

COUNCIL MEETING WITH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Knoxville, Tennessee

In attendance: Marvin Hackert, Bob Von Dreele, Alan Pinkerton, Bernie Santarsiero, Jim Bitten, S.N. Rao, Bill Duax, and Marcia Colquhoun.

SIGs represented by:

Biological Macromolecules – Carrie Wilmot

Industrial – Herbert Klei

Materials Science – Claudia Rawn

Powder Diffraction – Cora Lind

Small Molecule – Kraig Wheeler

Young Scientist – Peter Horanyi

Hackert called the meeting to order at 12:10pm. He explained the purpose of the meeting, that is, to accept the annual SIG report, to discuss relevant issues, and to remind the SIG chairs to send a representative to the Toronto Planning Meeting on Friday, June 6.

Biological Macromolecules – Carrie Wilmot

Wilmot reviewed the list of sessions happening at this meeting and stated that attendance at the annual business meeting of the BioMac SIG is increasing, mainly due to the corporate donations received.

These funds were used to purchase lunch for anyone who attended the business meeting. Approximately 85 people were in attendance at the meeting held on June 2. Wilmot submitted the annual report that contained a list of potential sessions for the Toronto Meeting. Hackert asked Wilmot if the group has any concerns. Wilmot stated that the group would really like to have a daily, plenary lecture at each ACA Annual Meeting. Duax noted the IUCr Congresses and ECA meetings have 2-3 plenary lectures each morning and it seems to be attractive to the attendees.

Industrial – Herb Klei

Klei reported that it has been a good year for planning and executing sessions and for increasing the membership (up 30%). They are in communication with the BioMac SIG regarding joint sessions at the Toronto Meeting. Attendance at this year's business meeting was low due to competition with other SIG business meetings. Klei stated that new people are needed to lead the SIG as his term as Chair and that of the Co-chair should be over.

Materials Science – Claudia Rawn

Rawn stated that the Neutron Scattering, Powder Diffraction and Materials Science SIGs held a joint business meeting on June 2. This seemed to work well with nominations for elections obtained as well as discussion for sessions for Toronto.

Hackert reminded all SIG chairs present of the following guidelines for organizing sessions at annual meetings:

1. 40% of lectures must be obtained from contributed abstracts.
2. Session chairs and/or organizers should be **current** members of the ACA.
3. Program chair has control of the disbursement of the program budget and suggested that the each session apply for extra enhancement funds.

Duax described the Media and Government Relations Department of the American Institute of Physics (AIP), what the department is and its role within the scientific community. A major goal is to be a liaison between the member societies and outside journalists and get them interested via press releases, etc. Duax enthusiastically supports the use of the Media and Government Relations Department and suggests they work directly with the ACA's Communication Committee.

Materials Science – Claudia Rawn

Rawn reviewed the list of sessions happening at this meeting and thanked the SIGs that co-sponsored session with the Materials group. She also reported that the joint SIG business meetings are working well.

Powder Diffraction – Cora Lind

Lind requested that the SIG business meetings be scheduled for 5:00pm at the conclusion of the daily sessions and noted that the schedule printed in the Knoxville Program & Abstract Book was incorrect. Lind reviewed the sessions happening at this meeting. They are seeking greater student participation. She also suggested there be further advertisement of the Friday Planning Session.

Small Molecule – Kraig Wheeler

Wheeler reported that there were approximately 60 people at the Small Molecule Business Meeting on June 2. Wheeler reviewed the sessions happening at this meeting and said that the IUCr Congress this summer in Osaka, Japan, may have had an impact on the attendance in Knoxville. Sessions for the Toronto 2009 Meeting are being planned.

Young Scientist – Peter Horanyi

Horanyi reported that the YSSIG sponsored or co-sponsored 3 sessions in Knoxville and that the panel discussion session was well attended with an in-and-out audience of around 40 people. The two YSSIG social events (Mixer and Mentor/Mentee Dinner) were a success but the dinner would be more exciting if a greater number of mentors participated. Santarsiero suggested the YSSIG contact potential mentors via e-mail just prior to the meeting **inviting** them to participate in the dinner. He used this technique at the Chicago 2004 ACA Meeting that resulted in a well attended dinner. Klei suggested the Industrial SIG get involved with the Mentor/Mentee Dinner to increase attendance. Horyani stated that they have already received a proposal for financial support from Rigaku for sponsorship of the YSSIG events at next year's meeting in Toronto. Horanyi said that student participation at the annual workshops is down as well as the number of young session chairs. One of the reasons may be the lack of finances for students and young scientists to attend the annual meetings. He asked Council if there is any financial support for session chairs. The only funds available are the program budget and enhancement funds.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.

