

AIAA New England Section Council Meeting Minutes

Date: January 18, 2012

Meeting Location: Worcester Polytechnic Institute, (HL239)

Meeting Called to Order at 7:30 pm

In Attendance:

Tony Linn

John Blandino

Israel Salvador

John Wilkes

Eugene Niemi (call-in)

John Blandino nominated Israel Salvador as a new At-large member of the Council. The committee voted unanimously to approve. Israel is a former faculty member at Arizona State University and now works for COMSOL in Burlington, MA.

College/University Programs Subcommittee Report

John Blandino reported that the paperwork is in process to provide checks for the DBF awards.

Status of Proposal to AIAA National/Regional for Prize Money in Support of Lunar Base Design Contest

The results of the voting via email in early January were three for and two against proceeding with the proposal. John Wilkes provided an update on the letter he is drafting into a proposal format to request AIAA funds for the ShiftBoston competition prize money. John Wilkes reported that he feels that there is some disconnect between what ShiftBoston and the AIAA see as the best composition for participating teams. ShiftBoston would like to allow entries from teams that only include architects (with some technical advising from engineers), whereas the Council would like the teams be multidisciplinary.

Professional Activities Subcommittee Report

Tony Linn reported that he attended the ASME Council meeting for the Worcester Section. One possible area for a joint activity is Engineers Week, to be held the week of Feb. 22, 2012. Tony suggested the AIAA could participate.

The ASME will hold a renewable energy conference on April 21 at WPI. They are looking for 6-12 speakers for 30 minute sessions. The Council discussed some possibilities for speakers. Tony will try to get some information on the audience.

John Wilkes reported that AIAA Region I Director requested that the Council appoint a Student Liaison to the Council.

Outreach Subcommittee Report

John Wilkes reported that he has a WPI student who is interested in organizing an aerospace essay contest. The contest would be for 5th at 6th graders at 5 to 10 schools in the Worcester area.

The proposal is that the Council offer a prize for a space-related essay contest. The approximately ten winners would receive a copy of the book by Fred Bortz, Seven Wonders of Space Technology, (Twenty-First Century Books, "Seven Wonders" series, 2011). In addition, the

Council may decide to cover the costs one “grand winner” to the New England Air Museum, during their annual Space Expo Day.

The anticipated level of funding required from the Council for this outreach effort would be approximately \$400 to \$500 to cover the prize cost. This would be part of the funds originally budgeted for this subcommittee to support an outreach event (to be defined). No funds beyond the proposed budget for this subcommittee would be requested. The Council voted unanimously to approve the proposal.

Status of Newsletter Editor

Gene Niemi provided an update on the status of the newsletter. Israel Salvador will be taking over the next newsletter scheduled to come out March 1st. Gene will serve as Associate Editor for the first couple of editions to help with the transition. Israel reported that the cost of Microsoft Publisher is approximately \$120. Members discussed the advantage of using Publisher, concluding that the primary advantage is that it has been used for a long time to prepare the newsletter and templates for the preparation are readily available.

The Council voted to endorse the appointment of Israel Salvador as the new newsletter editor and approved funds for the purchase of a copy of Microsoft publisher, not to exceed \$150.

The next Council will be February 15 at WPI.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm

Minutes prepared by John Blandino (Acting Secretary)