

Minutes of the Ohio Section of the American Physical Society

Executive Committee

Ohio University, 1 November 1996

The Executive Committee of the Ohio Section of the American Physical Society met on Friday, 1 November 1996 in the Post Office Annex of Nelson Hall. The meeting was called to order by Chair Don Schuele at 10:05 a.m. In attendance were Barbara Andereck, Larry Becker, Bob Boughton, Kim Coplin, Bruce Craver, Bob Hengehold, Graciela, Lacueva, George Miner, Roger Rollins, Don Schuele, John Wilkins, Ron Winters, Louis Wright, and Perry Yaney.

Don Schuele announced that Bob Hengehold and Perry Yaney will serve as the Ohio Section representatives to the APS Centenary Committee.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of April 12, 1996

The minutes for the Spring 1996 meeting of the Executive Committee of OSAPS were approved as submitted. Don raised the issue of posting the minutes on the Web page and it was agreed that the minutes should be posted in draft form.

2. Local Chairs Report, Fall 1996 - Roger Rollins and Louis Wright

Roger reported that all was in order for the meeting. Programs for the meeting were distributed. It was reported that Neil Gershenfeld, a primary speaker for the meeting, was still able to attend although his wife had twins just 1 1/2 weeks ago! There were 173 advance registrations for the meeting. Of those preregistered, 56 are from Ohio University and 35 are from out of state. There are 80 students preregistered and it was noted that more students will probably attend since students often will not register in advance. There are 104 banquet reservations.

Roger reported that there were 1700 mailings of meeting announcements. The first mailing was intentionally done via bulk mail. The second mailing, intended to go first class, also went bulk mail. As a result, approximately only \$300 was spent on mailings. Roger suggested that in the interest of saving money, we seriously consider using bulk mailings and to use first class occasionally to get a check on our mailing list. Electronic mail was also used to distribute the meeting announcement.

A considerable discussion of the use of email and the APS policy of distributing email followed. It was noted that it is easy to have the APS office send an email to Ohio Section members if it is requested by a proper official of the Ohio Section. George Miner noted that he sent regular mailings to Ohio Section members and APS members of 5 surrounding states. It was agreed that we would like the capability to send a bulk, broad email (broad indicates including the 5 surrounding states) more than once a year. The current policy as noted in the memo from Barrie Ripin is that a broadcast mailing may be

done once a year. John Wilkin suggested that this is because the APS wants to avoid junk emailings. Roger also noted that the subject portion of the email should be changed from "Announcement" to a more accurate description of the actual message. Ron agreed that it is important to have an identifiable subject and part of the APS policy should be that the message originator should be allowed to write the subject. George noted that only 3/4 of the membership has email suggesting that we should not discontinue the use of regular mail.

Barbara Andereck moved that:

"The APS policy should allow for five electronic mailings per year (2 per meeting plus one for the membership drive). The Ohio Section should write the text and decide on the wording of the subject header of the mailing. The mailing should be sorted by zip code and should include the 5 state extended area of the Ohio Section."

The motion was seconded by Larry Becker and passed unanimously.

Perry Yaney will write this motion and send it to the Executive Committee for comment before sending it on to Barry Ripin.

It was noted by George Miner that the email address for those from the University of Dayton should be changed as follows: "udavxb.oca" should be replaced by "neelix".

Roger distributed parking tags noting that due to "Halloween weekend" at OU, parking regulations would be strictly enforced.

3. Secretary's Report - Bruce Craver and Kim Coplin

Bruce reported changes in the dates for the two upcoming meetings. The meeting at Bowling Green State University will be held 2 & 3 May 1997, and the meeting at Miami University will be 10 & 11 October 1997. No dates for the Ball State University and GMI Engineering and Management Institute meetings have been set. It was noted that the lead time for meetings is typically one year. Bruce will email the local chairs of the Ball State and GMI meetings to see about setting dates. The Executive Committee does not need to officially confirm these dates before Bruce sends a letter to the meetings committee of APS.

