

**NSSA Executive Committee  
Conference Call Minutes, 03/30/16**

**Katharine Page (Secretary), 04/20/16**

**Present:** Mike Crawford (MC)  
Katharine Page (KP)  
Stephan Rosenkranz (SR)  
Harlyn Silverstein (HS)  
Patrick Woodward (PW)

**Absent:** Doug Godfrin (DG)  
Matthew Helgeson (MH)  
Ron Jones (RJ)  
Mark Lumsden (ML)  
Megan Robertson (MR)  
Norm Wagner (NW)  
Chris Wiebe (CW)

**Agenda:** 1) Adoption of minutes from 02/24/16 (KP/SR/All)  
2) Date for next conference call (SR/KP/All)  
3) Letters to Dehmer and Willy May (SR)  
4) ACNS 2016 Planning Update (PW)  
5) 2016 NSSA Prizes/Fellows/Service Awards (SR)  
6) Report on APS Spring Meeting Booth (All)  
7) AOB

**Discussion Minutes (by agenda item number):**

**1. Approval of minutes (KP/SR/All)**

The minutes from 02/24/16 were adopted with minor corrections.

**2. Date for next conference call (SR/KP/All)**

The date and time for the next conference call was agreed to be Wednesday, May 4, at 10 AM Central Time.

**3. Letters to Dehmer and Willy May (SR)**

SR has drafted a letter to the Department of Energy expressing concern over the decline of neutron scattering facilities in North America. Several executive committee members have been asked to provide comments. The letter will be sent to Patricia Dehmer. SR will also draft a letter to be sent to Willy May, applauding support of NCNR.

**4. ACNS 2016 planning update (PW)**

PW provided updates on the status of ACNS 2016. He is setting up an ACNS conference call for next week.

At present the program chairs are working with the programming subcommittees to schedule sessions and talks. 290 abstracts were submitted to the meeting. This is a reduction relative to the 401 received in 2014, but is consistent with the 303 received in 2012. The number of oral sessions may be reduced, and the poster session Sunday night will be eliminated (posters will be presented Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday). Overall, there was a rise in soft matter-themed submissions and a reduction in biology-themed submissions. Approximately 70 applications were received for student and early career scientist travel assistance.

There has been a change in the after-dinner speaker. The speaker will be Adam Steltzner, the lead engineer of the Mars Science Laboratory Curiosity rover EDL phase (Entry, Descent and Landing).

Firm commitments have been received from DOE and ORNL regarding funding for ACNS. It was stipulated that DOE funding should only be used for travel support of participants. The NIST funding commitment is still anticipated.

MRS and the ACNS planning committee have discussed a \$550 Registration Fee for the ACNS. The ACNS website still designates the fee is subject to change and pre-registration has not been opened. A number of needed website updates will be discussed at the next ACNS conference call.

User group meetings have been scheduled for SNS/HIFR and NIST at the ACNS. There is space in the schedule on Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon if a request is made for a Second Target Station meeting.

SR still has not received a commitment regarding European participation in the scheduled meeting of neutron scattering societies at ACNS.

#### **5. 2016 NSSA prizes / fellows /service awards (SR)**

SR is sending out congratulatory notes to new NSSA fellows, and will work with ML to send out a formal announcement. ML and KP will work on ordering/printing the awards and certificates. All Fellow, Prize and Service Award Citations have been completed. The prizes will need to be shipped to the conference location or a local organizer. Return shipping to awardee institutes will also need to be arranged for the heavier prizes. These items will be discussed at the ACNS conference call next week. MC will prepare monetary award checks and tax forms for awardees and send these to SR ahead of the meeting.

#### **6. Report on APS Spring Meeting booth (All)**

The Neutron Facilities / NSSA booth at the March American Physics Society (APS) meeting was discussed. MC stopped by the booth and noted significant activity. ML shipped booth materials and helped organize volunteers. He will be asked for a summary during the next NSSA conference call.

## **7. AOB**

It was noted that the Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee (BESAC) Subcommittee evaluating facility upgrade priorities was scheduled to meet with facility leaders in the middle of April. The committee has a July deadline for reporting.

**Action items**

<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Action item</b>	<b>Agenda date (mo/yr)</b>	<b>Agenda Item # for next meeting</b>
1	SR	Letter to Patricia Dehmer urging reinvestment in neutron sources. Letter to Willy Mays applauding NCNR support.	05/15	3
2	PW	Schedule ACNS conference call. Finalize registration fee with MRS. Request ACNS webpage updates.	03/16	4
2	SR/ML	Draft and send thank you notes to all NSSA Prize and Fellow nominators. Announce 2016 NSSA Fellows.	02/16	5
3	ML/KP	Order award for Prize awardees and print certificates for Fellows. Arrange for shipping to/from conference.	03/16	5
4	MC	Prepare checks and tax forms for monetary awards and send these to SR.	03/16	5