

NSSA Executive Committee
Minutes of the conference phone call 11:30am ET, 5/5/05
(action items in bold red)

Present on the conference call:

Dave Belanger (DB)
Simon Billinge (SJB)
Jim Jorgensen (JJ)
Rob Briber (RB)
Susan Krueger (SK)

Missing:

Franz Trouw (FT)
Shenda Baker (SB)
Greg Smith (GS)

Agenda

- 1.) Accept minutes from 4/4/05 conference call**
Documents distributed by Simon
- 2.) Update on ACNS 2006 (Rob)**
- 3.) NSSA secure website/database (Simon)**
- 4.) Felcher/Pynn Workshop (Rob)**
- 5.) Continued discussion of additional NSSA prizes (Simon and Susan)**
Discussion of NSSA Fellows
Document circulated by Shenda and Greg
- 6.) Other Business**

Discussions:

- 1.) Accept minutes from 4/4/05 conference call**
Documents distributed by Simon

Minutes were accepted without dissent.

- 2.) Update on ACNS 2006 (Rob)**

DB and RB have been working with IPNS. Draft website is up. Contracts are signed. Discussions are going ahead on funding requests and program committee. Letters for request of support have gone out (at the \$25k level). Heard from HFIR and IPNS. Not heard from Brookhaven, SNS or LANSCE but expect a positive response. Canadians will be involved at some level but no commitment. Art Schultz will be the IPNS local

co-chair of the program Committee. He will send a request for program committee names. The NSSA executive committee will turn over this summer. There was concern that we should quickly line someone up from the new excom to liase with this committee as the time is somewhat short. RB will contribute institutional memory through conference calls, but cannot take a greater involvement. DB will help the person who takes over the finances. Agreement was reached that this was a reasonable solution.

3.) NSSA secure website/database (Simon)

No progress. Simon's student has taken a summer internship and won't be available till the fall. Simon offered the service even after the fall, but it means that the election this summer has to use some other method. Rob reiterated that NSSA will cover the cost of development through undergrad salary.

4.) Felcher/Pynn Workshop (Rob)

We received a call from the organizational assistant for this meeting. She will send an email (not there yet). They need a link on their web-page with instructions for people applying for this. Jim Rhyne will post things on the web-site. RB and DB will modify the forms and write the instructions and send them to Jim Rhyne.

5.) Continued discussion of additional NSSA prizes (Simon and Susan)

Discussion of NSSA Fellows Document circulated by Shenda and Greg

Things are pretty much in hand. The timing, definition, award amount, nomination requirements are all decided. There are some open questions:

- committee formed before or after the nomination. JJ: cleaner/better to have the committee openly posted ahead of time. Only need a rider in case one of the committee is nominated. JJ: in this case the person is removed from the committee and replaced with another person in the same subfield (this will be less relevant in out years when former winners populate the committee).
- Same committee or different committees for the sustained, science and Shull prizes? Consensus that the overlap should not be too great, but not zero. Too great overlap and the science prize could start to look like the runner-up prize. Overlap of one or two recommended.
- To what extent the NSSA exec committee should be involved? JJ: NSSA executive committee should be fully separated. If we do the job well we set things up so that the committees can work independently. Need a good protocol for handling cases where someone wins two prizes. JJ: don't bias the committees by telling them who has applied for each prize. Have a timeline and clear instructions on how to proceed so any problems (i.e., someone awarded two prizes) can be resolved in a timely fashion. Executive committee should make announcements. JJ: it is a positive thing for prize winners' names to be on ACNS posters. SK will incorporate the changes and circulate. Titles for the prizes were agreed upon: NSSA Sustained Research Prize and NSSA Science Prize. Announcement should be made soon.
- Discussion of the Jack Carpenter suggestion of an essay prize. Should be tabled as we are already stretched with the current new prizes.

6.) Other Business

When should elections take place? Results should be in by Mid September. Voting open for two weeks. Need to line up a slate of candidates. Public call for nominations. Convene a subcommittee. Have them twist arms. JJ and RB will be that committee.

Call ended 12:35 pm

Respectfully submitted, Simon Billinge, 5/4/05