

**Council meeting with Current, Past and Future ACA Program, Local and RefleXions Editors
May 31st, 2011**

In attendance; Bruce Foxman and Bruce Noll (2012 Program Chairs), Peter Mueller (2012 Local Chair), Ed Stevens (2011 Local Chair), Judy Flippen-Anderson and Connie Rajnak (RefleXions); Jason Benedict and Yu-Sheng Chen (ACA journal)

2011 ACA Annual Meeting in New Orleans: Stevens talked about what he and Cheryl had needed to do as Local Chairs. They organized the student workers, produced a restaurant guide, and made a presentation of local attractions at the YSSIG organized Orientation Meeting for first time attendees. This had been very successful and should be continued. Rose asked if the Stevenses had organized anything for accompanying people. No, as peoples' interests were different, and hotel concierges could organize anything. Rose stated that he was thinking more of an orientation and/or welcome room on the first night. There were ~20 accompanying people at the meeting. Kelly suggested that perhaps the successful presentation on local attractions could be made open to everyone, whilst the YSSIG orientation for first time attendees could be separate. It was agreed this would be a good idea, and that these events could be consecutive. The YSSIG orientation for first time attendees could be at 6:30pm, immediately followed by a local attractions presentation at 7pm open to all. Wilmot noted that the room had been too small, and so a room that could hold a larger group would be needed in Boston.

Mueller asked about where Stevens had stored boxes of items that had been shipped prior to the meeting. Stevens stated that they had been delivered to the University, and he had placed them in an unoccupied office. They were then packed into a van and driven to the hotel when the Buffalo office staff arrived.

Exhibit Hall layout: Hearing Koetzle give his opening remarks in the exhibit hall had been impossible. Speakers for the band were located by the stage, and so only those close by could hear. Mueller stated that the band and microphone needed to be hooked into the room PA system if available. Phillips noted that getting to the posters was very difficult as they were much too closely packed together. Duax stated that this was the smallest poster area they had ever had. AIP had only looked at the footprint. Duax suggested Mueller visit the actual site in Boston to check if it would work. Everyone was unhappy with the partition between the exhibitors and the posters. For a 4 day meeting adequate poster space would become even more critical. Phillips had spoken with Paul Swepston of RigakuMSC, who was unhappy with an ACA Meeting in the same year as an IUCr Congress. He stated that RigakuMSC may only have a small booth at the ACA on those years.

MOTION: Council thanks the Program and Local Chairs for all their hard work in making the 2011 Meeting such a success (Kelly/Rose; Unanimous)

2012 ACA Annual Meeting in Boston: Foxman was attending SIG meetings to encourage them to tie down Session Chairs before the Friday Planning Meeting. Hackert stated that at the Planning Meeting everything would come together. Foxman stated that although he had never attended a Planning Meeting, Noll had, and he would help guide him. Hackert stated that not all the Session Chairs would be sorted out by then, as often the SIGs wanted to invite someone who was not present at the ACA or SIG Meetings. Wilmot stated that it was often impossible for the BioMac SIG Chair to sort out all the BioMac Session Chairs by the Friday Meeting. Kelly stated that it should be made clear that the SIG Chairs were responsible for naming Session Chairs, and that this should be done in a timely manner.

Abstracts: Colquhoun stated that there had been a miscommunication between the Buffalo office and the Session Chairs about who would inform presenters that their abstract had been selected

for oral presentation. The guidelines state that it is the responsibility of the Session Chairs, but many presenters who were chosen for oral presentation arrived with a poster, and even vice versa. Wilmot asked whether guidelines needed to be updated. Chris Cahill (2011 Program Chair) had updated Session Chair guidelines, and was updating the Program Chair guidelines as well. The ACA was using a new abstract service, and there had been lots of issues. Mueller stated that Session Chairs had the ability to go into any session and change the program, not just their own. The cumbersome nature of the system in moving from one abstract to another (having to go up and down multiple layers) and being unable to search the abstracts, was not ideal. Mueller stated that the abstract CD needed to be searchable. Also, the index of the program book only listed the presenting author, whereas people may only know the name of the PI. To retrieve session codes one needs to look in the inside back cover to work out the session and when it was to take place. Koetzle and Phillips agreed this was awkward and that things needed to link up better. The topic of abstract books vs CDs vs thumb drives was brought up. Colquhoun stated that loaded CDs cost \$1.99 each, whereas loaded thumb drives cost \$6 each. One year, registrants had a choice of abstract books or CDs, and most chose CDs. Only CDs were handed out after that. Rose wondered whether participants who wanted the book could pay extra for it. Colquhoun stated that this was not a viable option economically. Foxman asked if a searchable PDF of the abstract could be on the ACA web-site, so participants could go on-line before the meetings and print out what they wanted.

