

**NSSA Executive Committee
Conference Call Minutes, 1/14/14**

Chris Leighton (Secretary), 2/4/14

Present: Stephan Rosenkranz (SR)
Chris Leighton (CL)
Norm Wagner (NW)
Tonya Kuhl (TK)
Mike Crawford (MC)
Julie Borchers (JB)

Absent: Chris Wiebe (CW)
Ron Jones (RJ)
Mark Lumsden (ML)

Agenda:

1. Adoption of minutes from 12/13/2013 (SR/All).
2. Date for next conference call (SR/CL/All).
3. Neutron News distribution issue (ML/RJ).
4. Website expansion/listserv (ML/All).
- [5. Advocacy efforts: DOE letters (Dehmer/Apps. Comm./May) (SR).]
6. ACNS 2014: Progress (JB), support from NIST (NW), ORNL (JB/SR), DOE (JT/JB), LANSCE (SR). NSSA student support
7. NSSA prizes, awards and fellows: Progress report (SR), max. no. of fellows, service awards.
8. Exhibit booths at other meetings (APS 2014 progress, Fall 2014 MRS plans) (MC/All).
9. AOB

Discussion Minutes (by agenda item number):

1. Approval of minutes

The minutes from 12/13/13 were adopted with no corrections and no objections.

2. Date for next conference call

After some discussion, **Tuesday Feb 11th at 11 am (central)** was agreed upon. CL will send an email reminder on 02/10/14, along with a proposed agenda.

3. Neutron News distribution issue

Not discussed due to the absence of RJ and ML.

4. Website expansion / listserv

Due to the absence of ML, this item was not discussed in detail. JB noted however that the former page on the NSSA site with information on child care grants seemed to no longer be present. She thus cannot link to it from the ACNS2014 site, which is a problem. CL offered to pass this on to ML.

[5. Advocacy efforts

With the letter to Murphy complete and the timing now being inappropriate for some of the other items, SR suggested that this item be removed from the immediate agenda.]

6. ACNS 2014: Progress, financial support, student support

JB reported that progress continues with ACNS 2014. The abstract submission site is open and several of the Exec Comm confirmed that they had indeed received email to that effect. Other email lists will also be used. The invited speaker selection process is underway and ideas for plenary speakers and after dinner speakers are being solicited. Input on this was requested by JB from the Exec Comm. Suggested plenary talks from XXXX were discussed. For an after dinner talk, TK suggested something off the topic of neutrons; speakers from a local museum were discussed. With regard to funding, SR confirmed that he is discussing this with LANSCE. NW commented that he had received no confirmation from MRS that the NIST proposal was submitted. He resolved to look into it. SR suggested that the DOE proposal had been submitted, while JB remarked that she will talk with CW regarding Canadian support. Finally, JB mentioned that the student travel grant information was up on the MRS/ACNS site.

7. NSSA prizes, awards and fellows

SR relayed to the Exec Comm that the committees were now at work. A problem with numerous conflicts of interest arose with the Science and Sustained Research Prizes, and additional committee members are being considered as a consequence. SR mentioned XXXX, and additional suggestions of XXXX were also raised. Progress with the Shull and Student committees appears fine. TK reported that the Fellowship Selection Committee was also making progress. A maximum number of fellows of 10-12 were agreed upon; the high quality of the nominations was also noted. SR raised the issue of service awards, and previous winners were eventually located. CL agreed to forward the list to ML for posting to the new website. XXXX and XXXX were raised as possibilities for such awards.

With regard to other plans for prizes, SR agreed to contact JFB for PDF files required for certificates and so on. Press releases were also discussed and SR planned to contact BG

for the format from the last ACNS. Plans for poster prizes at ACNS also came up and CL was charged with adding this as an agenda item for the next call.

8. Exhibit booths at other meetings

MC reported that payment for APS 2014 had been made. Plans to man the booth should be added to the agenda for the next call. MC also mentioned that there is no need for action on the Fall MRS meeting until the summer. NW raised the point that he felt that a booth at such a meeting would be most effective if coupled with a session related to neutron scattering. SR added that this would require financial backing, which could be a possibility. Discussion took place among various committee members and it was eventually resolved that the idea to offer “up-front” to potential session/symposium organizers some financial support was a strong idea. NW agreed to draft some statement to this effect for the NSSA website.

9. AOB

None raised.

Action items

Item Number	Person Responsible	Action item	Agenda date (mo/yr)	Agenda Item # for next meeting
1	RJ	Neutron News distribution	1/13	3
2	ML	Website expansion and listserv.	10/13	4
3	SR	Advocacy	11/13	-
4	JB/SR/NW/All	ACNS 2014: Progress; Support from NIST (NW), ORNL (JB/SR), LANSCE (SR), DOE (JT/JB). Invited speakers. Plenary/after-dinner speakers. Student support. Poster prize plans.	4/13	5
5	SR/All	Prizes: Recap. Press releases. Awards and certificates. Service awards.	7/13	6
6	MC/SR/NW/All	Exhibit booths: APS 2014 plans, proposed statement from NW.	10/13	7