

NSSA Executive Committee
Minutes of the conference phone call 4:30pm ET, 2/13/07

Present on the conference call:

Roger Pynn (RP)
Angus Wilkinson (AW)
Suzanne te Velthuis (StV)
Greg Smith (GS)
Brent Fultz (BF)
Shenda Baker (SB)

Missing:

Simon Billinge (SJB)
John Root (JR)

Agenda

- 1) Approval of minutes of 1/09/07 teleconference call**
- 2) Review of action items from last minutes**
- 3) ICNS09**
- 4) ACNS08**
 - Conference Chair (Dan Neumann)**
- 5) MRS fall meeting exhibit**
- 6) Request to rename Sustained research prize**
- 7) Help offered by member**
- 8) Website**
- 9) Budget**
- 10) Any other business**
- 11) Set date for next call**

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Discussions

1) Approval of minutes of 1/09/07 teleconference call

Minutes are approved.

2) Review of action items from last minutes

Fellows announcement:

Most actions items have been completed, with exception of sending out the press release beyond our membership.

StV will send the list used for the prize announcements to the ExecCom for feedback about whom to include this time.

SB will check on the MRS membership of the fellows to see if it is worthwhile to send the press release to the MRS.

Chinese-US collaboration and ACNS08:

RP still needs to draft and send reply to Chun Loong (IPNS/ANL).

4) ACNS08

- Conference Chair (Dan Neumann)

Since SJB is not on this call RP will send email to SJB about this issue.

3) ICNS09

As outlined in emails sent in the last month, the ExecCom needs to set up an International Advisory Committee for the ICNS09.

It is discussed how to handle this issue and whom to get input from.

RP will find the list used for the ICNS05 in Sidney so we have something to start from.

RP will draft email to send around asking for suggestions for committee members.

StV will get a list of facility contacts around the world using o.a. the neutron scattering website hosted by IPNS.

GS will find contacts from usergroups and other societies.

RP will contact Thom Mason (SNS/ORNL) for additional input.

5) MRS fall meeting exhibit

Issues relating to having a booth at the next MRS fall meeting, such as cost and how to man the booth are discussed.

SB will find out how much it costs and what the deadline for reserving a booth is.

When the abstract deadline has passed, the ExecCom will approach the facilities and ask who they expect will be attending the meeting, in order to get an idea of how many people will be available to man the booth.

The general consensus is that even if we are not able to have enough people there to man the booth all of the time, we should still proceed with it.

6) Request to rename Sustained research prize

The ExecCom received an email from Ray Osborn (ANL) proposing that the NSSA Sustained Research Prize be named for Jim Jorgensen, in honor both of his contributions to science and of his keen interest in nurturing the neutron scattering community, including the NSSA.

In the discussion the question is raised as to why should a prize be named after J.

Jorgensen. as there are many other excellent neutron scattering scientist that have passed.

What should be the criteria if any.

StV points out that J. Jorgensen additionally has specific ties to the NSSA. He was in fact the member of the previous ExecCom who suggested that the NSSA give out more prizes besides the Shull prize. As a result the sustained research prize and science prize were added. Also he served two terms as ExecCom member, and was vice president in the last one.

Most ExecCom members would more inclined to agree if it is endowed at some level.

RP will talk to Ray Osborn and discuss options and thinking of the ExecCom with him.

RP will point out that we will not simply rename the prize, but if Ray Osborn can find a way to address the endowment we would consider it. Additionally we would want the opinion of all the ExecCom members, including SJB and JR who are missing from the current conference call.

7) Help offered by member

One of the society's members (Li (Emily) Liu, assistant professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) has offered her services to do some committee work for the society. AW suggests that someone is needed to do the leg work for the exhibit for the ACNS08. Another suggestion is that she could help with the NSSA website.

8) Website

The ExecCom received an email from Ray Osborn (ANL) suggesting that the neutron mailing list and neutron scattering website, now hosted by IPNS, could be combined or moved to the NSSA site.

RP will email SJB suggesting to add people to the website subcommittee from outside the ExecCom and that he should make recommendations to the ExecCom about Ray Osborn's suggestion.

GS: We could take on more members on subcommittees. It might be useful to have a standing group on communications.

9) Budget

AW has started working on the financial statements of the NSSA. The surplus for this year is about \$xx. The NSSA currently has roughly \$xx in assets.

All 1099 tax forms have been filed, and AW is working on forms for IRS to make the status of the society as a "non profit" permanent. Originally this status of the society was granted for a limited time only. When this is complete, AW will move on to working on this year's tax returns.

11) Set date for next call

The next teleconf call is set for: Tuesday, March 13th 2007, **3:00pm** ET.

10) Any other business

StV informs the ExecCom that she will be on maternity leave approximately the months of April-June'07. This means that at the next conference call the ExecCom should decide who will be taking the minutes for the conference calls during those months. RP adds that someone should also be designated to take over her other duties as secretary.

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne te Velthuis, 2/26/07.