

NSSA Executive Committee
Minutes of the conference phone call 4:00pm ET, 1/18/06

Present on the conference call:

Dave Belanger (DB)
Simon Billinge (SJB)
Rob Briber (RB)
Greg Smith (GS)
Jim Jorgensen (JJ)
Rogen Pynn (RP)
Angus Wilkinson (AW)
Suzanne te Velthuis (StV)

Missing:

Shenda Baker (SB)
Susan Krueger (SK)
Franz Trouw (FT)

Agenda

- 1.) **Accept minutes from 12/21/05 conference call (draft attached).**
- 2.) **Welcome new NSSA Executive Committee**
- 3.) **Update on ACNS 2006 (Rob)**
- 4.) **Items for new exec comm.**
 - Booth at APS march meeting (Rob)**
 - Election of Members-at-large (Rob)**
 - NSSA Website (Rob)**
 - ICNS 2009 (Rob)**
 - NSSA Fellows (Dave)**
 - Files, etc (Rob)**
5. **Other business**

Discussions:

1.) Accept minutes from 12/21/05 conference call (draft attached).

Accepted without dissent

2.) Welcome new NSSA Executive Committee

RB welcomes the members of the new Executive Committee.

3.) Update on ACNS 2006 (Rob)

AW has sent out official requests/invoices for funding. This includes the major neutron facilities in the US and Canada, with the exception of Brookhaven NL, as it is not yet clear how much money they can provide.

RB: Paul Sokol was told that LENS has agreed to provide funding as well.

RB: Someone should contact Helen Kerch (DOE/BES) to see how much DOE/BES will provide. RP will make the initial contact will here, AW will follow up.

Program committee is working on invited speakers. Sen. B. Obama and Ray Orbach have also been approached to speak.

The conference website is running.

Registration will start soon.

The location is settled and booked.

RB: FYI, the ACNS is run and paid for by the NSSA. The NSSA president signs the contracts. NSSA handles the finances, write checks etc. For the ACNS06 IPNS organizes.

AW: Is there a financial overview of past ACNS meetings?

RB has it and will send it around.

Each exhibitor pays \$1000, and there are 10-12 exhibitors.

RP: Does an accountant go through the taxes ?

RB: DB has done the taxes in the past.

DB will document donations to the society and put in separate account if necessary.

ACNS organizing committee holds phone conferences in which RB and DB have been participating, representing the NSSA executive committee. They will continue to do this.

4.) Items for new exec comm.

Booth at APS march meeting (Rob)

RB: NSSA normally has a booth at the APS march meeting which helps in attracting new members. GS supplies membership lists so they can be referred to. The booth costs around \$2000-\$2500, which is about ½ price. The bill for this will come soon, as APS has already contacted NSSA to ask if it is interested. People from the neutron facilities can be asked to run the booth.

RB will send note to RP & AW about the booth and provide the name of the APS contact.

The facilities should be encouraged to send a poster, that can hang behind the table.

NSSA has a banner to hang around the table. RB has the banner and will make sure it gets to the meeting.

RP: Who will be at the meeting? SJB (early in the week), StV, GS, RB.

Election of Members-at-large (Rob)

RB: The new executive committee needs to select new members-at-large. It is decided that this will be discussed at the end of the call, after the former committee leaves.

NSSA Website (Rob)

RB: Jim Rhyne (LANL) has been maintaining the NSSA website. StV will contact him and confirm that he is willing to continue to do so.

ICNS 2009 (Rob)

RB: Previously Thomas Mason (SNS/ORNL) asked RB if NSSA would be willing to be the sponsoring organization for ICNS2009. An email was sent out to all current and possible future members of the NSSA executive committee. It was agreed that this was a good idea. As a result RB presented a proposal to the ICNS organizing committee, during the ICNS2005 conference in Sydney, that the NSSA could run the next ICNS, at a location in the US to be determined by the next NSSA executive committee. The general feeling was that it should be affiliated with SNS. Knoxville has a new conference facility. ICNS2005 had about 750 participant. It is expected that ICNS2009 could attract 1000 people. This new conference facility has that capacity. **The ICNS committee accepted the proposal.**

As the ACNS2006 is being organized by IPNS, the ACNS2008 will be organized by LANSCE. If ACNS2008 takes place late spring of 2008, it was thought that then having an ICNS2009 in the second half of 2009 would far enough apart. A bigger concern might be ACNS2010, since it would be SNS's turn, but they would have just hosted the ICNS. This could be held in affiliation with Chalk River, Canada instead.

Ground work for ICNS2009 should start soon. Thom Mason has pledged SNS for ICNS09, but this should be worked out in a formal way soon.

Within 6 months NSSA needs to:

- 1) Form International advisory committee
- 2) Choose site
- 3) Set date

NSSA Fellows (Dave)

With the accepted change in the constitution a NSSA Fellows program was created, but has not yet been implemented. 1/2% of the membership can become a fellow each year. A committee needs to be formed for this. It would be nice to announce the new fellows at the ACNS2006.

Action: Form committee. This Committee can decide how to handle the call for nominations etc.

Files, etc (Rob)

DB and RB have boxes with files with NSSA business, and will send them along with CD's containing electronic files to RP and AW. SJB will send past minutes of meetings to StV

5. Other business

Constitution

The new constitution was sent around to both executive committees. All should read them carefully for errors and send corrections to RB by Friday (Jan 20th). RB will send to Jim Rhyne to post on the web site next Monday (Jan 23rd).

Thanks to former executive committee

RP thanks RB and the rest of the executive committee for their great efforts of the past 3 years.

The members of the former executive committee leave the call and the meeting is continued by (5PM, ET):

Simon Billinge (SJB)

Greg Smith (GS)

Rogen Pynn (RP)

Angus Wilkinson (AW)

Suzanne te Velthuis (StV)

Next conference call:

Feb 15th 4PM ET

GS will set up the conference call

Members-at-large

SJB: The criteria for selection should be to get a good balance in Gender, National Labs versus universities, geography, scientific interest.

Several names are suggested.

SJB: He or RB has a spreadsheet with names used to select candidates for executive committee. SJB will send that around.

SJB & AW leave call.

It is decided to narrow the list down and vote by circulating emails. The objective is to get this done by the next conference call. RP will get list from SJB, and stay on top of this issue.

NSSA Fellows

RP proposed to get a committee together for this. It is decided that the committee should be 5 people. It is decided to have the new members at large help to select this committee.

RP will have a list of names by the next conference call, from which can be chosen.

Call ended 5:15 pm

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne te Velthuis, 1/20/05