

Service Crystallography SIG Annual Report 2011

2011 Service SIG elected officers are:

Chair: Amy Sarjeant

Chair Elect: Louise Dawe

Secretary: James Fetting

For the 2010 Chicago Meeting, the Service SIG co/sponsored four sessions:

07.10 Data Collection Strategies (with Small Mol.)

07.15 Would You Publish This II? (with General Interest and Small Mol.)

07.17 Incommensurately Modulated Materials (with Neutron, Powder, and Materials)

07.26 Handling Disorder in Crystal Structures

Additionally, the Service SIG sponsored the PLATON Workshop which was organized by Lee Daniels. The full-day workshop was well attended and well received.

At the 2010 Business meeting, concerns were mentioned about travel problems for service crystallographers. Suggestions were made to have the Service SIG sponsored sessions occur earlier in the week, as departments are not willing to pay for a whole week of travel for service crystallographers. Additionally, a complaint was raised that hotel rates at meetings were increasingly unaffordable for those whose employers would not foot the bill.

For the 2011 New Orleans Meeting, the Service SIG co/sponsors the following sessions:

08.04 Scholarly and Pragmatic Aspects of Crystallographic Publications Practices (with Small Mol, and General Interest). Chairs: Lary Falvello and Ilia Guzei

06.01 Undergrad Research Symposium. Chair: Katherine Kantardjiff

08.10 Educational Inspiration: Crystallographic Teaching Techniques (with General Interest). Chair: Amy Sarjeant

06.02 Would you publish This? Chair: Carla Sleboznick

Addendum to the Service SIG 2011 Annual Report

The sessions co/sponsored by the Service SIG were all well attended and sparked good discussion and debate.

The high cost of meetings was mentioned yet again. Some relief will be offered by a shorter meeting schedule, but there were many calls to move meetings to smaller cities or have them held at university conference centers which may be cheaper. Also, there is a great concern that the 2014 meeting, which coincides with a North American IUCr meeting (Montreal) will be very poorly attended and should possibly be canceled.

Additionally, several points of discussion were raised:

1. Service SIG is too tightly tied to Small Molecule SIG. While the members comprising each SIG share a high degree of overlap, the goals of each SIG are not the same. Service should not be limited to small molecule crystallographers and to that end, we should seek to include our macro and synchrotron counterparts.
2. There were no student presentations in Service-sponsored sessions and therefore we could not award an Etter Student Award. A call was made to encourage more students to participate in our sessions.

3. The CCP14 is currently under-funded and looking for sponsors.
4. Service crystallographers can contact AIP for support in issuing press-releases for interesting scientific results

Suggested sessions for 2012 meeting:

1. 25 Years of Service Crystallography: The Service SIG turns 25 in 2012 and a full day session was proposed by Ken Haller and Curt Haltiwanger (*in absentia*). The morning session will be a retrospective, focused on the early years of service crystallography. The afternoon session will focus on future directions of the service community. Ken and Curt have volunteered to chair the session.
2. Public Domain Software session: A half-day session dedicated to the crystallographic software freely available in the public domain. This will be chaired by Xiaoping Wang and Nigam Rath
3. Would You Publish This?: There is overwhelming support for this evening session and it will be run again by Carla Slebodnick.

A nominating committee will find SIG members willing to run for election as SIG Chair in 2013. The committee comprises Lee Daniels, Louise Dawe and Amy Sarjeant.