

Minutes of the APS Forum on Physics & Society Executive Committee Meeting, September 17, 2008

Attendance: Andrew Zwicker (Chair), Charles Ferguson, Barbara Levi, Bo Hammer, Pete Zimmerman, Don Prosnitz, Benn Tannenbaum, Mark Goodman, Pushpa Bhat

Minutes: Pushpa

1. Program Committee Report (Don)

The sessions for the annual APS meetings in March (Pittsburgh) and April (actually May 2-5, in Denver) in 2009 are in good shape. Don Prosnitz, as the Chair-elect is the Program Committee chair. He attended the APS program committee meeting in D.C. in September. For the March meeting, our allocation is 3 sessions -- we are organizing 2 full sessions and 2 half sessions. At the April meeting, we are allotted 5 program sessions + an award session. We have 5 ½ scheduled. We need to have speaker information entered on a web page by November 10th.

Scheduled Sessions

March meeting (Brian Schwartz)

	Organizer	
1. Physics of Art	Phil Taylor	
2. University Science Center	Bo Hammer	with FED
3. Greening of Pittsburgh	Brian Schwartz	
4. Medical Physics	Barry Berman	with Bio. Phys.

April/May meeting (Don Prosnitz)

	Organizer	
1. Accelerator Applications	Pushpa Bhat	with DBP
2. Global Mega Physics Projects	Pushpa Bhat	with FIP
3. History of Science Policy	Don Prosnitz	with FHP
4. Burn or Bury --managing Radioactive waste		with FHP
5. Intelligence, Past, Present & Future	Don Prosnitz	
6. Geo Engineering	Barbara Levi	
7. Arms Control	Benn Tannenbaum	

Don said there was a lot of excitement and interest regarding the “Global Mega Physics Projects” session. Currently invited are -- Dr. Chris Llewellyn Smith of UK, and Congressman Dr. Bill Foster. The plan is to invite reps from DOE, NSF, OMB and the new President’s administration. FIP expressed interest to co-sponsor this and Don has agreed to this. Pushpa will contact John Clark of FIP. Benn suggested Michael Riordan as a possible speaker/panelist for the session.

There was a discussion about the current schedules for various sessions. The Accelerator Applications and the Mega Projects sessions are both scheduled on Saturday, May 2nd, especially to allow Bill Foster (congressman) to participate in both sessions. It turns out that session on Arm Control organized by Benn is scheduled on the last day. There was discussion on how to move this up and what session can go last. It was thought that the “Geo Engineering” session which will have mainly local speakers can be scheduled on the last day.

Nominating Committee (Phil)

The nominating committee has completed its job. We have an excellent slate of candidates. Pushpa will commence the elections soon.

Student Fellowships (Bo)

This summer, we have one female student who is pretty good. If the project turns out to be interesting, we will consider publishing the report in P&S Newsletter. Applications for next year are due by Dec 15th. There has been good advertising through SPS.

APS Fellowships

We have some APS fellows elected this time. Should be able to find info on the APS fellows' web page, if you can log into the page. The fellows will be recognized during the Award session.

Executive Committee Meeting at the Denver Meeting:

The executive committee meeting will be held on Monday (May 4th) morning. More info to follow.

Newsletter

We have a new P&S Editorial Board. The members are:

Barbara Levi (Chair)

Lee Schroeder

Ruth Howes

The EB will interact with the Newsletter editors. We have to advertise for new editors. (Since this meeting, Andrew has sent an email to the FPS membership in this regard.)

There was some discussion about what we should put in the next Newsletter about the debacle from the last one. There has to be a well-crafted Editorial piece. This is being drafted by Barbara. There was considerable discussion on whether we should publish a couple of responsible Readers' letters to the Editor.

Treasurer's Report (Pushpa)

The numbers shown in the table below exclude the income and expenses for the FPS sponsored Energy course held in spring '08 at LBL, organized by David Hafemeister. That account isn't closed out completely and we may have some money (a few \$K) left!

FPS Financial Report as of 8/31/08 (excluding Energy Course Funds)		
Available Funds	\$47,202.95	
2008 Revenue	\$27,505.77	
APS Dues	\$22,885.00	
March Mtg.	\$653.00	
April Mtg.	\$852.00	
Investment Income	\$3,115.77	
2008 Expenses	\$21,750.82	
Newsletter Prtg. & Postage+Phone	\$10,949.14	Phone ~\$68
Meeting fee waivers	\$4,695.00	20 waivers
Meeting travel	\$4,606.69	9 people, varying \$200-\$890
Meeting meals	\$527.88	
Food & beverage	\$322.11	
SPS Fellowships	\$500.00	\$3500 more to spend?
Equipment Rentals	\$150.00	