

Minutes of the Ohio Section of the American Physical Society

Executive Committee

Case Western Reserve University, 13 May 1994

The Executive Committee of the Ohio Section of the American Physical Society met on Friday 13 May 1994 in the Dayton C. Miller Room (#216) of the Rockefeller Building at Case Western Reserve University. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM by Chair Paul Hagelberg. In attendance were Larry Becker, Robert Boughton, Bunny Clark, Bruce Craver, Paul Dalbec, Michael Fisch, Paul Hagelberg, Bob Hengehold, Scott Lee, Harry Lustig, George Miner, Bill Ploughe, Roger Rollins, and Don Schuele.

1. Introduction by Harry Lustig, Treasurer, APS

The operating officers of the National Office of the APS like to visit these sections. A brief overview of what is happening in the APS today was given. The annual operating budget of the APS is about \$26,000,000. The main activities are publications, meetings and membership services. Three journals are published: *Physical Review*, *Physical Review Letters* and *Review of Modern Physics*. The publication of these three journals is a major activity and accounts for about 80% of the budget. There is a small profit from these publications which is used for outreach activities (public affairs and programs). The publications have been growing lately, at about 8 to 10% per year. This is mainly due to the increased submission of articles by foreign scientists. This is good in the sense that it indicates that these journals are reviewed highly throughout the world. Unfortunately, library subscriptions are falling by about 3 or 4% per year. This is mainly due to budget problems at the libraries. More than half of the subscriptions come from foreign countries. The former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe have dropped out completely, due to economic problems. This means that the subscription prices have been going up. To get around this problem, electronic publishing will become more important in the future. *Physical Review Letters* will be on-line by 1995. Another issue that is being examined at the national level is whether or not the number of papers should be limited.

Two annual meetings are organized by the national office: the March and April Meetings. The March Meeting is robustly healthy while the April Meeting continues to decline. One issue under consideration is whether or not there should be a truly general meeting. It is important to improve the unity of physics (the debacle of the SSC was an important lesson). A single meeting was announced in a recent issue of *APS News* but there was a revolt by the masses. So, the issue is still unresolved. However, there will be one general meeting in 1999, the centennial of the APS).

Other activities include education (usually done with the AAPT), outreach (particularly for women and minorities), public affairs (government and public) and international. Judy Franz (the new Executive Officer of the APS) wants to organize a National Conference on Graduate Education. This is of particular importance given the current job market. Also, a "Campaign for Physics" is being launched. This is mainly aimed at precollege education

and is concerned with making physics more relevant for industry. A lot of money in support of this program is coming from industry. Hewlett has donated \$600,000 so far.

Finally, Harry would like to get more money to the sections. Currently, each section receives \$2.50 for each member plus an additional \$1,000. It is proposed to increase the rate of support from \$2.50 to \$4.00 for each member. For OSAPS, this proposal would increase our support from the National Office from \$3,402.50 to \$3,844.00, an increase of about 13%. This proposal will be voted on at the next meeting of the APS Council which will be held in November.

2. Report of Council Representative - Bunny Clark

Several issues have been recently addressed on the national level. A proposal on a policy for equal access to opportunities has been passed and a statement of that policy will be forthcoming. Also, people in the National Office of the APS want to expand the local sections, especially for outreach to the broader community. The American Center for Physics recently opened in Maryland. It is a wonderful facility (with a great day-care center). Finally, the Committee on the Status of Women in Physics is almost through with their site visits (undertaken to assess the climate for women in physics). Two particular issues of concern are safety and day-care facilities. The report should be ready by this summer.

3. Local Chair's Report - Don Schuele, CWRU

A total of 147 people had pre-registered for the meeting with 79 scheduled to attend the banquet. A total of 52 contributed papers have been received. The two speakers from California arrived without any difficulty. Everything seems to be proceeding smoothly with the meeting.

4. Secretary's Report - Scott Lee and Bruce Craver

The minutes of the Fall 1993 Meeting of the Executive Committee were discussed. Paul Hagelberg made a correction and Bruce Craver provided a clarification. The minutes were then accepted as amended. The abstracts of the papers presented at the Fall 1993 Meeting of OSAPS (held at John Carroll University) have been received. The abstracts for the both the Fall 1993 and Spring 1994 Meetings are due in the National Office by 3 June 1994! The local chairs of the spring meetings will always have a pretty tight deadline for submitting the abstracts to the National Office. This is required since the abstracts appear in the *Transactions A* of the *Bulletin of the American Physical Society*.

4. Treasurer's Report - Roger Rollins

There has been a lot of work since 20 April 1994. This was mainly due to the fact that there has been confusion since the \$3,000 support for each meeting was not being subtracted from the account right away. The workshops for high school teachers at several of the recent (and future) meetings have required about \$1500 each (20 teachers @ \$75

each) plus the honoraria. The expense of the workshops means that we are now spending more than we bring in.

Several comments were made about the fact that there must be a balance in the control of the funds between the National Office and the autonomy of the local section. Ultimate responsibility for these funds lie with the National Office. The account being held at Ohio University is very convenient for the OSAPS. However, this account may be reviewed in order to clarify its status.

