

NSSA Executive Committee
Minutes of the conference phone call 12:00pm ET, 5/16/06
(action items in red)

Present on the conference call:

Roger Pynn (RP)
Simon Billinge (SJB)
Angus Wilkinson (AW)
Suzanne te Velthuis (StV)
Greg Smith (GS)
Shenda Baker (SB)
John Root (JR)
Brent Fultz (BF)
Jim Rhyne (JimR)

Agenda

- 1) Approval of minutes of 4/25/06 teleconference call**
- 2) Prizes**
 - **Lessons learned from Prize recipient selection process (definition of the prizes)**
 - **Conflict of interest guidelines**
- 3) ACNS**
 - **Update & outstanding issues**
 - **Set date for ExecCom meeting**
- 4) Redesign of web-site**
- 5) Review of action items from last minutes**
- 6) Any other business**
- 7) Set date for next call**

Discussions

1) Approval of minutes of 4/25/06 teleconference call

Agenda point 1, advocacy, it should be:

- 2) View inside congressional office (Deborah Koolbeck has been asked, waiting to hear if she's available)
- 3) How scientists can help/do (Steve Pierson from APS has agreed)

Agenda point 3, Membership dues, first sentence should be:

If it is decided....

Subsequently, the minutes are approved.

2) Prizes:

-Conflict of interest guidelines

JR: Sent out by email the latest versions of the conflict of interest guidelines, including changes suggested by email in the past week. Most changes are about the conditions which are considered a conflict of interest.

RP: Collin Broholm suggested looking at the APS guidelines.

JR: Looked at the NSERC guidelines when putting the initial draft together.

The ExecCom accepts these guidelines.

StV: The guidelines already on the web, which include that if a member of the committee is nominated the ExecCom will replace that member on the committee, should be incorporated, unless superseded by these new guidelines.

Action: JR will prepare a version suitable for posting on our web-site and work with JimR to have is posted in the correct spot.

-Lessons learned from Prize recipient selection process (definition of the prizes)

JimR: The sustained Research & Science prize committee thought that the prizes should be more clearly delineated.

They saw there were 4 different types of nominee's

- 1) Facility management & development
- 2) New technique development
- 3) Outstanding science
- 4) Early career

They thought there was not enough difference between the current description of the sustained research & science prize

SJB: when initially set up by the previous ExecCom they had the following ideas:

The sustained research prize is for someone who has had a science contribution over many years. The science prize would be for a great discovery that would raise the profile of neutron scattering. It should be recent and high impact.

It is agreed that since the Shull prize is our flagship prize, it should be broad in scope, honoring the best in either management, development, or science. The current description is adequate and should remain unchanged.

It is agreed to make the Science prize an early professional career prize, where early career is defined as: less than 10 years after Ph.D.

In a discussion that follows after JimR and GS have left the call, this criteria is changed to 12 years after Ph.D.

It is agreed to ensure that also technique development can be honored with the sustained research prize. The text should be modified to highlight that what is important for both prizes is the "impact on science".

Action: JR will make changes to the description of the prizes as posted on the web.

GS: He has sent out the proofs for the text to be put on the awards to be given to this year's prize winners. He received some comments. He will soon place the order

Action: RP will bring the two rocks for the student prizes to the ACNS.

JimR & GS leave the conference call.

3) ACNS:

- Set date for ExecCom meeting

We will meet Monday June 19th for a dinner meeting starting at 6pm. Among others, we will discuss what we want our legacy to be.

Action: SJB and RP will call about reserving a room for our meeting.

- Update & outstanding issues

AW: He has an appointment with an accountant to review or finances.

AW: Advocacy session is converging. It is scheduled during lunch on Wednesday.

SB has had to cancel her talk on diversity. RP is contacting Anne Mays to ask her to take SB's place.

There were issues' with Sunday night accommodation which have now been resolved. One of the Sunday sessions only had 3 people sign up so far.

The ACNS organization will send an email encouraging people to sign up.

StV: How should we organize & pay for the printing etc. of the posters announcing the prize winners?

Action: StV will prepare the files and ask IPNS to take care of making the posters and say it is okay for them to bill is to the NSSA.

4) Redesign of web-site

Not discussed.

5) Review of action items from last minutes

Action items not yet completed:

RP: Has not yet followed up on the announcement of the Fellows program with Rob Briber. Maybe a poster just like that for the prize winners should be created.

SJB: Rob Briber has sent around to the committee a straw-man process which includes announcement at ACNS.

Since we didn't get sufficient nominations for the prizes, the poster should include information on the process for prizes as well.

Action: RP will work on poster for fellows & prizes, describing how to apply.

AW: Still needs to remind ACNS local organizers to arrange for flowers for the support staff.

Action: SB&GS. An email announcing the Student Travel awards still needs to be sent out to our membership. This can be done after the ACNS.

6) Any other business

No other business

7) Set date for next call

The next teleconf call is set for: June 13th 2006, 12 Noon ET

Call ended 1:15pm ET

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne te Velthuis, 5/22/06.