashley Levasseur, H.S. now at Plattsburgh.

Address: Dr. Ken Podolak
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Appendix B – Student Travel Support

Check of \$200 to Morgan Ennis (Oneonta) for support of students Morgan Ennis and Devon Brewer.

Appendix C – NYSS Treasurer’s Report and Report of Fall 2012 Symposium at Canisius College

NYSS Treasurer’s Report

According to the financial statement generated by APS, at the end of February 2013 the total assets are \$50,306.72; this figure doesn't yet include the outlay of \$1,000 for one outreach grant and some other small outlays. Last year at about the same time we had \$43,70.08. See last year's Spring report for more details.

In the table below is the net gain or loss (in parentheses) for recent calendar years:

From the APS report	Y2012	Y2011	Y2010	Y2009	Y2008
Revenues	19,093	18,615	21,620	13,350	11,462
Expenses	12,341	14,921	19,918	6,493	13,466
Net	6,742	3,694	1,702	6,857	(2,005)

The wild swings reflect the fact that some expenses were carried over to a following year.

Income from APS	Y2012	Y2011	Y2010	Y2009	Y2008
Dues from APS	10,292	10,044	10,008	10,012	9,744
Investment	1,212	1,074	1,499	1,733	1,718

It is instructive to look at the distribution of expenses for recent years. These figures are obtained from authorized expenses in connection with Symposia. These are not taken from APS financial statements and should be considered indicative rather than definitive.

Expenses	F2012	S2012	F2011	S2011	F2010	S2010
Student Support	849	744	770	1,892	2,096	523
Posters Awards	800	800	400	600	500	300
Outreach	1,000	2,000	0.	1,000	1,498	1,275
Symposia	1,000	5.	1,175	644	761	356
Total	3,649	3,549	2,345	4,136	4,855	2,454

Notes

1. Figures are in US\$, rounded to the nearest dollar.
2. The expenses for Symposia are the net costs charged to APS (income minus expenditures) as given by the organizers.
3. The totals are the sums of the figures shown above. There might have been other expenses (such as: printing, mailing, Website, etc.). Some of the charges might have been billed later or separately or they might have been carried over to the following year.
4. There is no dollar amount for outreach for the Fall 2011 symposium. The committee asked the proposers to resubmit a budget. No funds have been allocated yet that I know of.

Comments:

1. Symposium organizers should verify that the information about their symposia is accurate.
2. Please forward all requests for payments (reimbursements, advances, etc.) to the Treasurer who will bundle them and send them to APS. If you want to send checks to APS, send them directly **but make sure that you let the Treasurer know.**
3. The average level of expenditure per year is around \$13,000.
4. The net revenue per year (APS investment returns plus APS income dues) is about \$3,000-\$4,000. Therefore the total assets have increased over the last few years. This is in part due to having fewer Outreach grants to give out and in part due to running Symposia on tight budgets. Such conditions might change in the near future.
5. The recommended assets for this type of organization is about twice the yearly budget, or in our case \$30,000-\$40,000, where the higher figure takes into consideration that in some years we had large expenditures connected to expensive Symposia.

Report of Fall 2012 Symposium at Canisius College

INCOME:

Item	Amount
Registration/Banquet: Checks	\$560.00
PayPal	\$994.15
Cash	\$135.00
TeachSpin Donation	\$250.00
Dean of Arts & Sciences	\$1,000.0
Income Total	\$2,939.15

EXPENSES:

Item	Amount
Catering	\$3,335.93
Event Management Staff	\$100.00
Printing	\$160.52
Badges	\$73.59
Poster Board	\$99.97
Registration supplies (folders, pens, notepads)	\$169.40
Expenses Total	\$3,939.41

Deficit covered by APS: \$1,000.26 Submitted on November 5, 2012 by Michael Wood

Appendix D – Outreach Grant

\$1,000 was requested and awarded to the proposal “START Science”, a Yeshiva University student-led program.

Appendix E – Special Election

On Tuesday, April 23 2013 Michael (Bodhi) Rogers (Chair) reminded the Executive Committee that Natalia Connolly (Hamilton College) was elected by the membership to serve as a member-at-large for a four-year term. Between the closing date of the election and the Spring 2013 Meeting she resigned because she relocated. Her seat at the Executive Committee is now vacant. Per our by-laws the Executive Committee can vote to appoint someone to the vacated seat.

He moved that the Executive Committee offer Abigail (Abby) Flower (Philips Laboratory) the position of the seat vacated by Natalia Connolly. Seconded by John Noe. An email vote was solicited with closing date of April 26. All the members of the Executive Committee who voted (9), voted yes. Thus, Abby Flower is appointed member of the Executive Committee for a four-year term.

Result of email vote: 9 votes received, 9 yes, 0 no.