4. Treasurer's Report - Roger Rollins and Ron Winters

5. Final Chair's Report, Spring 1996 - John Wilkins

The final report on the Spring 1996 meeting was distributed. A total of 221 people attended the meeting. There were 151 banquet attendees.

John initiated a discussion of meeting finances suggesting that we need to charge more realistically for meetings. It was noted that the preregistration fee had increased from \$10

(OSU meeting) to \$15 (OU meeting). John suggested a \$20 fee for meeting preregistration and commented that he encountered resistance from OSU with regard to meeting finances and that local support is sometimes difficult to obtain. Bob said he felt that OSAPS doesn't have the perception of being an expensive meeting and that a \$30 meeting fee is appropriate. Bob also noted that travel money can be saved by inviting speakers from the right places (for example, speakers from national labs may not ask for travel costs). Roger commented that he obtained \$1500 from OU for the meeting (\$500 from the dean and \$1000 from the office of research). It was also noted that the cost of \$5187 for the OSU meeting was above average--the UD meeting was ~\$4100 and the OU meeting will be ~\$3500. George commented that John's report shows the cost per attendee for the OSU meeting was \$59 clearly indicating that the meeting cost per attendee is more than the registration and banquet fee paid by the attendee. There was further discussion about raising the registration fee.

Ron Winters moved that:

"The normal registration fee for an OSAPS meeting should be \$30 with a \$5 penalty for late registration."

The motion was seconded by Bob Hengehold and passed unanimously. Bruce will inform the organizers of future meetings of this change.

The question of cost to AAPT members was raised by Barbara, and it was decided that AAPT people should register for their meeting and OSAPS should not be concerned with their cost.

6. Local Chair's Report, Spring 1997 - Bob Boughton

Bob distributed the program for the meeting and noted the topic will be "Nonlinear Optics and Ultrafast Phenomena". The dates of the meeting are 2 & 3 May 1997. The support of BGSU and various companies was noted and detailed on the meeting handout. Ron commented that one key to attracting industrial support is to contact them early so they can include contributions in their budget.

7. Local Chair's Report, Fall 1997 - Don Schuele for Paul Scholten

The theme for the Miami meeting is "Curriculum Innovation Beyond the Introductory Course".

8. Future Meetings

The theme of the spring 1999 meeting at GMI will be "Industrial Physics".

George suggested that we might try a joint meeting of the Ohio Section with a certain topical group of APS in the future. John commented that we should attempt to get local FIAP members in touch with the GMI meeting organizers.

9. Membership Committee Report - Larry Becker and Graciela Lacueva

The national membership list currently has 1206 members while our local list has 406 members. It was not known what exact percentage of national membership that constitutes. Last year's percentage was 2.85% and it was agreed that we seem to be getting closer to 3%. The term "local member" was clarified to mean someone who comes regularly to OSAPS meetings but who is not recognized by national APS. It is not known how many of the 406 on the local list are APS versus non-APS members. The committee is working to increase the national list while decreasing the local list.

Don asked how many of the people available to us in the extended region we actually get.

Larry reported that he had received a note from a national APS member who had checked off the Ohio Section box who had recently moved out of the country. This individual wished to be removed from the OSAPS mailing list. Larry will correspond with this individual informing him how to "unsign", but also asking that he consider continuing to support OSAPS.

10. Honors and Awards Committee - Bob Hengehold

There will be no award made at the OU meeting. The two awards given by the section are the Fowler Award for research and the Maxwell Award for service to the section. Bob noted the list of names for the Maxwell award is short and that it is hard to get information for the Fowler award. Nominees for the Fowler Award must somehow be connected to the state of Ohio as Willie Fowler was by education. It was decided that those currently on the executive committee should not be considered for the Maxwell Award, but previous members or future members are eligible. Bob asked if the executive committee should review the nominations. Barbara suggested that just part of the executive committee would be adequate.

