

SPD Business Meeting (Closed)
Aug 22, 2017 6:30 -8:00 pm
Doubletree Hilton, Portland, OR

We have a quorum: Dana Longcope, Lindsay Glesener, Holly Gilbert, Aimee Norton, David McKenzie. Andres Munoz-Jaramillo and Monica Bobra were attending as observers. Joel Parriott was attending as AAS public policy director.

1. Welcome and Chair Report.

- Dana Longcope called the meeting to order.
- The 2017 election summary was provided.
- Kelly Koreck and Andres Munoz-Jaramillo were elected and welcomed.
- Stephen Bradshaw and Sabrina Savage were thanked for their work on the committee.
- Voter turnout for the 2017 SPD election was lower than last year (18% this year vs 24% last year).

2. Secretary's Report (Aimee Norton)

- SPD Membership was roughly constant.
- The SPD has 440 active members as of May 8 2017.
- 55 are Division Affiliates from other scientific organizations.
- The total number of members is down 2.2% from 450 in 2016.
- The numbers within the various categories of membership are Full 260, Associate 20, Affiliate 55, Junior 21, Emeritus 84.
- The SPD's electronic newsletter, SolarNews, is distributed twice a month to the world wide solar physics community. It provides the disciplines' premier global means for communicating news and information. The archive location changes this year due to the move of NSO to Boulder, CO. The archives are now available at:
- <http://spd.stanford.edu//SolarNews/index.html> It's current subscriber list is 1294, an 8% increase from the previous year's subscription. SolarNews is prepared and edited by the SPD secretary, Aimee Norton.
- Some discussion was had about demographic studies, i.e. it would be useful to study the age and gender statistics of our SPD membership.

3. Treasurer report (David McKenzie)

- Dues, donations, investments portfolio were reported.
- There was a loss on the SPD meeting.
- EP/O spending, public policy, child care for the Boulder meeting.
- The child care applications were not solicited this year and we need to ensure this happens next year. It was suggested that there could be a prompt on the registration to ask if someone would like to apply for childcare subsidy. But ideally, people would know that this is available in advance.
- Prior year treasury report was given in order to compare with this year.
- Prizes and awards that were awarded were listed.

- Studentships for meeting attendance were discussed.
- Actions taken by committee in 2016-2017 year.
- Please attach the Treasurer's report as sent via email.

4. Votes on Budget and/or Spending

- Moved, seconded and unianimously voted on a zero dollar student registration for meetings in upcoming year. Registration will be paid from checking and savings. We may also reduce registration fee for first year postdocs.
- Moved, seconded and unanimously voted on keeping EPO budget at \$3000/year.
- Moved, seconded and unanimously voted for keeping public policy budget at \$7000/yr.
- Moved, seconded and unanimously voted on Studentship budget being kept at \$10,000 for this year (the third year at this level).
- Kept Metcalf spending the same and childcare award levels the same.
- Moved, seconded and unaminously voted on dues being kept at current level.

5. Open Source Software Development Discussion

- Monica Bobra noted that funding the support and development of open source software development (SunPy) might be an opportunity for SPD.
- Much of our community depends on IDL or Python. The development and support of the open source software is crucial for solar physics.
- If we did financially support this in some way, where would the money go and how would it be useful? numFOCUS is the group that would get the donation and we would specify it would go to SunPy.
- Donations could support minimal cost of workshop attendances and/or a new fund that could be given to OpenSource Software support.

6. Popular Writing Award Prize Discussion (Monica Bobra)

- There was trouble awarding a prize this year due to many articles being so short (ie blog entries) and not a long form article.
- This is indicative of news articles becoming shorter.
- Bylaw x2.e. It was suggested that a change is made to the bylaws so that the prize could be an equivalent electronic publication instead of a longform article.
- Monica and Dana will present a change during the business meeting.
- Note from Joel Parriot: we will need a global replace in our bylaws for 'Coucil of the Society' since that is no longer relevant.

7. Diversity & Climate

- Lyndsay Glesener gave an update about diversity efforts. There was discussion on past and current efforts in diversity and on how to improve our climate.

- Links to town halls, conferences about racism in astronomy, inclusion in astronomy, gender in astronomy were provided. We agreed there is a lot of work to do in this area.

8. Next Meetings

- The year 2018 has a meeting with TESS scheduled for Lansdowne Resort in Leesburg, VA near Dulles airport. This locatin is near the Air and Space Museum and many of the solar physics community live near DC. The dates are May 20-24.
- The AAS summer meeting will be in Denver June 3-7 2018.
- The 2019 meeting is completely open. It was suggested that a meeting near NASA Marshall, Huntsville Alabama may be a good idea.

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Dana Longcope provides overview of meeting attendance and provides total numbers of AAS/SPD. Election results were provided, see summary notes from closed meeting.

Public writing awards: Virat Markandeya with “The Man Who Discovered the Sun’s Puzzling Heat is Being Forgotten” in Nautilus April 2016. No winner in scientist category. It was suggested that a change is made to the bylaws so that the prize could be an equivalent electronic publication instead of a longform article.

Public policy congressional visits were summarized. The attendees were mentioned, members with connection to member districts, space weather research and forecasting act passed the senate. Space weather act was discussed.

Future meeting were discussed. May 20-24 in Leesburg, VA joint meeting with TESS. 2018 AAS summer meeting will be in Denver, CO June 3-7. 2019 meeting location is not know.

Treasurer report by David McKenzie. SPD finances were summarized including dues, donations, prize uses, investments, child care grants, etc.

Observatory Reports:

NSO: Valentin Martinez Pillet gave report for NSO. DKIST update was that construction is progressing smoothly and on schedule. The move of SOLIS to Big Bear has been delayed due to problems with permits with San Bernardino County. GONG refurbishment will continue into 2018. On going efforts are calibration of GONG and SOLIS. SPRING/SWING white paper started. Sunspot Sac Peak will be operated by NMSU for 2 years with funding from NSF but also searching from consortium funds. NSO Boulder site has highest numbers, Maui next. DKIST critical science plan was discussed. Critical Science Plan workshops were discussed with leaders and tentative dates given.

HAO: Yuhong Fan gave observatory report in place of Scott McIntosh who gave his regrets. Staff status was discussed. COMP instrument development and plans were presented. HAO strategic working groups were presented. Eclipse efforts included the megamovie project, coronal polarimetry and Phil Judge’s spectropolarimetry work. These were presented in brief.

As of the end of this meeting, Holly Gilbert assumes chair of SPD Committee and Dana Longcope will become Vice-Chair. Dana Longcope is thanked for hiis service.