

**NSSA Executive Committee Meeting  
08/14/2019 – Meeting minutes**

**Flora Meilleur (secretary)**

**Present:**

Peter Gehring (PG)  
Brian Josey (BJ)  
Despina Louca (DL)  
Flora Meilleur (FM)  
Brad Olsen (BO)  
Kate Ross (KR)  
Matthew Helgeson (MH)

**Absent:**

Alannah Hallas (AH)  
Nancy Ross (NR)

**Agenda:**

- 1) Adoption of the July 10 meeting minutes (DL/FM/All)
- 2) Date for next call (DL/FM/All)
- 3) ACNS 2020 (DL/PG)
- 4) Support for the MRS conference on Neutron Scattering
- 5) Student/Post-doc nominations for member-at-large position
- 6) Bylaws (MH/DL)
- 7) Repository for NSSA documents (FM/All)
- 8) Treasury/Communications/Membership officer updates (BO/KR/NR)
- 9) AOB

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

**1. Adoption of the July 10 meeting minutes (DL/FM/All)**

No comments or additions were made to the minutes of the July 10 meeting. The minutes were adopted.

**2. Date for next conference call (DL/FM/All)**

DL tasked FM with sending a poll out to select day and time of the next meeting during September 16 – September 18, 2019.

**3. ACNS 2020 (DL/PG)**

*Program:*

PG: The topic titles were finalized by the program chairs (Annex 1). MRS will post the topics to the website by August 19. The programming chairs are requesting suggestions from the NSSA Ex. Com for session chairs. These suggestions can be made directly to LP and JT by email. LP and JT have also requested input for the Neutron Physics topic DL indicated she would suggest names.

*Prizes:*

DL: Call for nomination should go out in September, after the appointment of the selection committee members. The NSSA Ex. Com. will be selecting the prize committees. There are three selection committees (5 members each), one for the Shull prize, a second one for both the NSSA Sustained Research Prize and the NSSA Science Prize and the third one for the NSSA Prize for Outstanding Student Research. Scientists who have previously served on these committees will not be ask to serve again.

It was commented that NSSA fellows should serve (the names of the fellows since 2007 are listed on the NSSA website).

The criteria for the science prize are restrictive and the Ex. Com. should ensure that sufficient nominations are made despite the limitations.

Until this year, NSSA had paid for the prizes before the meeting. This year MRS will pay for the prizes but the technicalities still need to be worked out.

*DOE proposal:*

PG: The DOE proposal is due early January 2020.

*After diner talk:*

DL indicated that the local organizer typically come up with suggestions.

*Lodging:*

PG: Cheaper accommodations are being looked into in order to promote student participation at the meeting.

Student housing (dormitories) is available within 20-minute walk from the meeting venue. Public transportation is available to and from the dorms. The cost is significantly lower than that of the conference hotel (single room \$39; double room \$41; must include a meal plan at 10\$/day).

Block booking of 40-50 rooms could be an issue.

#### **4. Support for the MRS conference on Neutron Scattering**

The NSSA has received a request for funding from the organizers of the MRS conference on Neutron Scattering which will be held the first week of December in Boston. In the past the NSSA supported this meeting. Given the current financial situation of the society, the Ex. Com. voted not to support the conference this year. FM informed the organizers that the society could not support the meeting by email on 08/14/2019.

KR took the opportunity of this discussion to follow-up on a proposal from AH to revisit how the NSSA allocates conference support. KR will follow up with AH and FM to draft alternative ways to support student's participation at conferences.

#### **5. Student/Post-doc nominations for member-at-large position**

KR emailed the society members requesting nominations for student an post-doc member-at-large on 08/14/2019 (BJ's term ends in December). DL asked the committee members to also nominate potential candidates.

## **6. Bylaws (MH/DL/KR)**

MH will share the bylaws using Google Docs so the Ex. Com. members can also access and edit the document.

MH will edit the bylaws with suggestions made by DL and discussed during past meetings. The revised bylaws will be submitted to a society vote during the ACNS2020.

MH proposed to create a “companion” document documenting the chronology of amendments being made to help future Ex. Com. in understanding what/when/why changes were made. This proposal was enthusiastically received.

## **7. Repository for NSSA documents (FM/All)**

The Ex. Com. members decided to use Google Drive to store documents. FM will create a shared folder where the Ex. Com. members can upload documents.

## **8. Treasury/Communications/Membership officer updates (BO/KR/NR)**

Treasury: no update

Membership: no update

Communication: KR reported a complication that arose with double factor identification when emailing the society. The issue was resolved but the cost is not known.

## **9. AOB**

No other business.

## 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	FM/All	Select next meeting date/time by Doodle Poll.	07/2019	2
3	All	ACNS2020: - Propose session chair names to programming chair	08/2019	3
4	KR/FM/AH	Alternate ways to support conference participation	08/2019	tbd
5	KR	Reminder email to society: - call for student/post-doc nomination	08/2019	tbd
6	MH	Upload bylaws on Google Drive for edits	08/2019	tbd
7	FM	Create shared folder in Google Drive for NSSA ex. Com. documents	08/2019	tbd

## Annex1 – ACNS2020 Topics

### **Advances in neutron facilities, instrumentation and software**

Includes: Developments in sources, instrumentation, sample environments, data analysis, and new modeling capabilities.

### **Hard condensed matter**

Includes: Magnetism, correlated metals, quantum/topological materials, superconductors, ferroelectrics, multiferroics, and glasses. Submissions outlining examples of neutron scattering in industrial and engineering applications involving hard condensed matter systems are strongly encouraged.

### **Soft matter**

Includes: Polymers, surfactants, liquid-crystals, emulsions, nanoparticles, colloidal particles and assemblies. In-situ studies of colloidal and polymeric systems under external fields. Submissions outlining examples of neutron scattering in industrial and engineering applications involving soft matter systems are strongly encouraged.

### **Biology and biotechnology**

Includes: Proteins, biological assemblies, natural materials, nucleic acids, drug-delivery platforms, and biomedical systems. Submissions outlining examples of neutron scattering in applied research involving biological systems are strongly encouraged.

### **Materials Chemistry and Energy**

Includes: Neutron-based studies of porous materials such as metal organic frameworks (MOFs), zeolites; inorganic materials such as pigments; electrolytes; catalysts; ionic conductors; photovoltaic materials (hybrid perovskites, etc.).

### **Structural Materials and Engineering**

Includes: Neutron scattering studies of materials and engineering processes including structural materials, concrete and metals, as well as engineering processes including combustion, additive manufacturing, and others.

### **Emerging applications of neutron scattering in engineering, arts and sciences**

Includes: Emerging topics that are broadening the application of neutron science to new fields of study, for example art restoration, archaeology, anthropology, and geology.

### **Neutron Physics**

Includes: Fundamental physical studies of the neutron and related areas.