

**SLA Engineering Division Board Meeting
September 25, 2017: 12:00pm-12:45pm Eastern**

Open Meeting, Call to Order and Roll Call (Ashleigh Faith)

Present: Ashleigh Faith, Andy Shimp, Jeremy Cusker, Brian McCann, Rebecca Smith, Teresa Powell, et al.

Absent: [undetermined]

Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes

Approval of the Agenda (Ashleigh Faith) – Approved.

Old Business -

New Business –

There is no update from Barbara Williams regarding the seat update. There will be a continuing education webinar, from 11-12 PM EST on December 5, 2017.

Barbara Williams proposed that we accept no vendor support, especially due to the conference's focus on interacting with vendors. She asked whether this needed to be put to a vote. She said that if so it would need to happen by email later on (Wednesday or Thursday of this week). She reported that she will send said proposal to the board by 9/25/17.

Tom Nielsen brought up the issue of discussions with Oil & Gas. Ashleigh noted that the Petroleum division is very small; they have been cycling the same people through board and chair positions and that they have expressed interested in joining the Engineering division. The Petroleum division will be voting to join Engineering, which would require a merging of paperwork/documentation. The matter is on the agenda for both divisions now. The executive board will also need to be involved. Brian will be copied on the correspondence regarding this issue, as he is the upcoming chair.

The webinar that they held in August was pretty informative, I thought, though I haven't been able to find a recording of it just yet. They also clarified that these options only apply to the conference. So if we chose the Centralized option, SLA would do the fundraising for our sessions, and we would still be free to contact vendors to sponsor other events and activities throughout the year.

It seems like the Centralized option has a lot of perks, so I feel like there's information I'm missing in connecting the dots between the options and our reduced income this past year. If we were still in charge of getting our own sponsors as usual, why did our income drop so much? And was it related to this agreement? I'd love to hear your thoughts and experiences about all this.

Zachary Painter further replied: I'm Zac Painter. In late 2014 I was approached by Sara Davis to take over as the DENG Fundraising Chair for Boston 2015. Sara was current Division Chair and had been a previous Fundraising Chair, and her successor as Fundraising Chair Patricia Aspinwall had left the Division following a career change. The both of them had done a marvelous job with documentation and support for someone, which happened to be me. I very gratefully took the wonderful work they had done and set us up well for the Boston 2015 conference.

Sara later told me that while at the conference, other divisions had actually approached her to ask how we had so much success bring in in corporate sponsors -- if I recall correctly that year was particularly fruitful, especially

in comparison to the general trend of conference fundraising at that time as SLA was going through some troubles. SLA might have been taking some hits, but we were trending upwards in sponsorship against the tide.

Philadelphia 2016 was a mixed bag for us. On one hand our overall funding did dip a bit (some vendors backing out or down), but on the other we made some major inroads with vendors who traditionally did not sponsor us in large amounts -- particularly Elsevier. Some of that came late though, and caused a few logistical issues. But still, we as a Division were positive on the whole.

So for Phoenix 2017 SLA came down with their choice to centralize sponsorship, or to let us do it individually. Andy has already mentioned that we chose to go it ourselves because of our traditionally strong past (indeed, that was discussed extensively and voted on by the E-board). That was all well and good, until SLA handed us a "Do Not Contact" list featuring several of our largest and most well connected sponsors.

I did not contact them, following the rules decreed in the document, but like Andy has stated we found this to be (in my opinion, "grievously") unfair. When some sponsors were freed, it was too late to then meet the deadlines imposed on us by SLA for program listings and the like. One of our best vendors even contacted me at the conference asking about why they were left off of some of the programming language due to this, and I (not being there this year, which was a difficulty), had to do a lot of explaining. I'm not sure they were entirely satisfied either -- and this is one of our best vendors!

It is my opinion that our Division sponsorships will continue to suffer in a similar capacity going forward if SLA plans to keep the current arrangement. For a Division which seems as traditionally as strong as ours in this effort (again, this is in large part to Sara and Patricia earlier this decade), it is quite likely a malus in regards to the programming we could put on.

Andy is right -- if we continued upon the path of Option 1 again then we as a Division (and myself) will have to rethink some of our strategy and methods for raising the needed funds for Baltimore 2018. One of the benefits of Option 1 was that we could do it for as long as we liked (in theory), but once we selected Option 2 we could never go back; even if we wanted to assume the risk again.

I personally am not opposed to turning over the efforts to a centralized SLA process (Option 2), but I would want to make explicitly crystal clear that the SLA HQ not then turn around and lower our traditional strong programming abilities because they decided to eat all the fundraising themselves, and then did not have enough to distribute around in the same manner.

Chair, Executive Board & Committee Reports

Chair (Ashleigh Faith): Here are the dates for our Board meetings (subject to change if you all tell me these are bad dates):

April 1st WebEx

- Board meeting at Conference (June 17th)
- September 4th WebEx
- December (just a quick wrap-up to the year)

I was thinking 12-1PM EST as the time. Usually we don't go that long.

Andy was kind enough to gather the emails for me (my were lost in my transition) so please add anyone to this string that I may have missed (also, my new email is in the cc field).