COUNCIL MEETING WITH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Wednesday, June 4, 2008

Knoxville, Tennessee

In attendance: Marvin Hackert, Bob Von Dreele, Alan Pinkerton, Bernie Santarsiero, Jim Bitten, S.N. Rao, Bill Duax, Marcia Colquhoun.

SIGs represented by:

Small Angle Scattering – T. Pappanan and Ken Littrell

General Interest – Allen Oliver

Service Crystallography – Peter Mueller

Fiber Diffraction – Joe Orgel

Synchrotron Radiation – Ernst Bergmann

Canadian Division – David Rose

Standing Committee represented by:

Data, Standards & Computing – Bernhard Rupp

Hackert called the meeting to order at 12:00pm. Hackert told those SIG chairs present, of the following guidelines for organizing sessions at annual meetings:

1. 40% of lectures must be obtained from contributed abstracts.
2. Session chairs and/or organizers should be **current** members of the ACA.
3. Program chair has control of the disbursement of the program budget and suggested that the each session apply for extra enhancement funds.

Santarsiero added that session chairs are encouraged to seek outside funding for their sessions.

Small Angle Scattering – T. Pappanan and Ken Littrell

Pappanan reported that candidates for the Fall elections were nominated at their business meeting held on June 3. He asked if people using small angle scattering are eligible for the ACA Warren Award.

Duax replied yes. Pappanan reviewed the Knoxville sessions and workshop organized by the SAS SIG. Planning for the Toronto 2009 Meeting is well underway. They hope to organize (6) session and one workshop and will discuss this at the Friday Planning Session.

General Interest – Allen Oliver

Oliver stated that there is still lingering a hard feeling over the organization of this year's transactions symposium. The GIG, who withdrew their sponsorship of the symposium, thought it too focused to have

been 'co-sponsored' by so many different SIGs. Oliver said the group is proposing to sponsor two half-day General Interest sessions and the Etter Early Career Award symposium for the 2009 conference in Toronto. There is also a proposal on the table from the former Chair of the GIG, Peter Mueller, to amend and rectify the constitution of the GIG. Amendments include a change in the mandate of the GIG to allow the sponsorship of education-oriented sessions; removal of the office of member-at-large and to allow electronic voting on issues. These amendments are to be voted on by the membership in the next ballot. Oliver requested that the GIG sessions next year in Toronto NOT be scheduled for the last day of the meeting (Thursday) as has been done for years.

Service Crystallography – Peter Mueller

Mueller reported that candidates for the Fall elections were nominated at their business meeting held on June 3. He reviewed the current Knoxville sessions, and those sessions being planned for Toronto 2009.

Fiber Diffraction – Joe Orgel

Orgel stated this SIG plans sessions on an every-other-year basis. This has been somewhat difficult in years past, but this year went very well. There was a discussion at the June 3 business meeting about disbanding the SIG but given the interest this year, the idea was abandoned. Orgel said a nominating committee has been formed to seek candidates for this year's elections. The SIG would like to see more theoretical session with young people involved. They are very interested in co-sponsoring session(s) at next year's meeting. Duax suggested a representative from the Fiber SIG attend some of the other SIG business meeting to arrange co-sponsored sessions.

Synchrotron Radiation – Ernst Bergmann

Bergmann reviewed this year's sessions and those planned for next year. They are also considering organizing a 'hands-on' workshop in Toronto. A candidate for the chair-elect position has been secured for the upcoming Fall elections.

Canadian Division – David Rose

Rose reported that Louis Delbaere has revitalized the Canadian National Committee. The National Research Council (NRC) has submitted a bid to the IUCr to host the 2014 IUCr Congress in Montreal. Hyderabad, India and Prague, Czech Republic have also submitted bids. Rose addressed the meeting plans for the Toronto Meeting; a person to design and maintain the meeting web site is needed. There will be a push to all Canadian crystallographers to submit abstracts to the Toronto Meeting. The Canadian Division of the ACA would like to plan a session, organized by a Canadian, and apply for funding to the Canadian Light Source. The Division would like to see an ACA meeting on the West

Coast of Canada in the future. Hackert advised that plans are underway to assist meeting attendees who may need help in obtaining passports and/or visas for the Toronto 2009 Meeting.

