

APS Division of Polymer Physics, DPOLY, Business Meeting

Minutes, March 16, 2021, online (virtual meeting)

Amalie Frischknecht (Chair) welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at approximately 6:15 pm.

Today's minutes recorded by Steve Hudson (S/T).

Minutes for the meeting of March 5, 2019 were approved.

Reports

Frischknecht thanked Connie Roth for the excellent, and mostly canceled, 2020 program. She also thanked Ramanan Krishnamoorti and all the speakers for pulling together the 2020 Padden Symposium, and she recognized Nicole Michenfelder-Schauser (UCSB) as the 2020 Frank J. Padden Jr. Award winner.

She also thanked Debbie Audus and Jon Whitmer, who conducted the 2020 Short Course, Machine Learning for Polymer Physicists, attended by 68 people and sponsored by P&G.

Frischknecht highlighted new activities of the past year:

6 virtual symposia, organized by Sanat Kumar, Rachel Segalman and others.

Early-career coffee hours, organized by Thomas O'Connor

March meeting orientation sessions during the 2021 DPOLY reception, organized by Whitney Loo, Thomas O'Connor, Konane Bay, Alexa Kuenstler, Emily Lin, and Peter Beaucage.

Hudson conveyed DPOLY's praise for Andy Lovinger's ongoing service directing the Polymer Program at the NSF. The vibrant impact of his 25 years of service thus far in our community was briefly highlighted, as well as noting his various impressive honors.

Hudson then reported new aspects of DPOLY's online communications, including APS Engage, twitter, Facebook, and email.

Concerning finances, DPOLY continues to struggle with low membership (2.5% of APS) and to enjoy high meeting participation (8.9% of APS).

The auditors Ryan Hayward and Rob Riggelman reported that DPOLY's financial records are in order.

Concerning the DPOLY executive committee, Frischknecht thanked retiring members Jan Genzer, Muthukumar, Hudson and Alan Nakatani for their service. She also announced election results: Ryan Hayward to Vice-Chair and Karen Winey to Councilor, Vivek Prabhu to Sec/Treas, Rob Riggelman to Member-at-Large, and Whitney Loo to Early Career Member. Enrique Gomez, M. Muthukumar, Mark Dadmun, Valeriy Ginzburg, and Konane Bay were also thanked for standing for election.

Krishnamoorti will become Chair; Mahesh Mahanthappa will become Chair-Elect; and Frischknecht will become Past-Chair.

Membership numbers were reported. APS membership, in whole and of its units, dropped during the past year. DPOLY dropped more significantly to a total of 1245, so that its proportion is 2.51% of the 49,555 total APS membership. DPOLY membership fluctuates markedly through the year (with a flux of nearly 500 people), in large part due to lapses. To avoid unintentional lapses, the life membership option was encouraged.

Pinar Akcora (DPOLY Program Committee Chair 2021) reported strategy and outcome of the 2021 March Meeting program, which includes: 66 DPOLY-Led Sessions (48 were focus sessions) and 25 Co-sponsored sessions of other units (DBIO, DSOFT, GSNP, DCOMP, DCP). 969 abstracts were submitted to DPOLY. These numbers are comparable to DPOLY's meetings in 2012 and 2019, which are the highest in our record. Women are an increasing number of our invited speakers, approximately one third.

Brad Olsen solicited help in organizing next year's program, and he advocated for a hybrid mode.

David Simmons is our representative on the APS March Meeting task force, which is considering changes for future March meetings. He reported that there is considerable pressure to reduce the number of parallel sessions, and

perhaps for major changes to invited talk allocations. Attendance at the APS March Meeting Task Force Town Hall Thursday March 18, 2021 and participating in a follow-up survey was encouraged.

Vivek Sharma reported that the DPOLY Short Course, Macromolecular Engineering of Formulations had 71 participants, with lots of good Spatial-chat discussion.

Hayward solicited ideas for the 2022 Short Course.

Frischknecht welcomed Michael Chabiny, Connie Roth, Bryan Vogt, Dimitris Vlassopoulos, Ting Xu, Gregory Grason, Wenbing Hu, Arthi Jayaraman, Mahesh Mahanthappa, and Gunter Reiter to APS fellowship, from the past two years.

She also recognized

Kurt Binder as winner of the 2020 Polymer Physics Prize.

Samson Jenekhe as winner of the 2021 Polymer Physics Prize.

Rodney Priestley as winner of the 2020 John H. Dillon Medal.

Bryan Boudouris as winner of the 2021 John H. Dillon Medal.

Danielle Mai as DPOLY's 2021 representative for the UK Polymer Physics Group lecture exchange.

Mahanthappa introduced the Padden finalists this year: Harnoor Sachar, Chien-Hua Tu, Charles Young, Song Zhang, Ben Paren, Aaron Lindsay, Tzyy-Shyang Lin, Julia Early, and Abhiram Reddy. Congratulations to the winner this year Julia Early.

Frischknecht noted that nominations for the Polymer Physics Prize, John H. Dillon Medal, and APS fellows are all due June 1 this year.

The Frank J. Padden Jr. Award nomination deadline is October 22.

New and other Business

Upcoming March Meetings: Chicago, IL, 2022; Las Vegas, NV, 2023; Minneapolis, MN, 2024.

Frischknecht announced a new Under-Represented Minority travel grant and mentoring program to increase diversity in the attendees at the DPOLY March Meeting, with details to follow.

Expressions of Gratitude

Krishnamoorti thanked Frischknecht for excellent leadership and service, and Frischknecht thanked Muthukumar and Hudson and Epps for their excellent service.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:10 pm.