

Minutes of the Easter Great Lakes Section Executive Committee Spring

Date: 4/9/21

Location: Virtual (zoom)

Present: Executive Committee Members: Cynthia Aku-Leh, Chair (ISciences), Don Priour, Treasurer (YSU), Roy Day, Member-at-Large (JCU); Jay Mathews, Chair-elect (UD); Ulrich Zurcher, Secretary (CSU) Andrea Richard, Member-at-Large (MSU); Niklas Manz, Vice-Chair (College of Wooster); Zifeng Yang, Member-at-Large (WSU) Krystin H. Brandenburg, Student member (OU). Edward Carlos Samson (Miami University) Member-at-Large; Andrea Richards, Student Member (MSU); Bhubanjyoti Bhattacharya (LTU); Tracy Edwards (MSU).

Not present: Mike Lisa, Fall '20 host (OSU).

Guests: Mike Crescimanno, Awards Committee (YSU), Richelle Teeling (Mount Union)

Call to order 10:00 am

Section Business:

Secretary's report and approval of minutes

Ulrich Zurcher

Report was approved with minor revision

Treasurer's report

Donald Priour

Verbal report given during executive meeting; full report will be distributed in the week 4-12-19. No change in the balance (\$30,866). Income: membership dues \$7,250 and investment \$692; expenses: \$350 abstracts (BAPS) and \$29 Luncheon.

The check for the State Science Fair (\$700) has not yet been processed. Poster awards: \$100 check for graduate award [to Krystin H. Brandburg] was cut – \$100 check for undergraduate award [to Tyler Wright] was never cut. This may point to a larger issue since students may not be comfortable giving person information [SSN and Account Nr for direct deposit]. Treasurer and chair will seek guidance from APS whether cash amount can be given to awardee and then getting reimbursed.

Meetings Reports

(1) Spring 2021 Meeting at JCU

Roy Day

Theme: Physics Research in Space.

29 contributed talks in 4 parallel sessions

16 posters: separate breakout room for each poster

Number of contributed talks consistent with typical numbers; number of posters somewhat lower – posters do not travel well into the zoom format.

Four “odd” submission (from WV and IL) – put either at the beginning or end of sessions.

Number of registrations: 103.

A subcommittee of the executive committee is now involved with organizing meetings; this led to some confusion communicating with APS as the local host was not automatically cc'ed to all emails. Extension of deadlines always have to be negotiated; Niklas Manz points out the APS form includes an extension of the deadline. It would be helpful if the local host has the email addresses of presenters - online submission makes this difficult.

(2) Fall 2021 Meeting at Mount Union

Richelle Teeliing

(3) Future Meetings

Jay Mathews

Spring 2022 at Kettering (Flint, MI) confirmed

Fall 2022 possibly Xavier, contact Aaron Reinhard from Kenyon (present at current meeting); Reach out to OU (Krystin Brandenburg, Julie Roche, Ken Hicks)

(4) Ad-hoc committee for meeting support: Niklas Manz, Roy Day, and Bhubanjyoti Bhattacharya

(5) Fall 2020 Meeting (Organized by Mike Lisa)

Cynthia Aku-Leh

Theme: Heavy ions and Astrophysics

5 invited speakers

39 oral presentations and 16 posters; 115 registrants

Included a SPS Zone 7

(6) APS website does not list the host organization for virtual meetings – this should be changed to recognize the effort by the host.

Standing Committee Reports

Membership Report

Andrea Richards

Total number 1362; 613 White, 201 Asian; Male 1079, female 238; will share with the committee. Full membership will be sent to Jay.

Honors and Awards Committee

Mike Crescimanno

(1) Mike reported about the two Doc Brown Poster awards given last meeting, but there was trouble with disbursement of funds.

(2) Received one more Fowler nomination – now we have about 4 from southern Ohio and Detroit, MI

(3) Anticipating two Doc Brown awards to be given at this meeting

(4) Do we want to sponsor undergrad and grad awards in the oral presentations? How do we do this? This is for future meetings

- Generally, everyone likes the idea, but how do we do it? How do we get judges? Can we do an audience-based prize, and ask them to vote?
- We really want to show the excellence in our section with these prizes, and we need to find a way to figure out how to do it.
- Do we want to have a “Prize Session” for students presenting about their thesis? Nominations by their professor for example. Graduating seniors and graduate students completing their thesis? Will this attract people?
- Could think of using Google Forms for this as a first go (AR)
- Giving oral presentations an award incentivizes students to want to give them (KB)
- Mike will work on this more before we vote – move to next meeting

Election Results

- Student Member – Tracy Edwards (Michigan State University)
- Member-at- Large – Bhubanjyoti Bhattacharya – (Lawrence Technological University)
- Member-at-Large – Edward Carlo Samson (Miami University)

New Business

- Increase Gordon J. Aubrecht award for State Science Day to \$900 from \$750
 - (1) Donald Priour says we have the money (to Cynthia – Donald had to leave at this point)
 - (2) Jay Mathews moves to make it a \$250 increase for this year to make it \$1000 (this year only) and to re-evaluate next year; Niklas Manzseconds – all in favor – Approved.
- Next motion is to make 4 awards total for posters/oral presentations instead of 2 (2 undergrad and 2 grad) for \$100 each
 - (1) Mike Crescimanno comments that it might be more about the award itself as a CV item rather than the money, and that the Doc Brown comes from an endowment, so the Awards Committee needs to investigate increasing the money
 - (2) Jay Mathews comments that we need to issue certificates and that the money is not such a small thing for the students, especially those students of color. Doc Brown Young Investigator award – requirement that you have to publish with an undergrad makes this very difficult. Mike Crescimanno will talk to the committee about this.
 - (3) Cynthia Aku-Leh moves to defer this discussion to a later time because everyone needs to leave and we need Donald Priour’s input. Cynthia Aku-Leh and Jay Mathews will follow-up and formulate this discussion
- Name change – Eastern Great Lakes Section of the American Physical Society
 - (1) Changed the name to be more inclusive of the region
 - (2) Need to update website and logos to reflect name change and section by-law updates – leave that in Jay’s hands and Cynthia will help
 - (3) No vote, but looking for comments – how do we solicit member input?
 - (i) Niklas Manz says to create a competition – send to Engage?
 - (ii) Jay Mathews says to give a prize for this
 - (iii) Niklas Manz says to finalize this by end of summer before Fall meeting

Closing Remarks

Zifeng Yang: Membership Chair, Niklas Manz – Nominating

Meeting Adjourned 11:53 am