5. Final Report, Fall 1993 Meeting - Mike Fisch, John Carroll University

The total number of APS members attending the meeting was 102 and there were about 30 AAPT members in attendance also. There were 95 people at the banquet. There were 49 contributed papers presented of which 40 will be published in the *Bulletin of the American Physical Society*. The total cost of the meeting was \$5741.25.

There was some unhappiness expressed about the fact that the abstracts are now published only once a year. It would be much better if the abstracts could be published twice a year. The difficulty for publishing the abstracts twice a year now is that the deadline for the submissions of abstracts to appear in *Transactions B* (which is published in December) is in mid-October. It is not possible for the abstracts from the Fall Meeting to be submitted to the National Office in time to meet that deadline. This unhappiness was expressed to Harry Lustig who promised to pursue it further at the National Office. (See attached copy of 31 May 1994 letter from Harry about this matter.)

6. Local Chair's Report, Fall 1994 Meeting - Scott Lee, University of Toledo

The dates of the meeting will be 14 & 15 October 1994 and the topic is "The Fourth State of Matter." The invited speakers have provided the titles of their talks. Prof. R. Sagdeev (former Director of the Theory Division of the Soviet Institute of Space Research) of the University of Maryland will talk about "Self Organization in Turbulent Media, Analogy between Super Rotation of the Atmosphere of Venus and Tokamak Plasmas", Dr. C. Baker of Oak Ridge National Laboratory will speak on "Overview of the International Thermonuclear Reactor (ITER)", Dr. D. Rej of Los Alamos National Laboratory will speak on "Plasma Physics and Technology for Materials Processing and Manufacturing", and Dr. T. Holzer of the National Center for Atmospheric Research will speak on "Acceleration of Stellar Winds". The after-dinner speaker will be given by U.S. Representative Marcy Kaptur. The rooms for the meeting have been reserved.

7. Local Chair's Report, Spring 1995 Meeting - Paul Dalbec, Youngstown State University

The dates of the meeting will be 12 & 13 May 1995 and the topic is "Astrophysics and Atomic Physics." They will be inviting speakers soon. The program facilities have been reserved. The program will be held both on and off campus. The Butler Art Gallery will

be used for the reception while the program after dinner will be presented in the planetarium.

8. Future Meetings

The University of Dayton and the Air Force Institute of Technology will host the Fall 1995 Meeting. The meeting will be held at the University of Dayton. The Spring 1996 Meeting will be held at Ohio State University and John Wilkins will be the local chair. The Fall 1997 Meeting will be held at Miami University.

9. Nominating Committee Report - Bob Boughton

The Nominating Committee (consisting of Barbara Andereck, Bunny Clark and Bob Boughton) provided a slate of persons willing to serve as officers for 1994-95: Barbara Andereck of Ohio Wesleyan University as Vice-Chair and Graciela Lacueva of John Carroll University as Associate Membership Chair.

10. Membership Committee Report - Larry Becker

Several issues were discussed by Larry.

A. The policy from the National Office about the use of mailing lists is that the lists are never given out for any solicitations. The lists can be provided for legitimate needs. Harry pointed out that people can indicate to the National Office that they wish that their names never be released.

B. There are 961 members on the membership lists kept at the National Office. Our mailing list has 820 names of which there are a number (roughly 195) of inactive members or students who have graduated. Our mailing list will be updated before the mailings for the Fall 1994 Meeting. (Don Schuele provided Larry with all the mailings that were returned by the U.S. Postal Service.)

Harry thinks that it is very important to get our membership number up. We have to 3% to keep a sectional representative on the APS council. Larry will send out a letter to try to get more people to join the OSAPS.

C. Larry has worked up a new Advanced Registration form which he passed out.

D. Larry needs information about attendees after a meeting in order to update the mailing list. He passed out a form indicating the information that he would like to have. He pointed out that it is important that the local chairs provide this information as rapidly as possible so that the mailing list can be updated before the mailings for the next meeting.

11. Honors and Awards Committee - Bob Hengehold

The Maxwell Award will be presented at the Fall 1994 Meeting. This award is for service to the Ohio Section.

12. Appointment of Ron Winters to represent OSAPS on the Task Force for a Truly General Meeting

Roger Rollins moved that Ron Winters be the representative of the OSAPS on the Task Force for a Truly General Meeting and Scott Lee seconded this motion. It passed on a voice vote.

13. Old Business

The Particle Chart Workshop is being conducted by Ted Zaleskiewicz at this meeting also. There are 19 teachers involved in the workshop. Twelve of these teachers will be attending the banquet tonight.

14. New Business

Scott Lee made a formal proposal that the OSAPS provide financial support for a workshop for local high school teachers based upon the University of Toledo SPICA (Support Program for Instructional Competence in Astronomy) program. This program had been discussed at the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the OSAPS. The financial support would be \$75 for each of 20 teachers plus their banquet expenses as well as a honoraria for the speakers. This motion was passed by a voice vote.

Mike Fisch brought up the point about the correct method to divide up contributed talks. It was decided that it is desirable to be sure that no session is composed solely of talks from one institution.

To get information from the Outreach Committee of the National Office, contact Tara McLaughlin or Arlene Modisty at (301)-209-3231. Information about the Committee on the Status of Women, Committee on Minorities, lists of speakers, and information on support programs can be obtained.

Respectively Submitted,

Scott A. Lee