

Minutes of the AAPT-CPS Fall Executive Board Meeting  
Penn State University – University Park  
Saturday, November 20, 2010  
(Approved on March 12, 2011)

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD PRESENT

Greg Dolise, Sardari Khanna, Michael Doncheski, Dave McCachren, John Reid, Lynn Aldrich, Michael Gallis, Stephen Van Hook

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm.

I. Minutes

The minutes of the Spring 2010 Executive Committee Meeting were approved unanimously with one change: for VIII. New Business. #4. AAPT-CPS, not AAPT.

II. Treasurer's Report (Dari Khanna)

1. Have \$1492.10 in checking, CD \$3830.17 in Wachovia, for a total of \$5322.27, which is down a couple hundred dollars from last year. We had a balance of \$5155.27 before the spring conference and now have \$5322.27 (got \$167 check from LaSalle).
2. Treasurer no longer gets names of members, just checks, so system for tracking members has broken down. We need to make sure we get membership lists from meetings (John still has copy of list from Lock Haven and Mike D. has list from year before). It's important that members get mailings and apparently that hasn't always happened. John will post his and Mike's lists and put them in password-protected section on web and hunt down old lists. Last list is from 2005.

III. Section Representative's Report (Lynn Aldrich)

1. The January 2011 AAPT meeting is in Jacksonville.
2. Beth Cunningham (formerly at Bucknell) has been hired at AAPT for the Executive Director. It was proposed that we invite her up to present at an AAPT-CPS meeting. It was decided that we give her a year to get her feet wet before having her come, but start the conversation now (congratulate her and say we'd like to have her come up for a section meeting).
3. Concerns were expressed about registration fees for national meetings. Several reasons for this increased fees were given: Universities are no longer as cheap as they used to be (more competition for facilities in the summer?), co-hosting with other organizations can up fees since other organizations may have higher fees, and reduced staff at AAPT reduces their ability to host events. Dari expressed an interest in hosting a meeting at York for a lot less money than current meetings cost.

4. Section representative gets for winter meeting only: travel and two nights of hotel (3 night if share room) are paid for by AAPT; representative pays for food and registration.
5. We should invite AAPT members from this area to join AAPT-CPS – we can get the list from AAPT.
6. We are called CPA, not CPS, by National organization.

#### IV. High School Representative (Dave McCachren)

1. PTRAs workshop had 12 participants for fall 2010; participants came from all over, including one pre-service teacher from Juniata.
2. Spring joint meeting at LaSalle: Dave will get details to John for web in near future,
3. Dave reported that for the number of dollars generated by PTRAs workshops, Pat was #1 and Dave was #2 for PTRAs workshops nationally. Dave offered kudos to the section's support of the PTRAs program, both advertising and hosting, and noted that we are the only section that does this for the PTRAs program. PTRAs teachers are supposed to run 2 workshops a year and section support has allowed Dave & Pat to do this.

#### IV. Two Year College Representative (Greg Dolise)

1. Physics Olympiad event went well: teachers came off looking good to their schools, we came off looking good to the community and the students enjoyed it. Student benefits from the experience and when the student applies to college, they can say that they tried out for the physics Olympiad team. This was the first test (mechanics), 2<sup>nd</sup> test for those who get high enough score has more topics, and 3<sup>rd</sup> test later in the spring. Small fee (\$7) for students and small fee to register for organization (\$20). Need an AAPT ID number to host the Science Olympiad. Used to be high schools that hosted it, then it moved up to 2-year colleges, and now have allowed 4-year colleges to host it, too. Questions are very difficult. Calculators are restricted and must be reset.
2. We are having trouble getting members – most have problem with the membership fee. Discussion of current membership fee – right now is \$7, but talk of wanting to go up \$1/year until reach target of \$10. Many teachers Greg talked to don't know we exist and many thought needed to join national organization to join us. We discussed whether we want to put in statement that section membership doesn't require national membership in mailings. Concerns were also expressed that mailings don't always get to teachers.
3. AAPT is willing to host a listserv for each section – do we want to use this? Can we use forms on our current website? Apparently crude script for this.
4. It was suggested that we host some kind of event / competition that will bring us some publicity and contact with the local high schools and bring the teachers into the idea that there is a physics community for them. Teachers feel isolated and left alone and that there is no one out there for them to work with. At many 2-year colleges, there's only one physics teacher.

## V. Webmaster/Past President Report (John Reid).

1. Created log of website activity and went over highlights.
2. Need more exciting photos for the web site!!!
3. Will add adjacent sections to webpage.
4. Discussion of how to get the word out to regional physics teachers: How is Hershey Park able to get list of high school physics teachers? Can we get access to these lists? Probably getting it from AAPT or PASCO? Contact Hershey to find out source of database?

## VI. President's Report (Michael Doncheski)

1. Is working on new document for officer's duties; sending membership information to Treasurer, PTRAs fall duties.
2. The former President (Kip) resigned for personal reasons and we agreed via email to allow Mike D to step back in as president to fill in slot vacated (this went against constitution, but this was an unusual circumstance). John agreed to continue as past president & webmaster. (There was a quick discussion of ending dates of officers and we corrected a couple ones.)

## VII. Old Business.

1. Waiving membership fee for 1<sup>st</sup> time AAPT-CPS conference attendees for one year was approved.
2. Offering membership for the academic year (overlapping a spring meeting) from the workshop for all PTRAs attendees (who are not already members) once, both fall & spring, post-dated to 11/19/2010, was approved.
3. The database was discussed and it was agreed that all changes of database should be sent to person organizing the next event (PTRAs or conference). [See Treasurer's Report.]
4. Discussion of postcards, but not strong voices for it.
5. Paypal for paying dues online: There is a fee for it, based on amount of payment, but fees are low. They hold the money in account and then they send us a check when we ask. We have to give them our bank account and send them a deposit.
6. Need to add section to webpage about joining AAPT-CPS.

## VIII. New Business

1. We need to start linking more on website – link our site to other sections; get them to link to use, too.]
2. We need to change the registration form so Membership is first, then dotted line for “tear away”, and then have conference registration. Also adjust form to have the free first year. PTRAs attendees should receive a coupon for mailing in.

3. Spring 2011 meeting planning: Invitation has been accepted by Judge Jones & campus chancellor is excited to have him coming. Have budget commitments from college of science and university. Norm Freed was not as excited about the cost figure – doesn't want just contributions in kind from the campus. Discussed how to do a goodie-bag (e.g., admissions, bookstore bags, 4imprint.com for notebooks, vendors, AAPT, development office).
4. Joint meeting with Western PA section for Spring 2012? Need to be aware of cultural differences to make it work. Would need to set basic parameters for us to agree to this. Important: Must have 2 days, with PTRAs and banquet on Friday (keynote speaker on Friday night as a big public event), students present in addition to poster session, have poster session (we've done on Friday, but day not critical). Should agree to number of breakout sections, length of talks, number of talks. Need to have committee meeting at lunch on Saturday. Want to continue having demonstration session. Must agree to common meeting fees. PSU-UP needs to start investigating time for the conference in spring 2012 meeting. Registration setup same location as vendors – e.g., Osmond lobby.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen J. Van Hook  
Secretary, AAPT-CPS  
March 11, 2011