

NSSA Executive Committee
Minutes of the conference phone call at 1pm EST, 12/15/2009
(action items in red)

Present on the conference call:

Simon Billinge (SJB)
Suzanne te Velthuis (StV)
John Tranquada (JT)
Angus Wilkinson (AW)
Jaime Fernandez-Baca (JFB)
Flora Meilleur (FM)
Roger Pynn (RP)
Norm Wagner (NW)

Missing:

Bruce Gaulin (BG)
Shenda Baker (SB)
Thomas Proffen (TP)

Agenda

- 1) Approval of minutes of 11/10/2009 teleconference call**
- 2) Update on Fellowship and Prizes**
- 3) ACNS 2010 update**
- 4) Website**
- 5) APS March Meeting booth**
- 6) Review of action items from last minutes**
- 7) Any other business**
- 8) Set data for next call**

Discussions

1) Approval of minutes of 11/10/2009 teleconference call

The minutes are approved.

2) Update on Fellowship and Prizes

2a) Fellows.

JFB reports that BG has received a list of names from the Fellowship committee chair (Sunil Sinha) with 7 names that they recommend as NSSA Fellows.

There is a discussion about who's role it is to approve this list (president or ExecCom). In the past RP has replied to the chairs thanking them for their recommendations and work. SJB brings up the point that as we decided to elect fellows only every 2 years we can accept 14 new fellows and not 7 as determined during the last conference call and passed on to the Chair. After some discussion RP puts forward the motion:

BG will write to Sunil Sinha explaining our mistake and saying that he can accept up to 14 if there were more deserving nominees. BG will look at the final list and has the authority to approve that list.

The motion is voted on: No one opposes, No one abstains from voting: The motion is approved.

- SJB will email BG and inform him of this decision and action item.

2b) Sustained Research, Science and Shull Prizes.

The extended deadline was yesterday, December 14, 2009.

Lee Magid (Sustained Research & Science Prize committee chair) has reported by email that as of December 13th there were 5 roll-over nominations for the Sustained Research and 2 roll-over nominations for the Science Prize, and 4 new nominations for both. Some of the roll-over nominations were also updated.

Before the earlier deadline of December 7th, Julie Borchers (Shull Prize committee chair) had reported one new nomination for the Shull Prize.

Lee Magid had pointed out that the committee would need more time now that the deadline was extended.

- It is decided BG should tell the chairs that the ExecCom would like their selection by mid-January 2010.

In the past the NSSA president has sent out the letters to the new fellows and prize winners informing and congratulating them. The selection committee chairs have sent out letters to nominators thanking them for their efforts. These instructions should be passed on to the chairs. The NSSA sends out press releases. StV has templates from previous years. Typically everyone is asked to keep the results quiet until after the press releases.

- StV has letters for winners and new fellows from previous years that can be used again and will send them to BG.

- BG should inform the chairs they should thank the nominators once the selection process is over and announcements have been made.

- SJB will email BG this information after the call.

3) ACNS 2010 update

3a) The conference program is coming along. The pre-meeting tutorials have been decided on.

3b) Regarding the banquet, two venues are being discussed.

3c) It is time to start requesting for funding for the conference from the facilities and write proposal for DOE and NIST. To streamline this process and ensure it is done on time, it is suggested that a subcommittee be formed to handle this. **RP, JT and SJB** will be on this committee. While this committee will coordinate and write the proposals, MRS will submit the proposals to DOE and NIST.

With respect to the DOE proposal, SJB will contact Helen Kerch (DOE) reminding her of the ACNS and ask if in principle it would be willing to support again and ask advice about the necessary DOE approval. He will remind /mention that this year the ACNS is being held outside the USA.

NW is willing to ask NSF program managers in the area of nanoscience if they might be willing to support the conference. However, it is later deemed that the expected funding is probably too little to warrant the effort necessary to submit a NSF proposal.

As IPNS no longer exists, the remaining facilities will be asked to give 20% more than in the past.

SJB will contact Ian Anderson (HFIR & SNS), Rob Dimeo (NIST), Alan Hurd (Lujan Center, LANL) asking for their financial support.

BG has already talked to John Root (NRC) and they have agreed to give more than in the past.

3d) Plenary keynote session. This session is typically organized by the ExecCom and not the program committee. SJB proposes we have a subcommittee for this that can come up with a plan, so that this can be decided on in a timely fashion.

This suggestion is accepted and the committee members are: **RP, BG and NW.**

As NW is the only one presently on the call, he will coordinate the subcommittee.

The subcommittee should recommend names and then report back to the ExecCom.

Additionally a possible advocacy session should be discussed and planned by them.

3e) StV reminds that the Execcom has given out service awards at the ACNS in the past and can do so again this time. **StV will send out a list of previous recipients.**

At a future date this will be discussed again.

4) Website

JT reports he understand progress is being made and has made partial payments to MayeCreate Designs. Due to time constraints and the fact that TP is missing will leave further discussion until next conference call. Then there should be a discussion about content of the site.

StV will put on agenda for next call.

5) APS March Meeting booth

Due to time constraints will leave until next conference call.

StV will put on agenda for next call.

6) Review of action items from last minutes

Actions under previous agenda items 2a and 2b are completed.

6a) Previous item 2c (Student Prize)

- **BG still needs to finalize wording on the prizes taking into account the comments and discussion in Agenda item 1 of the 10/06/2009 minutes regarding the eligibility.**

- **BG proposed committee members in a previous email and will contact them asking them to serve.**

6b) Previous item 5a (transferring information to new ExecCom members). RP has looked through NSSA boxes none appears to be so important. **He has still to give them to BG.**

6c) Previous item 5c (legacy, increase membership). **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.**
6d) Previous item 5d (AOB). **BG will follow up with the advocacy contacts at APS that Judy Franz gave him.**

7) Any other business

AW reminds JT that there is a deadline for filing a yearly report with the District of Columbia around January 15th or 30th that is important that he needs to take care of.

8) Set data for next call

Tuesday January 12th, 2010, 1pm EST.

Submitted, Suzanne te Velthuis, 12/15/09.