

**Minutes of the AAPT-CPS Spring General Business Meeting  
Penn State University – Mont Alto Campus, Mont Alto, PA  
Saturday, March 28, 2009**

**MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD PRESENT:**

Gregory Dolise, Michael Doncheski, Sardari Khanna, Kelly Kriebel, Dave McCachren, John Reid, Kip Trout and Abul Hasan.

**MINUTES:**

As the meeting was ready to begin, the minutes from the Spring 2008 General Business Meeting held at Lock Haven University were distributed by Mike Doncheski. Mike also announced at this time that the keynote speaker from the previous evening, Dr. Francis Halzen, was using his honorarium to buy the meeting attendees lunch.

President John Reid called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm.

**I. Welcome**

John began the meeting by welcoming all members of the AAPT-CPS to the General Business Meeting. He then thanked Mike Doncheski and the Mont Alto Campus for being gracious hosts for the spring meeting. He also recognized that Dr. Halzen's presentation from the previous evening was excellent and asked Mike to extend our thanks to him for the presentation and for buying us lunch.

**II. Review Minutes**

After everyone had a chance to review the minutes, a motion was made to approve the minutes for the Spring 2008 General Business Meeting held at Lock Haven University. (motion: Abul Hasan, second: Mike Gallis). Minutes approved.

**III. President's Report (John Reid)**

John began by reporting that it was a good year for the PTRA. Both the workshop at Lock Haven and the one in the fall at H.A.C.C. were well attended and very successful. He thanked Dave McCachren and the rest of the PTRA teachers and assistants for their work.

John then presented the Distinguished Service Award to the Past President, Dr. Abul Hasan, for his 4 years of service to the AAPT-CPS. He thanked Abul for his service.

Kelly Kriebel was then recognized by John for his long service as Section Representative for the AAPT-CPS. No one could remember how many years Kelly has served the organization in this capacity, but John guessed it was 6 years by now. John announced that Kelly's term of service will end this year and that we will need a new Section Representative.

**IV. Section Representative's Report (Kelly Kriebel)**

Kelly announced that the AAPT's program of offering a free 6 month membership to new members, which began years ago, will be ending. But they are adding an Associate Membership to the organization which costs about half as much as being a regular member. In addition, when any new members join the national AAPT, the section they are in will get 25% of the membership fee.

Dari Khanna asked if associate members get the benefits of membership. Kelly said yes.

Kelly then announced the dates and locations of the upcoming AAPT meetings:

- Summer 2009, July 25-29, Ann Arbor MI
- Winter 2010, Feb. 13-16, Washington DC (with APS)
- Summer 2010, July 15-22, Portland, OR (Portland State)
- Winter 2011, January 6-13, Jacksonville, FL
- Summer 2011, July 22-28, Omaha, NE (Creighton State)
- Winter 2012, January 17-26, Ontario, CA (that's California, not Canada)
- Summer 2012, will try to have in New England region
- 2013 possibilities: Glendale, AZ; Houston, TX; New Orleans, LA; San Antonio, TX

Kelly also mentioned that four new sections were voted on and established. They are: Mexico, Quebec, St. Louis Area, and Las Vegas Area.

He then listed the responsibilities and benefits of the Section Representative position since he is stepping down after this section meeting. Some of the highlights: He mentioned that the AAPT pays for a large amount of the cost to attend the winter meeting (about 85%), but they do not cover the registration fee for the meeting. They will not pay for attendance at the summer meetings. The Section Representative must send quarterly reports to AAPT national about the activities of our Central PA Section (CPS). He or she also reports back to the CPS about the happenings at the national level of the AAPT. The Section Representative must be a member of the national AAPT.

**V. Treasurer's financial report and membership report (Dari Khanna)**

Dari updated us on the details of the budget. He reported the balances:

Starting checking balance Sp08	508.94
Collected Sp08 Meeting	1082.??
<u>Expenses Sp08 Meeting</u>	<u>(800.??)</u>
Checking account balance now	\$790.52
CD account (interest rolls over)	\$3500.00
Total	\$4290.52

Dari said that we had started at 508.94 in the checking account in spring, but thanks mostly to John, we actually made \$281.44 at the spring section meeting at Lock Haven.

**VI. High School Representative's report (Dave McCachren)**

Dave reported that the PTRAs workshops this past year went very well, and he thanked the section for their support of high school teaching.

Dave suggested that if we do decide to participate in a multi-sectional combined meeting next spring, then he would like us (the CPS PTRAs team) to be the ones who offer the PTRAs workshop at that meeting. He wanted to make sure that in our planning with the other sections we make it clear that we are offering to run the PTRAs workshop.

Dari Khanna recognized Dave and the PTRAs team for their dedication. He said they don't

make much money doing these workshops, but they are committed to them, and he wanted to recognize them for their great efforts.

