

REPORT OF CPS SECTION REPRESENTATIVE TO NATIONAL AAPT
CPS Business Meeting MARCH 12, 2011
Submitted by Lynn Aldrich, CPS Sec Rep

Summer 2010 AAPT Meeting – Portland, OR

A presentation was given by Lynn Aldrich and Fran Poodry to Section Representatives on the Spring 2010 CPS/SEPA/NJ section meeting, since many sections are considering joint section meetings as we did last year and will do next year. Section reps met in regional groups to help facilitate discussion as to ways sections can work together and to brainstorm ways that AAPT can help sections.

Winter 2011 AAPT Meeting – Jacksonville, FL

Lynn Aldrich and 4 other Section Reps presented information on how reductions in state funding were affecting physics departments in state supported institutions.

A power point presentation on the changes in AAPT Member Dues structure was given with a copy going to Section Representatives for use in Section meetings.

2011 Dues consist of 3 possible costs:

Online access (AJP and TPT) and AIP fee (Physics Today) - \$30 for all

Dues for employment category – Regular Pre-College \$62, College \$107

Optional print journals – AJP \$32, TPT \$23

The Associate membership (\$36) still exists for 2011.

AAPT is moving much closer to having a balanced budget this year, thereby reducing the amount taken from reserve funds to balance the budget. At some point in the future AAPT sections will be asked to help distribute a survey to non-AAPT members, the results of which will be used to guide AAPT decisions on membership and meetings.

Discussion is occurring about whether to continue to have both a Winter and a Summer AAPT Meeting. Meeting loses have been reduced, with the summer meeting in Portland actually making a little money. It is unlikely AAPT will hold a joint meeting with another organization in the future, since AAPT has lost money on these meetings in past years. Determination of meeting costs include, in addition to the direct meeting costs, indirect costs, such as staff time and expenses involved in planning the meeting and a percent of overhead expenses.

Section Representatives voted on meeting sites for 2013. Future meetings are:

:Summer 2011 - July 30 - August 3, 2011 – Creighton Univ, Omaha, NE

Abstract Deadline - March 21, 2011

APS Plenary – Frontiers of Nanoscience

Winter 2012 – February 4 - 8, 2012 – Ontario CA

Summer 2012 – July 28 – August 1, 2012 - Univ Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Winter 2013 - January 5-9 - New Orleans LA

Summer 2013 – July 16-20 - Portland, OR

AAPT's Meeting Committee recommendations try to assure that meetings are not money losers. Meeting locations need to be cities with reasonable hotel rates and available airports for transportation to meeting.

From AAPT re hotel rooms for National Meetings:

When a venue is secured for a national meeting, AAPT reserves a number of guest rooms at one or more hotels. The more guest rooms that are booked, the better the rates AAPT receives, not just from the particular hotel, but also from the convention center and other facilities we might need during the meeting (bus service, etc.). Guest rooms are reserved for each night of the meeting, usually starting the Thursday before the meeting starts and ending the Thursday after the meeting. We also try to contract just enough rooms so that a large percentage of people attending the meeting will be able to reserve guest rooms up to the registration deadline. In previous years, organizations were not penalized for overbooking, as long as the rooms were released several months before the meeting.

At the end of the meeting, the hotel adds up the total room-nights (the sum of the number of rooms used each night) and compares this to the number of room-nights promised (often in a contract) by the association. If the association has not utilized the number of guest rooms contracted, it is liable to pay the hotel for the guest rooms unused. This fee can be quite large.

How can you help?

There are a number of things you can do to help prevent the association from incurring attrition fees. These include:

Book your guest room reservation early and as accurately as possible. We recognize that unforeseen conditions may alter plans, but the earlier you let the hotel know of changes, the more likely it is that another member will be able to fill the nights.

The more individuals who book within the AAPT block, the better our rates will be, and the less we will be charged for use of meeting rooms, etc. In addition, Annual Meeting registration fees for each year are based on results from the past 1-3 years results. If we need to budget attrition fees and other costs into the registration fee, it will rise. The higher the percentage of attendees who use the hotel registration service, the better we will be able to accurately book room blocks for upcoming years.

With your cooperation, AAPT will continue to be successful in negotiating good contracts for the association for the National Meeting, and AAPT will be able to maintain the conference and activities that members have come to enjoy.