Minutes of the 2021 GPMFC Executive Committee Meeting

Held virtually Sunday, April 18th, 2021, 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Pacific

Note that a summary of material presented at the meeting is given below, but that the minutes focus on discussion points. See also the meeting slides on the GPMFC website for more details.

Present:

- Derek Kimball (Chair 2020-2021)
- David Hanneke (Chair-Elect 2020-2021)
- Mike Snow (Vice-Chair 2020-2021)
- Tanya Zelevinsky (Vice-Chair-Elect 2021-2022)
- Susan Gardner (Past-Chair 2020-2021)
- Eric Burt (Secretary/treasurer 2019-2022)
- Matt Dietrich (Member-at-large 2018-2021)
- Shannon Hoogerheide (Member-at-large 2018-2021)
- Jaideep Singh (Member-at-large 2019-2022)
- Lindley Winslow (Member-at-large 2019-2022)
- Joan Marler (Member-at-large 2020-2023)
- David Leibrandt (Member-at-large-elect 2021-2024)
- Nick Hutzler (Member-at-large-elect 2021-2024)

Meeting started at 3:30 p.m. Pacific

Welcome (Kimball)

Prizes and Awards
The 2021 Norman F. Ramsey Prize was awarded to Dima Budker (University of California, Berkeley) for "For seminal work studying complex atoms, testing fundamental symmetries of nature, measuring electromagnetic fields, searching for exotic interactions, probing the nature of dark matter, and measuring nuclear magnetic resonance in ultralow fields."

The Francis M. Pipkin Award was awarded to Andrew Ludlow (NIST, Boulder) “For significant contributions to the field of state-of-the-art atomic clocks and precision tests of fundamental physics.”

Secretary/Treasurer's Report (Burt)

Election Results
Tanya Zelevinsky (Vice Chair), David Leibrandt (Member-at-Large), and Nick Hutzler (Member-at-Large) have been elected to the GPMFC Executive Committee. Their terms will commence on October 1, 2021. 146 votes were cast in the 2021 election
representing 28% of the membership at the time of the election, consistent with previous years.

The 2021-2022 Executive Committee membership is:

- **Chair**: David Hanneke
- **Chair-Elect**: Mike Snow
- **Vice-Chair**: Tanya Zelevinsky
- **Past Chair**: Derek Kimball
- **Secretary/Treasurer**: Eric Burt (2019-22)
- **Members At Large**:
  - Jaideep Singh (2019-22)
  - Lindley Winslow (2019-22)
  - Beatrice Franke (2020-23)
  - Joan Marler (2020-23)
  - David Leibrandt (2021-24)
  - Nick Hutzler (2021-24)

**Finances**
As of December 31, 2020, the GPMFC account had a balance of $37,875. More up-to-date numbers were not yet available from the APS.

**Membership**
The current GPMFC membership is 521, stable from last year.

While overall membership is healthy, the demographics are not as positive. Female membership in the GPMFC is 13.9%, slightly down from last year.

**Student Poster Competition Report (Franke)**

The student poster competition will be held at DAMOP 2021, May 31st – June 4th. There are currently 5 contestants. One prize of $500 will be awarded.

**Fellowship Committee Report (Snow)**

Currently have two new candidates plus one holdover from last year, so there will be a minimum of 3 submitted from GPMFC to APS for consideration. Letters for these are in hand. The deadline for submissions is 6/1/21.

- Kimball asked if resubmission of holdovers from previous years is automatic
- Snow/Gardner responded that APS Honors staff will notify sponsors whose nominees were not elected fellow. Nominations are active for two years. If the nomination was reviewed once and not selected, it will be reviewed the next year, otherwise, it will expire. If a nomination is expired, the nominator may submit a new nomination. Thus, resubmission is automatic if the nomination is less than 2 years old.