ACTION: Duax will work out the cost of producing a searchable PDF of the abstracts to bring to Council at the Fall Meeting.

Banquet: Flippen-Anderson asked about when the banquet would be held during the 4 day Boston Meeting - in particular, the idea of having a lunchtime banquet, which would be cheaper. Koetzle stated that Council had discussed a lunchtime banquet and decided no, as this would alter the very nature of the banquet (only 90 minutes, no alcohol, and would likely affect attendance at the afternoon sessions). Colquhoun stated that at a cost of \$70 per ticket there were less than 200 attending the banquet this year, which was the smallest ever. So would the banquet be held on Tuesday night after the posters? Rajnak wondered if moving the workshops to Wednesday and starting the Meeting on Friday night would help. No-one had thought of this, and it was an interesting idea that should be explored. In the upcoming meetings, posters would only be over two days, so space would have to be increased even if only having each poster up for one day. Mueller suggested that the banquet could be on Wednesday, and that it should be included in the registration fee with an opt-out. This would probably mean that more people would attend, and also would enable the participants to claim back the expense of the banquet as part of the registration fee. Colquhoun confirmed that the price per person would be less than \$70, if built into the registration. Mueller had been approached by a couple of people with questions: Could students be housed in dorms? Could the ACA have Meeting T-shirts? The answer was no on both counts. Mueller already had the start of a logo for Boston 2012.

ACA Journal? Benedict and Chen addressed the meeting regarding starting an ACA journal in photocrystallography (chemistry and physics of light interacting with periodic systems), potentially published by AIP. They felt this was an area of growth, and there was currently no journal specifically for work in this field, including the IUCr. Chen stated that this area will increase even more as home sources get brighter. Benedict believed that the journal could also include computation work using QM/MM. The SLAC LCLS (Linac Coherent Light Source) will really open up this area. Phillips asked if this included optical excitation in X-ray crystallography using lasers. Benedict stated yes, and that currently these articles are submitted to more general journals, such as *JACS* or *J Synch Rad*. The journal would cover experiments in time-resolved X-ray diffraction and solid state photochemical reactions, as well as advances in software, hardware and methods needed to perform these experiments. Wilmot and Duax asked if Benedict and Chen could send a

number of articles published elsewhere that would span the breadth of research they feel the journal would address. Benedict stated that this year's Transactions could all be published in the proposed journal. Wilmot asked if they envisioned the journal being on-line only or to also be in print. Benedict stated that initially it could be in a Communication style format, like *Phys Chem Lett*. He does not have a feel for the finances. Rao stated that the idea was to have Flippen-Anderson take the journal idea to AIP, and for them to come up with a proposal regarding interest, feasibility and form. Koetzle told the room that he would be visiting AIP in summer to discuss this. Duax stated that the IUCr Congress also has sessions in this area suggesting international interest. Kelly asked if this was an area the IUCr might be thinking of starting up a journal. Duax stated that the IUCr is unlikely to start a new journal in near future as *J Synch Rad* has not done as well as had been hoped.

ACTION: Flippen-Anderson will work with Benedict and Chen to put together a photocrystallography journal proposal for AIP to consider

ACA Reflexions: Rajnek stated that *Reflexions* has been using the service of volunteers. As *Reflexions* has been in profit, could this be moved to a fund to help with expenses for these volunteers, e.g. Peter Mueller for photography support? Flippen-Anderson stated that the proposed History Fund could help with some of the costs of *Reflexions* work related to archiving crystallographic history. Koetzle stated that Council had discussed and approved the formation of a History Fund. Rao stated that seeding this fund with *Reflexions* profits would reduce taxes, as currently the ACA has to pay tax on *Reflexions* profits.

Duax asked if Flippen-Anderson and Rajnak could try and work out the volunteer hours they put into *Reflexions*, so that a true estimate of the cost of producing *Reflexions* could be calculated.