

Minutes of the DPF Executive Committee Phone Meeting

November 15, 2005

Present: Daniella Bortoletto, Marcela Carena, Bill Carithers, Andrew Cohen, Sarah Eno, Joe Lykken, Hitoshi Murayama, Natalie Roe, John Womersley

AGENDA

- 2005 Tanaka prize
- Brief report from discussions at EPS meeting in Lisbon
- April meeting update
- Panofsky prize committee
- Request for funds from FIP and CISA for Travel Grant Award Program
- Request for continuing support of CSWP luncheon
- Should we co-sponsor a new Bahcall prize?

The meeting was held via phone conference starting at 2pm (EST).

The first agenda item was a report by Bill Carithers on the status of the 2005 Tanaka prize. The committee issues have been resolved and the 2005 committee has selected a winner. To avoid potential problems in the future, the Executive Committee should remain vigilant to see that prize committees are carrying out their mandates in a timely manner.

Bill Carithers reported on the activities to promote closer ties with sister physics societies. He was invited to give a presentation at the EPS meeting in Lisbon. The item that generated the most discussion at his presentation was the problem of how to give due recognition to junior scientists in large collaborations. He reported that there was lots of discussion but no clear solutions emerged. EPS is promoting the idea of published scientific notes (what some have called internal notes). Bill asked the committee whether the DPF would like to endorse this idea. There was a discussion of the issue within the executive committee – including the effectiveness of this proposal and whether it would solve the problem of recognition. Views were expressed that this is a community wide issue that should be discussed in a broader forum before the DPF executive committee would feel comfortable acting. The conclusion was that this remains an issue, but that additional good ideas were needed to address it.

The APS April meeting report noted that the invited talk program is in good shape. It was noted that the task of finding people to serve as chairs for the meeting is a big one – all DPF executive committee members were strongly urged to volunteer. Natalie Roe indicated that there are about 15% women speakers in the invited sessions (about the same fraction as women in the field), although she would have liked a larger representation. She also indicated that there were a large number of shared sessions. Judy Franz has asked the general question whether the DPF should participate in future April

meetings – because of her illness, no meeting has yet been scheduled to discuss this issue.

Bill reported that the current vice-chair of the Panofsky prize has requested that he not serve as chair the following year. Bill will seek a new chair based on recommendations he has received. It was noted that the committee had received a nomination for a collaboration, but that this was deemed inappropriate for the Panofsky prize. This led to some discussion about the additional prizes that might be sponsored by the DPF, with a sentiment that this is a good idea. More discussion of that is connected with the last agenda item.

Bill Carithers reported that the DPF had been approached by the DNP to contribute to a travel program that would support physicists from developing nations travel to international conferences. The DNP has seeded the program with \$10k to support 5 grants of \$2k each. There was general support for the DPF contributing to this program, but the executive committee had a number of unanswered questions. It was agreed that Bill Carithers would find more information about the current program so that the DPF could decide if they want to contribute to it. We will take this up at our next meeting.

The DPF has been requested to continue support for a luncheon hosted by the Committee on the Status of Women in Physics (CSWP). Past luncheons have been very successful, and the DPF executive committee agrees to support the luncheon in the future.

Bill Carithers discussed an idea to sponsor a prize to honor John Bahcall sponsored by three divisions. The committee generally felt that it was appropriate to sponsor a prize that included particle physics. The initial thought is that it would recognize work at the intersection of astro, nuclear and particle physics. There was discussion of concerns that this overlaps with the Bethe prize, as well as discussions of how such a prize could be funded. Bill will speak with the APS development team to understand what the next steps might be. This led to a request to provide information on the current funding for DPF sponsored prizes in light of a general desire to generally raise the awards from \$5k to \$10k. Mike Tuts will provide the current information to the committee.

Mike Tuts noted that the DPF executive committee elections would close at the end of the day, and the winners would be announced in the next two weeks.

Submitted by Mike Tuts (Secretary/Treasurer)