

NSSA Executive Committee

Minutes of the conference phone call 3:00pm ET, 1/09/07

Present on the conference call:

Suzanne te Velthuis (StV)

Greg Smith (GS)

Roger Pynn (RP)

Brent Fultz (BF)

Shenda Baker (SB)

John Root (JR)

Missing:

Simon Billinge (SJB)

Angus Wilkinson (AW)

Agenda

- 1) Approval of minutes of 12/05/06 teleconference call**
 - 2) Review of action items from last minutes**
 - 3) Fellows announcements**
 - 4) US National Committee for Crystallography request**
 - 5) ACNS08**
 - a) Conference Chair (Dan Neumann)**
 - b) Chinese-US Collaboration**
 - 6) Budget**
 - 7) Any other business**
 - 8) Next call**
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Discussions

1) Approval of minutes from 12/05/06

Minutes are approved.

2) Review of action items from last minutes

MRS: RP and SB have discussed having neutron oriented talks in topical conferences and sessions. SB and Mike Fitzsimmons (LANL) are co-chairing the MRS fall 2008 meeting. They will be coordinating all the symposia (~40). There are two possible strategies:

- 1) Get neutron scatterers as symposium organizers
 - 2) Encourage symposium organizers to include talks with neutron scattering results.
- Symposium organizers pick a topic & select invited speakers. Once a symposium is approved for the conference, the organizers arrange the full session (abstracts, possible financial support, etc.)

The call for symposia will come some time in March'07 and be due June/July'07.

The ExecCom decides it prefers to have neutron scattering talks within topical sessions rather than a neutron scattering session.

SB will keep the ExecCom posted as deadlines etc. approach so it can then act on them.

GS offers to send SB a list of NSSA members, which will be sent at a later time.

3) Fellows announcements

We are waiting for SJB to draft the letters to the new fellows and nominators.

GS has emailed 2 designs for the certificates to vote on.

RP has the basic design for the press release and will prepare it further.

StV will remind SJB to write the letters and ask if he needs assistance in completing them.

The letters will be sent out first, followed by the press release.

The ExecCom prefers the certificate design without the “snakes” in the corners, but would like to see the NSSA logo on the certificate somewhere.

GS will modify the design and the ExecCom will vote via email. He will forward the design to RP to sign, and then to StV to sign.

As decided on by email correspondence, the previous Shull & Sustained Prize winners (Rowe, Carpenter, Tranquada), who according to the constitution have automatically become Fellows, will also be sent a letter and certificate, and be mentioned in the press release.

4) US National Committee for Crystallography request

As discussed at the last call (item 6), the ExecCom received an email from Jim Kaduk (U.S. National Committee for Crystallography) asking if the NSSA ExecCom would like to have a representative from NSSA on their Interdisciplinary Subcommittee.

The ExecCom thinks SJB would be the most logical choice for this.

StV will ask SJB if he expects to attend the ACA and would be willing to be the NSSA representative at this meeting.

5) ACNS08

a) Conference Chair (Dan Neumann)

Move to next conference call when SJB can be present.

b) Chinese-US Collaboration

Following a Chinese-US Collaboration workshop held in China, Chun Loong (IPNS/ANL) sent the ExecCom an email outlining their plans and wishes for a next Chinese-US Collaboration meeting to be held in the US, possibly in conjunction with the ACNS08. The main issues discussed by the ExecCom is whether or not there should be a full session at the ACNS08 dedicated to Chinese contributions.

The ExecCom decides it will welcome the Chinese scientists and students to attend and participate as others in the ACNS08, but that the Chinese-US collaboration meeting should not be part of the normal program of the ACNS08, but be organized as a satellite meeting.

RP will draft a response and send around to the ExecCom before replying to Chun Loong.

6) Budget

Move to next conference call when AW can be present

7) Any other business

RP has had discussion with Steve Pearson (APS) about actions being taken and actions NSSA could take to ensure sufficient support for science in the government's FY07-FY08 budgets.

As a result RP has sent out an email to the NSSA membership encouraging them to call their representatives or use the APS web set to send letters.

The next few month will be key in determining the FY08 budget. RP will stay on top of this issue over the next few months as some action could be required. He hopes to work with SNUG on these issues as well.

8) Set date for next call

The next teleconf call is set for: Tuesday, February 13th 2007, **3:00pm** ET.

Call ended 4:00pm ET

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne te Velthuis, 1/19/07.