

NSSA Executive Committee
Minutes of the conference phone call at 1:00pm ET, 4/5/2010
(action items in red)

Present on the conference call:

Bruce Gaulin (BG)
Simon Billinge (SJB)
Suzanne te Velthuis (StV)
Angus Wilkinson (AW)
John Tranquada (JT)
Thomas Proffen (TP)

Missing:

Shenda Baker (SB)
Flora Meilleur (FM)
Norm Wagner (NW)
Jaime Fernandez-Baca (JFB)
Roger Pynn (RP)

Agenda

- 1) **Approval of minutes of 3/9/2010 teleconference call**
- 2) **Set date for next call: suggested date May 4, 2010 at 3pm ET.**
- 3) **ACNS 2010**
 - 3a) **Plenary/keynote session & advocacy session**
 - 3b) **Funding retired new fellows**
 - 3c) **other**
- 4) **Website**
- 5) **Service Awards**
- 6) **Review of action items from last minutes**
- 7) **Any other business**

=====
Discussions

Agenda

- 1) **Approval of minutes of 3/9/2010 teleconference call**
AW motions to accept the minutes, JT seconds. The minutes are approved.
- 2) **Set date for next call.**
Tuesday May 4th at 1pm ET.

3) **ACNS 2010**

3a) **Plenary/keynote session & advocacy session**

- **BG will check with the program chairs regarding the plenary/keynote speaker to see if there are any action items for him.** Bill Brinkman has not yet confirmed. SJB thinks there is only a 30% chance of getting him, so we should think about an alternative. It is discussed that Harriet Kung (DOE) or Pat Dahmer (DOE) should be considered. **BG will try to get together with Collin Broholm & Thom Mason who might be able to help with**

getting Brinkman. SJB suggests Pat Gallagher (NIST director, and former NCNR director). He could be fit in the program, or used as a replacement for Brinkman. The Execcom agrees.

- BG and SJB are not sure if Tonya Kuhl has invited the speakers on her list. **BG and SJB will send her an email asking, as these invitations need to get sent out ASAP.**

- Nothing has been done yet regarding an advocacy session. **BG will contact RP & NW to get this done and send an email update by the end of the week.**

3b) Funding retired new fellows

Xxxxxx (newly elected fellow who is retired abroad) requested travel support to come to the meeting to accept his certificate. This issue has been discussed by the ExecCom by email. As a result BG has offered to waive the registration fee for XXXX and give \$\$\$ toward travel expenses. StV suggests offering to waive the registration fee to any other newly elected fellow who is a retiree but residing in the US, as was done at the previous ACNS. This year it would be John Axe. **BG will contact him.**

3c) other

- Around 250 abstracts have been submitted, which is considerably less than in previous years. Presumably registration numbers will be higher.

- A revised budget has been created and is sent around to the NSSA ExecCom. While with the original budget NSSA stood to gain roughly \$\$\$\$\$, now it stands to lose \$\$\$\$ (or \$\$\$\$ if NSSA splits the risk with MRS). Part of the losses are due to the fact we did not get an increase of 20% from ORNL which was supposed to help make up for the loss of the contribution from IPNS. There is also a chance we might not receive the \$25K from DOE.

- The MRS Meeting Scene expenses (as approved in the last call) are not in the revised budget. We will be charged the discounted rate of \$\$\$\$\$. The consensus of the ExecCom is that we should not rescind the previous decision regarding the Meeting Scene. **SJB will make the arrangements with MRS regarding this.**

- JT asks who orders the awards to be given to the prize winners. Since Greg Smith did it in the past & JFB's office is right next door, making the passing on of the relevant order information easy, **BG will ask JFB to place the orders.**

4) Website

-The new website is nearly ready. Small details related to importing the membership information are being finished. The final version should be finished this week. Then TP will need to update the prize and fellows information. Editing the pages is very easy. TP expects that we can look at the website in about 2 weeks and we can go live in 3 weeks. People who sign up to be new members online will need to get approved. Once the website is live, the ACNS conference website (in Canada and the MRS one) will need to update their links to the NSSA website. **TP will contact MRS & John Katsaris regarding this issue when the site is ready.**

- At some point we will need to decide who on the ExecCom had editing privileges. TP has a help document or manual that is very good.

-The site will have several email addresses, which will need to get linked to ours, depending on who is the relevant contact person.

- As discussed previously, once the new site is ready, TP will make a survey of existing neutron related and facility websites and formulate a plan on how to enhance our site in the future.

5) Service Awards

Several names are discussed. It is decided to give service awards to XXXXX
BG shall work on coming up with citations, and initially work with StV and SJB on them.

6) Review of action items from last minutes

Listed are incomplete actions items from the last minutes. Other action items were completed or already discussed during this call.

6a) Previous agenda item 1 (minutes) StV asked TP for input about website agenda item from 2/9/2010 call. StV will modify minutes based on information he gave, so they can be approved in the next call.

6b) Previous agenda item 3 (Update on Fellowship and Prizes announcements)

- BG will email the newly elected fellows inviting them to the ACNS banquet.

- BG will compose and send a letter that the chairs can send, and ask that they send nomination packages to StV.

- BG will remind TP to end press releases to broader audience based on StV's list.

6c) RP has looked through NSSA boxes nothing appears to be so important. He has still to give them to BG.

6d) BG will talk to Neutron News about a deal with them to have Neutron News for our membership for free or at a reduced rate.

6e) BG will follow up with the advocacy contacts at APS that Judy Franz gave him.

8) Any other business

StV reminds everyone that we need to replace some ExecCom members by the end of the year. The open positions will be: Vice president (SJB), Secretary (StV), Treasurers (JT), and 1 member-at-large. StV suggests putting it in the agenda for next time so we can start thinking about time planning, so that the election can be held in time (before the end of the year).

Submitted, Suzanne te Velthuis, 5/13/10.