

Minutes
Executive Board
American Association of Physics Teachers
July 22, 23, and 26, 2006
University of Syracuse
Syracuse, New York

Session I, July 22

Members Present: Ken Heller, President; Dick Peterson, Past President; Harvey Leff, President Elect; Lila Adair, Vice President; Mary Beth Monroe, Secretary; Chuck Robertson, Treasurer; Randy Peterson, Chair of Section Representatives; Al Gibson, Vice Chair of Section Representatives; Ruth Chabay, At-Large Member; John Roeder, At-Large Member; Dwain Desbien, At-Large Member; Jan Tobochnik, Editor, *American Journal of Physics* (AJP); Karl Mamola, Editor, *The Physics Teacher* (TPT); Bernard V. Khoury, Executive Officer

Guests: Warren Hein, Charlie Holbrow, Jack Hehn, Carol Heimpel, Rob Headrick, Valerie Evans, John Layman, Maria Elena Khoury, Steve Danford, Edward Hellen

1. Welcome and Call to Order. K. Heller called the meeting of the AAPT Executive Board to order and welcomed members and guests.

2. Approval of Agenda. There were no changes to the agenda.

3. Approval of Minutes. B. Khoury moved that the Minutes of March 25-26, 2006 be approved as corrected. J. Roeder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Greensboro Meeting. Steve Danford and Edward Hellen, physics faculty at the University of North Carolina, expressed pleasure that the Summer 2007 AAPT meeting will be held at their campus. The physics department, university, and North Carolina AAPT section are looking forward to the events and the meeting has strong support from the university administration. The hosts are endeavoring to enlist efforts from other local universities.

5. Senior Staff Physicist. C. Holbrow referred Board members to his report in the Board Packet, Item III B. He provided the following updates.

- The Teaching General Relativity to Undergraduates Workshop (TGRU) was held at Syracuse University in tandem with the AAPT meeting. The meeting had 50 registrants representing a good range in quality of colleges, including 20 or so from small colleges. Participants enjoyed the opportunity to meet other colleagues with similar interests. The rising interest within the physics community in cosmology and the LIGO presence helped set the tone for an intellectual engagement among the participants. Holbrow estimated that financially the

meeting did better than break even, not counting AAPT staff time. Participants have expressed an interest in having another conference of this type, in other disciplines as well. Holbrow suggested assessment in small colleges as a topic for a small conference.

- As one of his four recommendations to the Board, Holbrow proposed that AAPT organize at least two AAPT topical workshops a year. He had talked with Maria Elena Khoury, Director of Programs, and she had expressed that this was a feasible goal for the association. Holbrow described the workshop on systemic reform as providing a platform for good interactions among the faculty at R1 universities. During the workshop, the faculty talked about educational issues, which typically are not discussed among faculty at this educational level. Holbrow stressed that AAPT should reach out to this community more, adding that the way we can achieve the AAPT priority to get more physics into our meetings is by attracting physicists from more research areas. Heller attended the meeting and like Holbrow felt that the intellectual aspects of the meeting could have been stronger. However, Heller said that the participants were engaged in discussions addressing physics education, which is clearly a first step.
- Holbrow also recommended that AAPT (1) sponsor and help organize other regional forums for physics graduate teaching assistants (PTAFs), such as in the Midwest, on the West Coast, and in the Southeast, and continue the effort in the Northeast initiated by the PRAF workshop at Boston University in April 2006; (2) should hold at least one workshop a year designed to be useful to physics faculty in leading research universities; and (3) should develop hiring strategies (e.g. consultancies, contract employment, sabbaticals, temporary or part-time positions) that bring to the AAPT the services of active physicists. In reference to the last recommendation, Holbrow suggested that the compensation for consultants should be \$100 per hour. Tobochnik asked if teaching assistants could organize future PTAFs. Holbrow felt that one or two TAs could possibly organize a conference for the Northeast with his help, but the cultivation of physics departments in different U.S. locations would need to precede TAFs held in those areas.
- Holbrow explained that every major AAPT event needs a web site and advised that the organizers of the event should have access to it so that they can make timely changes to the web site as the preparation for the conferences progress. He explained that in order to get web sites set up with appropriate lead-time, he rented server space from In Motion Hosting and built two websites for the TRGU conference and the PSSC commemoration. Bruce Mason and Holbrow will transfer useful elements of these sites to ComPADRE. In his written report to the Board, Holbrow identified specific web developments that were implemented to support these workshops.

In subsequent discussion, Chabay asked if the site could be set up as a Wiki, which would enable many people to contribute. Holbrow responded that such service was useful for a week or two.

D. Peterson asked Holbrow to clarify his recommendation regarding the hiring of personnel to help organize special workshops. D. Peterson felt that this was an optimistic request. D. Peterson doubted that newly hired personnel, who are not acquainted with the AAPT staff and knowledgeable in how the national office operates, could organize conferences as Holbrow had done. Heller suggested that these recommendations to the Executive Office identified modifications at the national office that would help in the organizations of future conferences. Holbrow has demonstrated how the association can organize small conferences and workshops in a short time period. Chabay expressed that the Board should first consider if AAPT had adequate staffing to organize and host such conferences. Holbrow replied that AAPT has the staff, acknowledging the help from C. Heimpel and M. Khoury, but added that the association needs to do some ad hoc hiring of physicists to organize these events.