Bob Hengehold moved that:

"The ad hoc Honors and Awards Committee should consist of 7 Executive Committee members: the chair, the vice chair, the past chair, the past,past chair, the secretary, the treasurer, and the honors and awards chair."

The motion was seconded by Larry Becker and passed with a unanimous vote.

To help increase the number of nominations for the awards, Bob will send out a nomination form. It was suggested that the form be mailed once a year to department chairs. The nomination form will also be posted on the Web page, and an announcement will be made at the banquet of the OU meeting to invite nominations. Money for postage is available from the section account. Nominations for the awards will be due in January or February and awards will be made at the spring meetings.

11. APS Council Report - Perry Yaney

Bunny Clark attended the recent APS Council meeting that was held in Indianapolis, and passed the information from this meeting on to Perry. Perry noted that the current membership percentage for a unit to be considered part of APS is 3%, but that this number is under review. The next APS Council meeting will be held in November in Denver, the following meeting will be in April.

It was mentioned that the APS Centenary Celebration will be held in Atlanta, GA from March 20-26, 1999. This will be a combined March and Spring meeting with the celebration being held the weekend before the meeting. To help commemorate this event, stamps celebrating the 100th anniversary of APS will be issued and a wall chart of 20th century physics will be distributed. This wall chart is currently being designed. A draft will be sent out for suggestions and critique. Perry noted that all units of the APS are being invited to contribute to the program of this celebration. Ron urged the Ohio Section to consider having a session to represent what we have done in physics in Ohio. Some possibilities for the content of this session were discussed and included having four 20 minute talks followed by the presentation of the Fowler and/or Maxwell award. Perry will explore this with the national APS and write a letter of our intent to Brian Schwartz. Perry also noted that units are being asked to think of special exhibits. Again, possibilities were discussed and included a Wright-Patterson exhibit, history of the Ohio Section, a historical display of equipment organized by Tom Greenslade of Kenyon, a connection to Michelson-Morley, or a connection to Chamberlin who was at Denison. Ron volunteered to make a preliminary contact with Tom Greenslade to discuss a possible equipment display. Bob also mentioned that this is perhaps a good time to pursue the development of the history of the section. Ron noted that much information is in the Denison archives. It was mentioned that the Ohio Section started as a club in 1921 and approximately 20 years later became part of APS.

12. Old Business

The Web page was discussed. Don commented that he enjoyed having the meeting program prior to the meeting. Roger commented on the ease of working with the national APS on the Web page. Draft copies of the executive committee meeting minutes will be posted on the Web page, and it was mentioned that the Web page can serve as an archive of past minutes. Scott Lee has posted the minutes of several years' meetings. It was noted that the treasurer's report should not be displayed. To post something on the Web page, write or send a document to Roger and he will post it.

Of the 73 abstracts for the OU meeting, only 6 were paper. Perry said that it should be explicitly stated that the abstract should be in the body of the text not an attachment.

Larry raised the possibility of a new member of the executive committee serving as Web page editor. Roger's work on the Web page was acknowledged and he was thanked by the executive committee.

13. New Business

Don said that he will take it upon himself to go after corporate support using student support as a motivator. He plans to contact 200 CEO's asking them for \$200 each. He hopes to get 10% return that would yield \$4000. Don asked that members of the Executive Committee send him names of local corporations he should contact. It was noted that the national APS does not see this as interference.

It was noted that the Ripin memo had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

Barbara distributed a draft of the document detailing the duties of the various officers. She asked that corrections and notes be made and returned to her.

Don suggested having a student paper contest as an idea for future meetings. Possible guidelines might include: the student must present the paper at the OSAPS meeting, a copy of the paper must be submitted 7 days prior to the meeting, a small group would listen to the talks and choose the winner. The consensus was that this was a good idea worth pursuing.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10.

Respectively Submitted,

Kimberly A. Coplin