## **VII. Two-year College Representative's report (Gregory Dolise)**

Greg reported that he contacted as many of the people in our section as he could, but there are still some issues with getting through firewalls which prevents us from reaching everybody via email.

He announced that there is a new AAPT-CPS website online. He and John Reid have been working on it. In the future we will hopefully have a wiki repository for sharing curriculum as well as a bulletin board for general communication among members.

Greg said that it is important for us each to remind our school administrations of the importance of attending our conference meetings. He suggested we remind them that if we are not up to speed on the latest in physics and physics education, then students go elsewhere and the tuition dollars drop.

He announced that AAPT strongly recommends that only full-time faculty should teach advanced physics classes.

Greg also expressed concern about a fact that was shared with him during a recent interview with a prospective physics teacher. He said the Governor of Georgia is pushing a bill that would get rid of 2-yr colleges and effectively merge them with technical schools. He asked that anyone hearing rumors of other states trying this to let him know.

## **VIII. Past President's Report (Abul Hasan)**

Everyone should have received the section newsletter. In the interest of time, no other report was made.

## **IX. Old Business: None**

## **X. New Business**

### **A. Election of Executive Officers**

Due to time constraints (i.e. the approaching lunch hour), John Reid quickly moved the meeting into the election of officers for the coming academic year. Following the previously established protocol for officer promotion and re-election, the following people were announced by John Reid as candidates for the following offices of the Executive Board:

Past President: John Reid (Lock Haven)

President: Mike Doncheski (PSU – Mont Alto)

Vice President: Kip Trout (PSU – York)

Treasurer: Dari Khanna (York College)

2-yr College Representative: Greg Dolise (H.A.C.C.)

High School Representative: Dave McCachren (Indian Valley H.S.)

The floor was then opened for nominations. The following nominations were made and seconded:

Secretary: Mike Gallis (Penn State – Schuylkill)

Section Representative: Lynn Aldrich (College Misericordia)

This slate of officers were voted on and approved by those in attendance at the meeting.

#### **B. New Website: [www.aaptcps.org](http://www.aaptcps.org)**

John used computer projection to show the new website. He announced that we would like to add some blog type utilities and that we also want to come up with a way to resolve our big problem of maintaining our contact list by having a method on the website for people to update their information. Someone in the group mentioned that this feature would need to be password protected if we did this. Everyone agreed.

Greg briefly explained that we decided to start our own website mainly because of the problem maintaining control and continuity with the website when the hosting institution (usually a college associated with an executive officer) changed.

Thanks were expressed to Kelly for getting our website linked off of the national AAPT website.

Dave McCachren said that his H.S. filtering system initially kept him from being able to access our new website. In addition, folks shared that sometimes security warnings came up on the hotel computers when trying to reach the AAPT-CPS website. John announced that if this is a widespread problem that cannot be resolved, we will consider switching web hosts if that is found to be the problem.

Someone suggested that phone numbers be added to the website. Kelly mentioned that the phone numbers are already available via the national AAPT website.

#### **C. Newsletter**

Everyone should have received the section newsletter with their registration materials.

#### **D. Spring PTRAs Workshop at Schuylkill**

The election of Mike Gallis as Secretary means the Fall 2009 PTRAs workshop will occur at the Schuylkill Campus of Penn State.

#### **E. Spring 2010 Conference – Proposed Joint Meeting with SES & NJ at LaSalle University.**

John announced that the section is considering having the Spring Meeting in 2010 as a combined meeting with the Southeast PA section, the New Jersey section, and maybe [at least part of] the New York City section of the AAPT. The meeting would be at LaSalle College near Philadelphia. After some discussion of the pros and cons of such a

meeting, the general consensus of those in attendance was that we should pursue this multi-sectional meeting.

#### **F. Decide on Policy for Emerti Registration Fees**

Dave McCachren made a motion that emeritus [all retired teachers] faculty should be welcome to attend our annual spring meeting without being charged a registration fee. It was noted that they would continue to pay for the banquet meal if attending that portion. The motion was seconded by Dari Khanna. The motion was voted on and passed.

#### **G. Future Meetings**

- Fall 2009 Executive Committee Meeting – Penn State Schuylkill
- Spring 2010 Conference – Joint meeting with SES, NJ, and [maybe] NYC
- Fall 2010 Executive Committee Meeting – TBD
- Spring 2011 Conference – Penn State Schuylkill

#### **H. Membership Dues Increase from \$6 to \$7 Effective June 2009**

John thanked Mike Doncheski and others for stepping up to help lead the section. Then as a last item, John explained that the membership dues for the section will be increasing from \$6 to \$7 beginning in June 2009 to help cover the cost of the section website, and to help build up some funds to help host institutions host meetings in the future.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kip Trout  
Secretary, AAPT-CPS  
May 26, 2009