

NSSA Executive Committee

Minutes of the conference phone call 3:00pm EST, 11/27/07

(action items in red)

Present on the conference call:

Roger Pynn (RP) (Items 4-8)

Angus Wilkinson (AW)

Simon Billinge (SJB)

Brent Fultz (BF)

Suzanne te Velthuis (StV)

John Root (JR)

Greg Smith (GS)

Missing:

Shenda Baker (SB)

Agenda

1) Approval of minutes of 10/30/2007 teleconference call

2) Review of action items from last minutes

3) Prizes & fellows guidelines

a) **Science Prize, 12 year limit**

b) **Nomination package resubmission**

4) ACNS

a) **Royal Society of Chemistry request**

b) **Science policy/educational session**

c) **AOB**

5) Congressional budget - letters of support

6) Website

7) AOB

8) Set date for next call

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Discussions

1) Approval of minutes of 10/30/2007 teleconference call

Minutes of the 10/30/2007 teleconference call are approved.

2) Review of action items from last minutes

2a) Previous item 2a. **RP will send out invitations to the selected members of the International Program Committee for ICNS09.** As RP is not on the call so resolution of this item is unknown.

2b) Previous item 2c&2d: Completed

2c) Previous item 4 (ACNS08): RP has sent around email with suggestions for speakers for the science policy/educational session session, but details have not been finalized.

RP should organize speakers for this session.

SJB still needs to find slot for the session in the agenda

3) Prizes & fellows guidelines

a) Science Prize, 12 year limit

SJB brought up the issues that when creating the 12 year limit of receiving a Ph.D. for the Science Prize, it was not specified in detail how to count the 12 years. SJB suggests that the wording should be changed so that effectively the year (and not the exact date) of the Ph.D. is enough to determine eligibility. **SJB will formulate the wording of a rule and send it around for approval.**

b) Nomination package resubmission

The ExecCom decides to allow nomination packages to be active for two cycles (i.e. be considered for the cycle following the one where it was first submitted, without resubmission). This applies to the Shull, Sustained Research, and Science Prize.

The selection committee chairs will be asked for the unsuccessful nomination packages so that they can be saved for the following round.

In order to preserve anonymity, it will requested that the nomination packages are placed in a sealed envelope and sent to the NSSA secretary. Digital nomination packages can be saved on a CD, which is then included in the sealed envelope. The NSSA secretary will then pass on the envelopes to the chairs in the next round.

StV will send emails to chairs asking for the nomination packages and information about nominees and nominators for tracking purposes.

4) ACNS

a)Update

-SJB reports that the organization is running smoothly.

-AW, RP and SJB have been working on proposal writing.

Helen Kerch (DOE) had said the proposal to DOE should go through one of the National Labs. The local organizers have been approached to try to do so through LANL and will coordinate with Jim Rhyne.

It is not clear yet that there will be funding from NSF.

It is suggested NSF could be asked for funds to increase diversity. This would require developing a plan to do that and report on the success of the plan. It would be a lot of work but, 1) would involve NSF; 2)would encourage NSSA to create a diversity plan for the society. Lee Magid suggested SB could be very effective here.

BF: We would need to write a plan for more than 1 conference and define metric to measure success over time

AW: A metric would require demographic information, which could be obtained from the registration form.

Having this demographic information could also be helpful in obtaining other funding.

The ExecCom agrees it would be beneficial to obtain demographic information.

- The program committee sent out the call for nominations for invited speakers and received many suggestions. The list has been forwarded to the subcommittees for their use. StV notes that a large percentage of the nominators came from NIST. **StV will forward the list to RP** who can make up a demographic and possibly use at next meeting of facility directors.

- The facilities session is still being discussed, but will soon be sorted out.

b) Science policy/educational session

RP sent around email regarding the science policy/educational session suggesting we invite a AAAS member to speak about the federal science budget and someone to talk about scientific publications.

RP will continue to pursue ideas for this session.

SJB prefers the AAAS speaker's topic over that about publications.

c) Royal Society of Chemistry request

It is decided to ask MRS to deal with the Royal Society of Chemistry's request have some advertising of its organization and journals in exchange for advertising of ACNS. The ExecCom decides that the email addresses of the attendees will not be given to the RSC as requested but is willing to negotiate on the other items mentioned in their email.

5) Congressional budget - letters of support

ExecCom agrees to send an email to our members asking them to write to their representatives, as drafted by RP.

GS will send RP new list of email addresses of NSSA members

RP will send out email.

6) Website

BF: wiki's are being set up for the NSSA

So far it is not yet password protected. When it is, login information will be sent to the ExecCom and Emily Liu will be contacted.

7) AOB

none

8) Set date for next call

Tuesday 1/8/07, 4pm EST

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne te Velthuis, 12/14/07.