I will be sending out the meeting invites and WebEx details this weekend so please let me know if there are 1. any people I missed on this email, 2. if the dates work for everyone (you can always send me a report if you can't make it), and 3. if the time works for everyone by Friday night.

Chair-Elect (Brian McCann): Brian McCann later supplemented his report with the following email: I've attached some documents that SLA provided at the August webinar about what the 2 options for sponsorship are **[Secretary's note: See attached. –JC]**. I wish they would be renamed something descriptive, but in the meantime we can just say that Option 1 (Unit-based) is the one where we pay for all our own stuff at the conference and take responsibility for arranging it, and Option 2 (Centralized) is the one where SLA covers almost everything for us at the conference (except for some add-ins like A/V and conference call lines) and our sessions would be guaranteed to be hosted.

Past Chair/Nominations (Giovanna Badia):

Treasurer (Diane Brenes): Diane Brenes forwarded the 9/19/2017 SLA Engineering Division and Aerospace Section Treasurer's report as she was unable to attend the 9/25 meeting. **[see attached]**

Secretary (Jeremy Cusker): No report. Jeremy let it be known that he will continue in his role as Secretary through until the next conference (2018) at which point he would like to step down.

Aerospace Section Chair (Barbara Williams):

Aerospace Section Chair-Elect (Teresa Powell):

Aerospace Section Past Chair (Gabriele Hysong):

ABCD Section Chair (Gwen Wang):

ABCD Section Past Chair (Becca Smith):

Action Planning (Danielle Harrison and Maureen Kimball): No report.

Archives (Vanessa Eyer): Vanessa reported she will be continuing as archives person for next year.

Awards (Taya Cagle): Taya Cagle reported that the SPIE *will* re-up the division's award for student travel. That leaves 2 regular annual awards still to be funded out of the usual 3.

She said she had a conflicting (work) meeting on at 9am PT on Monday, September 25th and will get caught up by reading the minutes.

Fundraising (Andy Shimp): No report. Andy reported that he will be stepping down as fundraising person as of the end of 2018.

Membership (open): No report.

Mentoring (open): No report.

Program Planner-2017 (Andy Shimp): Andy Shimp reported the survey of programming by the division revealed that our programming appeared to be viewed generally favorably. The report will be sent to the Program Planner.

Program Planning (Shazia Azif): Having reviewed the conference feedback forms, I've been working with Brian McCann. He has contacted Becca Sepan at John Hopkins University. I've been liaising with her to try and arrange a tour of the Applied Physics Lab (the civilian space department that runs unclassified space science missions). I've done some brainstorming with Stacey Bruss (NIST Research Library). These programme ideas came up because of issues or trends that are being faced government libraries, and probably trend more towards engineering special/corporate/government libraries than academic ones, but still might apply to academic libraries. Some are really conceptual, so if there's interest I will contact her to talk it out to develop the idea more completely.

How to make gray literature (technical reports) and standards (e.g., ASTM) machine-readable – there are NISO standards for these coming out, I believe

May include how to make the data tables within legacy publications, especially gray literature, machine readable 3D printing program in a government library, 4 years in (Stacey can speak to this) – there are lessons learned, but also lots of reasons an engineering corporate or government library should have printers

The future of engineering publication models and alternative literature access models

Artificial Intelligence in research and finding and organizing literature

Impact measures for engineers beyond the h-index, or putting the h-index for engineers in context with other research fields

Stacey is happy to help moderate sessions and with programme planning.

Michael Fosmire and Margaret Philips from Purdue University have come up with two potential contributions to the program.

A user survey comparing information habits of undergraduate students and practicing engineers that illuminates the information literacy needs and experiences students are receiving

A technical standards education tutorial/curriculum they developed as part of a grant from NIST.

This might take a variety of forms. Some possibilities:

- If we do a Standards Update program again this year, perhaps they could participate on the panel to describe their standards education tutorial and curricular plan
- If we have a contributed papers session or other program that could use another speaker, we could see if either of the projects fit any of those themes
- If we run a workshop or CE course, they could facilitate the standards education project in that format to an audience of librarians and engineering and technology educators

Professional Development (Li Zhang): Just an update. We have decided the CE webinar date: Tuesday, December 5. I'm waiting for the speaker to confirm the time: from 11:00 – 12:00 EDT. Sorry, I can't attend the meeting on Monday also, because I will be at a university organization and focus group meetings all morning on Monday

Sci-Tech News (Christine Malinowski): No report.

SLA Board Liaison (Tom Nielsen): Tom reported that he will remain as board liaison after next year.

SLA-DENG List (Marge Rhodes): No report.

Standards (Kati Arzeta): No report.

Webmaster (Jeremy Cusker): No report. Jeremy Cusker announced that he will be stepping down as webmaster as of the next SLA Annual conference in 2018.

Next Meeting (Ashleigh Faith):

Adjournment (Ashleigh Faith): The meeting was adjourned at approx. 4:45 pm Eastern.

**Respectfully submitted, Jeremy
Cusker, Secretary SLA Engineering
Division**