

APS Division of Polymer Physics, DPOLY, Business Meeting

Minutes, March 18, 2025, in person, Anaheim, California

Rachel Segalman (Chair) welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:18 pm.

Today's minutes were recorded by Vivek Prabhu (S/T).

Reports

Segalman welcomed new members, reviewed the chair line (Moon Park and Brad Olsen), and encouraged membership involvement. Reviewed the Agenda with the first order of business to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2024, business meeting. Minutes were shown on the projector screen and approved.

Segalman Delivered the Chair's Report: New & Ongoing Activities

APS plans for larger meetings through 2029, SPLASHY divisions will be co-located in 2026, prioritization of poster session, Dillon, and PPP running unopposed. Unopposed poster sessions are well attended. APS Survey of membership will be provided after the meeting. The DPOLY Early Career social event was held at Fifth bar and encouraged members to join the DPOLY LinkedIn group using the posted QR code. The text from Andy Lovinger's email was shown with best wishes from Lovinger and Chris Ober and regrets they could not attend to lead the NSF POL Q&A session. DPOLY held a T-shirt design competition with winning submission by Jester Itliong (MTU) and members should visit the DPOLY membership table for a chance to receive a free T-shirt. DPOLY Industrial Advisory Board was launched with goals to strengthen interactions with industry, exchange of information, networking, and career opportunities. The Sunday Evening reception sponsors were thanked: Penn State College of Engineering, Chemical Engineering and College of Earth and Mineral Sciences, Materials Science and Engineering, Xenocs, and Soft Matter.

The Councilor's report: Glenn Fredrickson had nothing to report

Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Prabhu reported online communications including DPOLY Website, emails, and social media. A prominent use of the Engage discussion forum was for open positions, seminars, but check settings for auto-unsubscribe.

Prabhu reported membership of DPOLY remains within APS mandated %, a large % of shared unit members, and a factor of 2 larger percentage of abstracts than membership. Encouraged life membership. Membership renewal emails will come after MM.

Prabhu reported that the DPOLY finances including the Polymer Physics Prize endowment, Dillon medal funds, and endowed Chang Yeol Ryu Travel Award. The operating and yearly expenses were managed to support numerous activities. The expenses for 2024 led to \$3651 deposit into the Operating funds. Sponsorships were critical to meet the rising cost of hosting the Sunday reception and Short Course with all sponsors listed.

Report of the Auditors: The auditors Chinedum Osuji and Charles Sing found the DPOLY finances are in order.

Segalman reviewed the Executive Committee and thanked exiting members Hayward, Priestley, Winey, and Bello for their service. The new officers Osuji to Vice-Chair, Sing to Member-at-Large, Fredrickson to Councilor, and Shayna Hilburg to Early-Career Member. Lynn, Jian, Pierre, Mark, and Eric were thanked for their willingness to stand for election.

Park will become Chair; Olsen will become Chair-Elect; Prabhu reelected to S/T, and Segalman will become Past-Chair and thanked the 2025 Program Chair Lisa Hall and Co-Chair Rafael Verduzco.

Hall thanked the numerous volunteers; 2025 DPOLY programming highlights were reviewed and Programming by the numbers with a slight reduction in abstracts compared to 2024.

Jenny Laaser and Jian Qin reported on the 2025 Short Course on The Physics of Charged and Ion-Containing Polymers that covered 1.5 days and 65 attendees and numerous sponsors. The program was well received through the active participation of attendees with the instructors.

Segalman reported DPOLY planning for 2026 and to contact the 2026 Chair, Verduzco and Co-Chair, Charles Schroeder, and asked membership to volunteer with an all-hands on deck to get involved in the meeting to be held in Denver, Colorado. Encouraged to contact by email with more information to come.

Segalman reported on the potential short course topic on Polymers in Biotechnology and Medicine. Contact Osuji if interested in organizing.

Segalman recognized the 2025 Award Winners: Scott Milner for the 2025 Polymer Physics Prize and Robert J. Hickey for the 2025 John H. Dillon Medal. Reminded members about the challenges to make the PPP endowment in years past and more recently the Dillon medal thanks to companies and past recipients.

Segalman welcomed Zahra Fakhraai, Du Yeol Ryu, and Verduzco as new 2024 APS Fellows. Certificates and pins were distributed.

Segalman thanked the Education Committee for running the 2025 Frank J. Padden Jr. Symposium sponsored by the University of Akron. Segalman introduced the Padden finalists: Carden, Chen, Fenimore, Haque, Jin, Lee, Pal, White, Zhang, Zhu and each came to the front of the room to receive a certificate with the 2025 Winner Broderick Lewis, Northwestern University.

Segalman recognized the 2025 UTA recipient, Iris You, who received the certificate.

Segalman recognized the 2025 Chang Ryu travel fund recipients Jie Zhu (U. of Oxford) and Geeta Pokhrel (U. of Delaware) who received certificates.

Segalman announced the nomination deadline of June 2, 2025 for APS Fellow, PPP, and Dillon Medal. The career break criterion was reviewed. The remaining award deadlines were provided.

Segalman covered the 2025 Nomination process for elections. Encouraged to nominate yourself for positions by contacting Chair Al Crosby.

Segalman opened the floor to New Business.

Segalman recognized Professor Hyuk Yu who was in attendance. Professor Yu gave a short remark from the audience to a round of applause.

Expressions of Gratitude

Segalman presented certificates of appreciation to Debra Audus for assistance in the preparation of the 2025 Program book and Liheng Cai for cover art for the Program Book, Itliong for T-shirt design, and Pierre Kawak, Laaser, and Qin for dedicated service.

Segalman thanked and presented certificates to Hall, Bello, Winey, and Priestley for their dedicated service on the Executive Committee.

Park thanked Segalman for excellent leadership and service to a large round of applause and presented gifts of appreciation from S. Korea.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was called and seconded at 6:58 pm.

Reminder that NSF Q&A with Ober and Lovinger was cancelled due to ongoing staff funding and travel restrictions.