Khoury read a draft statement recognizing Holbrow's work and moved that the Board accept it. Mamola seconded the motion.

The AAPT extends its sincere gratitude to Charlie Holbrow for his valuable services as our Senior Staff Physicist. In addition to advancing the AAPT agenda to provide more effective and more visible services to faculty at colleges and universities, Charlie demonstrated how effectively a single person can influence the direction and tone of AAPT projects. He has set a high standard to be met by other individuals to whom the AAPT might turn for similar initiatives.

The motion passed unanimously.

6. AAPT Senior Fellow. Khoury read an email (July 21, 2006) from Toufic Hakim, Executive Officer Designate, to the Board regarding his plan for Holbrow's successor. Hakim asked the Board to appoint Robert C. Hilborn as Senior Physics Fellow for College and University Programming (Senior Fellow) starting September 5, 2006. Hilborn had been consulted and would accept the one-year appointment.

Hilborn's appointment was part of a larger plan, which Hakim asked the Board to adopt. In his proposal Hakim addressed six elements.

- 1) Responsibilities. The Senior Fellow's responsibilities will include extending and expanding Holbrow's established network and programming with research universities; advising the Executive Officer and the Executive Board on issues relating to physics education at four-year colleges and research universities; developing and implementing professional development workshops, exploring new offerings in terms of content, participants, and geographic regions, for TAs, graduate directors, and departments engaged in and considering systemic reform in physics education and instruction. General goals for this position will be developed jointly by Hakim and Hilborn.
- 2) Professional Match. Hakim cited some of Hilborn's qualifications and experience. Hilborn is an active physicist and highly respected member of AAPT. His experience includes faculty and administrative positions at Amherst and a

- valuable affiliation in physics with the Department of Physics at the University of Nebraska. Additional experience includes his AAPT leadership as former AAPT President, advisor to New Faculty Workshops, and his contributions to physics education, such as his work on Physics First.
- 3) **Managerial Structure.** Hakim described the appointment not only as a continuation of the successful efforts begun by Holbrow at the direction of the Board, but also as a first appointment toward the development of an AAPT Institute for Curricular and Professional Development. Hakim envisions the institute to be an outreach and perhaps an advocacy arm of AAPT that will eventually provide the umbrella structure for our curricular and professional development programming, whose strategic priorities will evolve to reflect those of the organization and Board. The rotating membership of the Institute, which will be supported by the Executive Office, includes a select number of high-caliber fellows to be recruited nationally and on a regular basis. Those would be senior physics educators, perhaps on part-time or full-time “loan” to AAPT or serving their sabbatical semester or year at AAPT, who will help advance our programs to our various constituencies. Their appointment will add to the prestige of AAPT, help reposition it nationally, and will make available the Executive Officer and Board insights and counsel of leading educators.
 - 4) **Time Commitment.** As Senior Fellow, Hilborn will commit 10% of his time from September through December and then 25% from January through the end of August. Hilborn plans to be present at ACP on a monthly basis. The arrangement is renewable annually and time commitment will be revisited.
 - 5) **Proposed Budget.** A total of \$68,750 is projected, covering expenses from September 5, 2006 through August 31, 2007. This includes a \$36,000 stipend for the twelve months, \$ 2,750 in fringe benefits, and a budget of \$30,000 for travel and program development.
 - 6) **Public Announcement.** Hakim will work with the Executive Office to ensure that a public announcement be made recognizing Holbrow’s efforts and welcoming Hilborn as Senior Fellow.

In the discussion that followed, Gibson asked if the proposed budget would be sufficient. Heller reminded the Board that Hakim could ask the Board for additional funds if this amount was not adequate. Mamola asked about the time commitment. Holbrow responded that it was not enough time, explaining that he had to exert effort to keep his commitment to half time. He estimated Hilborn’s time commitment to be approximately equal to 2.5 months of full-time employment.

Khoury moved that the Board appoint Bob Hilborn as Senior Fellow with the job description, time commitment, and budget allocation outlined in the proposal.

Roeder seconded the motion. Heller clarified that the Board would be authorizing Hakim to hire Hilborn and therefore Hilborn would be accountable to the Executive Officer. D. Peterson asked if the wording of the motion carried the implication that the Senior Fellow sit at the table. Heller answered that it did. D. Peterson commented that the Board would like to have regular reports from the Senior Fellow.

Some question then arose concerning the Institute. Members of the Board were reluctant to act on this aspect of the proposal without an opportunity to discuss the idea further with Hakim. Khoury clarified that the portion of Hakim's plan concerning the Institute was not part of the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

7. Report from the Executive Officer. Khoury highlighted the following items from his report to the Board (Board Packet Item IIIC).