**Appointments Report (Hanneke)**
Appointments to GPMFC committees for 2021-22 are:

- Nominating Committee Chair (current: Hoogerheide, next: TBD)
- Fellowship Committee Chair (always the vice chair - current: Snow, next: Zelevinsky)
- Program Committee Chair (always the chair - current: Kimball, next: Hanneke)
- Student Poster Competition Chair (current: Dietrich with Franke – note that the new SPC committee member appointed each year will become the chair of the SPC committee in the following year, so next will be Franke and TBD)
- Publications Chair (current: Burt, who will continue)
- Hoogerheide indicated that she had a list of historical office holders that she will send out – useful for future nominations.
- Singh volunteered to be on a committee – will discuss with Hanneke
- Leibrandt volunteered to be on the workshop committee – advocates for a multi-year term similar to SPC approach.
- Gardner noted however that the SPC is different from other activities in that it is always at DAMOP, while others alternate being at DAMOP and April APS. A 2-year term for the SPC committee is therefore appropriate. May wish to consider a new committee each year for the workshop.
- Kimball suggested that institutional knowledge is useful.
- Gardner mentioned that organizational aspects are handled by the APS, so main tasks should just be choosing talks.
- Burt suggested that two people rolling on/off at staggered times might be useful.
- Gardner also mentioned that while half of the GPMFC membership is from DAMOP, there is other significant membership from DGRAV, etc… and that these divisions are not as well represented in the workshop. It is challenging to have a diversified slate of talks.
- Hutzler indicated that he would be happy to help out on any of the committees – to discuss with Hanneke.

**APS Council Report (Schultz)**

David Schultz is the APS councilor for GPMFC (and DAMOP). The council’s responsibilities include, establishment and oversight of society publications, approval of policy statements and society science strategy, scientific meetings and conferences, admission of members and election of fellows, all prizes and awards, and final approval of any amendments to the constitution and bylaws.

The APS councilors meet in November, April, and September.

See slides for details.

- Schultz noted that 75% of undergraduate women in physics report some form of sexual harassment.
- Schultz indicated that this number comes from only one study, but that it is very disturbing
• Gardner said that sexual harassment was one of the topics in the congressional visit day. Sexual harassment is split into two types: 1) demeaning behavior and 2) inappropriate contact. Gardner also indicated that inappropriate behavior in the form of verbal comments is very common and may explain the 75% statistic mentioned by Schultz.

• Schultz agreed that a single bullet point doesn’t capture the whole story, but that hopefully the emphasis placed on this topic during the congressional visit day will raise awareness.

Program Report (Kimball) – see slides

Further Discussion

April invited sessions:
• Hanneke: GPMFC got 2 invited sessions in the April meeting (has been only 1 in the past)
• Gardner: decision on this gets made in the first organizational meeting for the next April conference. This takes place at the current conference, so important to have representation at this. For example, the first year that DAMOP got an invited session at the April meeting, GPMFC got one less. Need to stay on top of this.
• Kimball: will coordinate with Hanneke. Was able to get part of a third invited session. DAMOP has no official invited sessions, but they do have members on the precision measurement part of the program committee.

Adding a student representative to the GPMFC EC:
• There is a proposal from Hoogerheide to add a student representative to the EC. This would require a change to the bylaws. The proposition is for 2 representatives each with a staggered 2-year term: one new student each year.
• Gardner: other divisions/groups don’t have this – what is the motivation?
• Kimball: 1) students get a voice in membership activities, 2) diversity, 3) networking opportunity, 4) student opinions on GPMFC growth paths could be useful.
• Hoogerheide: good for students to see bigger picture
• Kimball: students can do a better job of outreach to other students
• Gardner: to grow membership?
• Kimball: yes, but opinions on other matters is good as well.
• Hutzler: other reasons: 1) building inclusion and 2) help with retention
• Hoogerheide: keeping people involved.
• Gardner: In terms of most activities, students are less involved – the natural progression of the group would change due to student involvement. If we are responsive to student interests, we change.
• Schultz: This is actually a trend across the APS: early career or student member representation comes up each time the council meets. Students account for 40% of DAMOP attendees – need to better represent them – be more inclusive.
• Kimball: getting student voices will change things for the better.
• Marler: how many members are students? Would there be a conflict of interest with respect to the student poster competition?
• Kimball: we don’t have the Ph.D. student membership numbers. Likely there is not a conflict of interest.
• Gardner: language of the proposal is reasonable. Should it be particularly students or should it include early career members?
• Kimball: prefer student.
• Gardner: diversity is still important.
• Hanneke: like the idea a lot! Might shift the focus of the group a bit. Other divisions may be combining early career and students.
• Schultz: APS may do this also.
• Hanneke: early career seems OK
• Hoogerheide: how do we define early career?
• Gardner: could indicate non-tenure track?
• Burt: tenure track is specific to academia, but our membership extends well beyond this. Also, early career members can be and are already involved in the EC, whereas students are unlikely to be elected. Suggest not using this term and keep just as student.
• Kimball: agreed
• Gardner: add postdocs?
• Kimball: postdocs less so.
• Snow: it would be useful to have the distribution of the membership.
• Kimball: motion to add the proposed text to the bylaws.
• Gardner: second the motion
• Kimball: EC voted – unanimous: motion accepted. Next the proposal will be taken up by the council and then voted on next year by the membership.

The meeting ended at 4:30 pm Pacific time.