

Meeting of the Executive Committee of the DPF

May 2, 1996

Present: Bagger, Cassel, Dawson, Devlin, Einhorn, Frisch, Georgi, Grannis, Rutherford, Schellman, Sciulli, Shaevitz

Guests: Barnett, Bederson, S. Brown, Franz, Garisto, Lubell, Sandweiss, Sessler

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For more on these items, see the DPF home page, <http://www.aps.org/units/dpf/>.

Report of Secretary-Treasurer

As of March 31, 1996, the DPF general account stood at \$53,412. Major expenditures during the last quarter include a \$6,250 deposit for the Snowmass Workshop and \$1,381 for the last newsletter.

Copies of the CLTP Report have been sent to officials at DOE and NSF. DOE recipients included Hazel O'Leary, Martha Krebs, John O'Fallon, P.K. Williams, Jeffrey Mandula, Marvin Gettner, Thomas Romanowski, Rolland Johnson, Patrick Rapp, Gordon Charlton, Robert Diebold, David Sutter, Phil Debenham, Jerry Peters, Per Dahl, Hasan Padamsee, and Earle Fowler. NSF recipients were Neal Lane, William Harris, Robert Eisenstein, William Chinowsky, Marvin Goldberg, Barry Schneider, Louise Dolan, Boris Kayser, and Patricia Rankin.

Report of Chair

Frank Sciulli reported on the following issues:

1. Bertram Schwarzschild of AIP has been contacted to see whether any parts of the CLTP Report are suitable for publication in Physics Today, either as an article or as a news item.
2. The 1996 election is in the hands of the Nominating Committee. Petitions from the membership are due May 15; a slate from the Committee by June 15. The goal is for the election to be complete by the end of the summer.
3. The DPF Executive Committee is invited to the May HEPAP meeting at Harvard. The proposed University Representatives will be discussed at that meeting.

The Executive Committee had a lively discussion about the pros and cons of the proposal for University Representatives. Many members of the Executive Committee felt that the University Representatives would provide a much-needed continuity and visibility for the university programs at HEPAP meetings. Some concern was expressed that something more might be needed, such as a special subpanel charged with optimizing the university/laboratory program within present constraints.

Sciulli will speak for the DPF Executive Committee at the HEPAP meeting.

DPF Fellowship Committee

David Cassel reported that the DPF Fellowship Committee has 31 nominations for 12 positions (plus 4 alternates). They will shortly be making their recommendations to APS.

Particle Data Group Survey

Michael Barnett reported that the DOE/NSF/DPF-sponsored survey of the field is now complete. It contains a varied collection of results whose interpretation proved to be controversial. The results of the survey can be found on the DPF home page, at <http://www.aps.org/units/dpf/>.

Washington Outlook

Michael Lubell reported that the President's FY97 budget for R&D is "not terribly bad." Beyond 1997, though, the projections look bleak. Lubell said that the problem is that OMB applied the President's "education" and "research" priorities to NSF and NIH, but not to physics research within DOE. Therefore the President's budget projections call for major cuts in DOE programs during the out years.

It is not clear how seriously to take these projections. There is some danger that the cuts might be applied in FY97. Senator Domenici has called on scientists to educate their Senators and Representative about science research. Letters and visits from constituents are especially important.

Lubell urged the members of the Executive Committee to join the APS Physics and Government Network. If interested, contact Francis Slakey at APS, slakey@aps.org.

Congressional Reception

Michael Barnett reported on plans for the 1996 Congressional Reception, which will be held on June 5.

The plans for the reception are well advanced. Frank Sciulli has prepared invitations and a handout. The DPF has invited its membership. URA is catering the buffet. Representative Walker is sending a "Dear Colleague" letter inviting Congressmen to the event.

Barnett is planning a three-prong attack. He will mail invitations to Congressmen on the Appropriations and Authorization Committees. He will hand deliver invitations to their aides during SUSY96 in late May. He will deliver more invitations on the day of the event.

Barnett urged members of the Executive Committee to attend the reception -- and to invite their local Representatives.

The DPF agreed to pay travel costs for some graduate students if no other funds can be found. Contact J. Baggar if you know of students who need help.

Electronic Journal

Judy Franz reported that negotiations are continuing with the Editors of the ComPhys Electronic Journal. Some progress has been made, but difficulties remain. Two areas of difficulty are

1. *Sponsorship*: ComPhys would like to leave the door open for co-sponsorship by the EPS, in order to make the journal truly international. APS is not interested in co-sponsorship; it says its journals are already international.
2. *Appeals*: APS would like appeals on procedural issues to go to the Editor of Physical Review. The ComPhys Editors do not want to surrender this power.

The general feeling was one of cautious optimism that agreement can be reached. The Executive Committee reaffirmed its belief that an affiliation between APS and the Electronic Journal would be good for each party, and for physics as a whole.

Prize Deadlines

Judy Franz reported that the APS would like to move certain Prize deadlines earlier, so that the Prizes could be approved by the Executive Board at its September meeting. The early date would allow meeting planners to know the identities of the Prize Recipients when they plan the Prize Sessions.

April Meeting

Judy Franz reported that attendance at the Indianapolis meeting is probably between 1200 and 1400, which is probably a small increase. More importantly, it looks to her like the average age of the participants is down, and that more graduate students are attending the meeting.

Franz said that she thinks the DPF Divisional Meetings hurt the April meeting. She asked the DPF Executive Committee to consider making the April Meeting its Divisional Meeting.

Paul Grannis proposed a revised set of sorting categories for the April meeting. The new categories will be used for the 1997 meeting.

Committee on Elementary-Particle Physics

Judy Franz requested that the DPF help distribute the booklet that is being produced by the Committee on Elementary-Particle Physics. The Executive Committee agreed to help.

Snowmass Workshop

David Cassel said that plans for the Snowmass Workshop are coming together. Plenary speakers are being lined up. Computing needs are being analyzed. Attendance will probably be between 450 and 500.

For the latest plans, look at the Snowmass Web page, at <http://fnphyx-www.fnal.gov/conferences/snowmass96/>.

Physical Review Letters

Jack Sandweiss reported that PRL is basically healthy, but that much is to be learned from the experience with PRL Online. He said that a new system will be available soon, and that the new system will

1. be web-based,
2. have several delivery formats,
3. have hyperlinks,
4. be modest in cost for APS members.

He said that the new system might appear by January 1.

Sandweiss asked for comments on suggestions for Divisional Associate Editors. The Executive Committee supplied a few additional names for consideration.

University Representatives

The Executive Committee discussed a set of names for the proposed University Representative positions.

Unit Centenary Representative

Because of the late hour, the Unit Centenary Representative was not discussed. It will be discussed by email.