

NSSA Executive Committee
Minutes of the conference phone call 4:00pm EST, 01/08/08
(action items in red)

Present on the conference call:

Roger Pynn (RP)
Angus Wilkinson (AW)
Brent Fultz (BF)
Suzanne te Velthuis (StV)
John Root (JR)
Greg Smith (GS)
Shenda Baker (SB) (items 3&4)

Missing:

Simon Billinge (SJB)

Agenda

- 1) **Approval of minutes of 11/27/2007 teleconference call**
- 2) **Review of action items from last minutes**
- 3) **Prizes & fellows press release**
- 4) **Science Prize, 12 year limit wording**
- 5) **APS march meeting booth**
- 6) **ACNS08**
 - a) **Update**
 - b) **IPNS retrospective**
- 7) **Website**
- 8) **AOB**
- 9) **Set date for next call**

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Discussions

1) Approval of minutes of 11/27/2007 teleconference call

Minutes of the 11/27/2007 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.**

2b) Previous item 2c: RP has invited Kei Koizumi (AAAS) to speak at ACNS on the topic of Federal funding for science and he has accepted.

SJB has sent email to Dan Neumann and Lee Magid about reserving a time slot in the agenda for this talk, but the outcome is unknown as SJB is not present. **RP will follow up with SJB on this item.**

2c) Previous item 3a (Science Prize, 12 year limit wording): Completed by SJB & will be further discussed during agenda item 4.

2d) Previous item 3b (Nomination package resubmission): Subcommittee chairs have been informed. **StV will remind those from whom she still needs to receive the information.**

2e) Previous items 4a&4b (ACNS): Completed

2d) Previous item 5 (Congressional budget - letters of support): Completed. **RP will follow up with Steve Pierson (APS) to see how many members sent letters to their representatives.**

2f) Previous item 6 (Website): Completed

3) Prizes & fellows press release

StV still need to receive some of the information needed for the press releases.

StV will contact the relevant subcommittee chairs.

StV will compile the press releases after receiving all the information.

It is decided to create one press release for all 3 prizes and one for the fellows.

GS will look up the information on the awards from last time and look into ordering new ones.

AW requests that the orders be placed using the NSSA credit card.

4) Science Prize, 12 year limit wording

The ExecCom agrees to the wording SJB suggested by email which clarifies how the 12 year limit applies to nominees for this prize.

The requirement for this prize is:

"The nominee must have earned his/her Ph.D on or after the 1st January of the year which is 12 years before that in which the nomination is made. For example, for a nomination in the year 2009, the nominee must have received his/her Ph.D on or after 1st January 1997. Unsuccessful nominations can be carried forward one time to the next call for nominations. In this case, to be eligible in the new competition the nomination year is considered to be that of the new nomination and not the original submission date."

5) APS march meeting booth

The success of the NSSA booth at the MRS fall meeting is discussed. GS reports it went well and resulted in about 50 new members. There was a lot of interest. It was suggested to create a unified poster instead of separate posters from the different facilities. This would avoid duplication of information and therefore make better use of the space and look more professional. It might then also be possible to have a single booth instead of a double one.

JR volunteers to take responsibility for creating a poster and will write to the facility directors asking them for electronic versions of their posters from which information can be extracted.

At the MRS booth, user coordinators Leilani Conradson(LANL) and Al Ekkebus(ORNL) were very helpful in staffing the booth, as conference attendance of facility staff was insufficiently low.

It is decided that based on the success, to go ahead and also have a booth at the APS March Meeting. StV and RP will be attending.

StV will coordinate organization of the booth. A single booth should be sufficient.

AW requests that payments are made using the NSSA credit card.

6) ACNS08

a)Update

AW reports that a conference call with the local committee did not take place and is concerned about the status of some issues.

- 1) Status of grant to DOE. RP reports that SNS has agree to submit the grant to DOE but is waiting on SJB for information. **SJB needs to send them the relevant proposal information.**
- 2) Deadline for the proposal to NIST. If it is this month, **this proposal also need to be submitted soon (action for SJB).**
- 3) AW suggests that the conference also be well advertised in Europe, as due to the current exchange rate and Santa Fe location, it might be attractive for Europeans. This could also counteract any adverse effect on attendee numbers that the budget situation in the US may create. **The conference should get advertised on the neutron mailing list (action for SJB).**

b)IPNS retrospective

Following the announcement that IPNS has been shutdown it is discuss if and how the contribution and impact of IPNS on neutron scattering around the world and on the future of neutron scattering can be celebrated. It is decided that there should be a dedicated talk during the ACNS08. **AW will bring this up at the next ACNS conference call.** Assuming a slot in the agenda can be found, **RP will invite Gerry Lander to give a talk at the ACNS.** A possible backup speaker is suggested.

Ray Teller (IPNS) has inquired if funds can be made available to IPNS staff members who would like to attend ACNS08 but may no longer have travel support available to them due to the IPNS shutdown. It is decided to find a way to support them. **AW see how this can be done.**

7) Website

Ian Anderson (SNS) wants to create a neutron facilities web-site similar to the one the light sources have (www.lightsources.org). They have already claimed the name (www.neutronsources.org). At the next facility directors meeting he will see if other facilities are interested in supporting this. SNS or this site could take over the site and mailinglist that IPNS has been hosting. This might be a better solution than the NSSA taking this over, as they may have more resources.

The NSSA wiki has been set up and the ExecCom has received instructions on how to create login information so that we can all edit the site.

Action for all: go and try to edit the site and give feedback

8) AOB

none

9) Set date for next call

Tuesday 2/12/08, 4pm EST

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne te Velthuis, 1/10/08.