2002 DAP Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Saturday, April 20, 2002 at 6:30 pm (dinner meeting)
Hyatt Fiesta 4

Attending: Chuck Dermer, Susan Lamb, Chryssa Kouveliotou, Virginia Trimble, Steve Holt, Mark Leising, Mel Ulmer, Brenda Dingus, Josh Frieman, Elena Aprile, Judy Franz (APS), Michael Lubell (APS), Alice Harding (AAS/HEAD)

Absent: J. Hewitt, J. Primack

1. Welcome and Introductions: Dermer
2. Secretary/Treasurer’s Report: Leising
   o 2001 Meeting Minutes Approved
   o Election Results (See handout)
   o Financial Report (See handout)
     Summary: 2001 budget essentially balanced
   o Membership Status Report (handout)
     Summary: no significant change
   o Will ask for approval of electronic elections at Business meeting
     (bylaw change proposed to membership in newsletter)
3. Student Grants and Student Presentation Prizes: Lamb, Trimble
   o judging continues; winners (probably one grad oral, one grad poster, one undergrad) will be announced at Business meeting.
   o ten student travel grants offered (usually $500 each) most (maybe all) are here at meeting
     ACTION: Leising - find and give travel forms
   o APS Prizes : now $1.2M required to establish one
   o APS Elections : ZERO DAP candidates this year!
     ACTION: ALL - provide nominations of more better candidates
   o Council plans(?) to offer 1/2 price APS membership to AAS members
   o Encourage Dept. Chairs to meet with AAPT 7-9 June in College Park
   o Two new topical groups encouraged (incl. counter-terrorism)
5. Fellowships Status: Lamb
   o Eight DAP nominees all selected for fellowship (see handout: only Simon Swordy is actually at this meeting.)
     ACTION: Leising - mail pins and certificates to others
   o We should be proactive in suggesting DAP members for nomination to fellowship. It seems some exceedingly worthy DAP members have never been nominated.
     ACTION: Lamb - obtain and email lists of DAP non-fellow members.
6. View from Washington, DC: Lubell
   o science clearly not a priority of new administration (overall 1.5% cuts suggested)
   o little communication between administration and science organizations and societies
   o president’s science advisor “demoted”
   o physical science budgets weakened relative to others
   o support on Capitol Hill is strong, however
   o you (we) can and should write letters. Good evidence that even of order fifteen letters to a representative can have a significant impact (and results)
     ACTION: ALL - use electronic letter writing stations set up here at meeting to send letters. Encourage others.
7. **Joint HEAD/APS meeting: Lamb and Harding**
   - Overall, meeting seems to be a great success for astrophysics and its visibility. Posters not well-attended.
   - Need online registration for non-APS-members
   - Need “student presenter” box on abstract form
   - Should have more overall organization of schedule, to avoid obvious conflicts and allow for time for posters.
   - Hotel prices are extremely high (compared to AAS meeting in same place six weeks later.) APS should consult with Dianne Alexander for help with negotiations.

8. **New Initiatives: Leising**
   - We basically run one meeting and attend to membership, election, and awards. Should we do more? We have funds.
   - **ACTION:** ALL - discuss suggestions by email
   - Organize and fund our own public lecture? Conflict with APS?

9. **2003 DAP/APS meeting: Kouveliotou**
   - April 2003 -- Philadelphia, we can organize six invited sessions
   - **ACTION:** ALL - suggestions (and volunteers) to Chryssa

10. **Items from APS: Judy Franz**
    - APS very satisfied with joint meeting (continue every 4.5 years)
    - Possibility of adding $1 to all division dues for APS (why? we ask)

11. **Future Student Travel and Prizes**
    - Communicate more directly with student organizations?
      - (dept chairs, SPS chapters, posters)
    - Different approach to prizes desired?
      - **ACTION:** Holt - investigate benefits of more numerous prizes of smaller amounts
    - Organize “Student astrophysics” sessions

Mark Leising
20 April 2002