Duax described the Media and Government Relations Department of the American Institute of Physics (AIP), what the department is and its role within the scientific community. Their main goal is to be a liaison between the member societies and outside journalists and get them interested via press releases, etc. Duax enthusiastically supports the use of the Media and Relations Government Department and suggests they work directly with the ACA's Communication Committee.

Standing Committee represented by:

Data, Standards & Computing – Bernhard Rupp

Rupp reviewed the written report submitted to Council (see report for details).

Meeting adjourned at 1:22pm.

COUNCIL MEETING WITH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Thursday, June 5, 2008

Knoxville, Tennessee

In attendance: Marvin Hackert, Bob Von Dreele, Alan Pinkerton, Bernie Santarsiero, Jim Bitten, and Marcia Colquhoun.

ACA RefleXions represented by:

Judy Flippen Anderson, Editor

Connie Rajnak, Editor

Standing Committees represented by:

Communications – Allen Oliver, Member

Continuing Education – Gloria Borgstahl, Chair

Hackert called the meeting to order at 12:00pm.

ACA RefleXions - Editors Judy Flippen Anderson and Connie Rajnak

He asked Flippen Anderson and Rajnak if there were any newsletter issues they would like to discuss.

Rajnak stated that at each annual meeting she takes photographs of the poster prizewinners. This task has becoming increasingly difficult. She asked if the poster submission instructions could be modified to include a request for the presenting author to place a photograph of himself or herself on the poster. The poster winners should be asked to attend their poster at the poster session the day after they have been selected for a prize so Rajnak can take their photograph for ACA RefleXions.

Flippen Anderson stated that the summer issue is almost ready to go to press. Hackert asked if obituaries can be included and if so, is there a size limit? The Editors stated that any obituary can be submitted and the length will be dependent upon the space available in the next issue.

Flippen Anderson said they are trying to give the newsletter a 'magazine' feel. Rajnak added there would be a "guest editor", Carrie Wilmot, in an upcoming issue. Wilmot will write about how winning the 2006 ACA Etter Early Career Award has affected her career.

It was noted that there has been a slight decrease in the number of advertisements in the newsletter and efforts to increase the advertiser base is needed.

Hackert ended the discussion by complimenting the Editors on the outstanding job they are doing and thanked them for their many efforts.

Communications – Allen Oliver

Oliver stated that he is not the Chair of the committee but is the only committee member in Knoxville. He said the committee had a request that the scientific sessions be video taped for people not attending the meeting. Von Dreele suggested Oliver talk to Brian Toby who has some experience in audio recording with visuals. Hackert warned there might be copyright issues to deal with if these presentations are placed on the ACA site and/or sold but suggested we might try recording the transactions symposium and the award sessions. Council does not support video taping of sessions due to the impact it could have the meeting attendance (i.e., registration fees income).

Duax described the Media and Government Relations Department of the American Institute of Physics (AIP), what the department is and its role within the scientific community. Their main goal is to be a liaison between the member societies and outside journalists and get them interested via press releases, etc. Duax enthusiastically supports the use of the Media and Government department and suggests they work directly with the ACA's Communication Committee.

Oliver said he is happy to work with the Media department at the AIP. He said the committee has been somewhat adrift but that acting with the AIP will be a good way to get the committee working together again.

Continuing Education - Gloria E.O. Borgstahl, Chair

Borgstahl distributed a written report and reviewed the major point within it. She suggested creating criteria for the workshop applications to create some competition (currently most applications are approved with no real evaluation). Hackert added that are already ideas being discussed for 2009 workshops. Colquhoun will send the workshop survey to all of this year's participants and send the results to the Continuing Education Committee and workshop organizers.

Borgstahl stated there is some concern about the quality of the ACA Summer Schools and asked if there should be a (loud) call for proposals. Santarsiero suggested the Council ask the current summer school organizers attend the Fall Council Meeting to evaluate the situation. Students of the summer schools and supervisors of the students should be asked to submit an assessment of their experience at the schools.

Borgstahl expressed some concern with the General Interest Group's proposal to change its constitution to include some text about organizing educational sessions at annual meeting, as this was a task of the committee. Oliver said the GIG thinks that educational sessions can be considering 'general interest' and that the GIG will be happy to work with the committee, not against them.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20pm.