- The APS Board authorized the joint meeting with AAPT scheduled for February 2010. Robertson asked if it would be wise to designate a program chair for the meeting when the dates for the joint meeting are set. Khoury explained that while this was a good idea, the appointment of a chair was not allowed by the Constitution. However the Board could possibly appoint an associate program chair.
- The Council has approved three joint meetings: AAPT will meet with the American Astronomical Society in January 2007, the American Association for the Advancement of Science in February 2009, and the American Physical Society in February 2010. Conversations are ongoing between Khoury and his counterpart in the Mathematical Association of America concerning the arrangement for a joint meeting, likely a Summer meeting. In addition, the governing board of the American Society for Engineering Education had approved a joint meeting with the AAPT for June 2011. Khoury therefore advised that the AAPT needs to implement a mechanism to obtain approval from the AAPT Council for this joint AAPT/ASEE meeting, following some discussion among the Section Representatives in Syracuse.

With respect to the planning of future joint meetings, Khoury reminded the AAPT Executive Board that a decision to meet jointly with another organization places a constraint on our association to make major changes in meeting formats and venues. He also reminded the Board that while the dates for the joint meetings are several years into the future, the AAPT program chairs currently are identified only 12-15 months in advance of the meeting for which they are responsible. The partner organizations will typically identify their program chairs much earlier than this.

- The AAPT plans to continue our involvement with efforts addressing the teaching of non-scientific issues. (See March 2006 Minutes, Item 8.) Khoury reported that the effort advocating the teaching of evolution and intelligent design has reemerged in Kansas as a campaign issue in the school board elections.
- The United States International Physics Olympiad team won 4 gold medals and 1 silver medal in the competition in Singapore, July 8-17. The U.S. was second only to China. Press releases about the event had not yet been sent out. Gibson

asked if we could be more proactive in getting publicity. Khoury responded that it was hard to get these reports into the media.

Khoury pointed out two important issues related to the U.S. Physics Team. 1) Next year's competition is scheduled to be held in Iran. In 2002, the U. S. Physics Team did not participate in the competition in Indonesia due to the international tensions present at that time. The AAPT is prepared to handle the Iran competition in the same way. Khoury stated that the AAPT has a responsibility for the integrity of our organization and our relations with schools, teachers, parents, and families not to participate in such a risky situation. 2) Heller raised the question with Khoury if students should be allowed to participate in more than one international competition. It is AAPT's current practice to select the top five students from the 24 students invited to participate in the annual training camp to compete in the Olympiad. Commonly, at least one competing student will be one who has won a medal in the previous year's competition. Heller explained that this practice implies that it is AAPT's intention to win as many medals as possible. He believes the goal should be to promote excellence in physics and physics education and therefore the AAPT should involve as many different students as possible in this competition. During the discussion that followed, Board members were divided in their opinion concerning the question. Heller directed that this discussion be held at a later time.

- Marc Brodsky will retire as AIP Executive Officer sometime in the Spring. D. Peterson is on the search committee for Brodsky's successor.
- Discussions are occurring among some of AIP member societies regarding the organization of a physics diversity conference to address the low percentage of undergraduate degrees in physics.
- Khoury concluded his report with a short valedictory.
These sixteen years in serving as Executive Officer of the American Association of Physics Teachers have been extremely satisfying both personally and professionally. I am very grateful for all the support and assistance freely offered by officers, Executive Board members, AAPT members and my fellow staff.

While I will continue to serve as Executive Officer Emeritus, nothing will be as satisfying as the opportunities, the challenges and the successes afforded to me in my Executive Officer role.

In discussion of Khoury's report, R. Peterson asked if a list of cities fitting Heller's criteria for meeting sites had been prepared. Khoury replied that this had not been done since the Area Chairs Committee on Meetings had not completed its study. Robertson asked what decision had been reached regarding Lexmark's request to sponsor the high school photo contest. (See March Minutes, Item 8.) Khoury reported that Rob Headrick, Director of Publications, had talked with Vernier, the current sponsor, about this offer.

Headrick described their reaction as mild disappointment. Since Vernier did not apparently have serious objections to this change in sponsorship, AAPT will accept Lexmark's offer.

8. Executive Session I (with Executive Officers, AAPT staff, and John Layman).

Heller called the Board into Executive Session to consider the report from the Fund Raising Advisory Committee and to discuss the arrival of the new Executive Officer.

(At the close of Executive Session, Heller reconvened the Board into Open Session.)

9. 75th Anniversary Update. Hein reviewed the six events organized by the AAPT staff for the special commemoration of AAPT's 75th Anniversary.

- A 75th Anniversary Booklet was nearing completion. 15,000 copies will be ordered and will be distributed to the membership in mid-September and through AAPT exhibit booths at other associational meetings in the Fall.
- The Trivia Contest had not generated the success that was anticipated and so the content was ended. During the 33 weeks that it ran, only 400 online entries were received.
- A 12-inch x 36-inch time capsule was sealed on Tuesday during the Syracuse meeting in a public ceremony. The capsule was displayed in the 75th anniversary celebration room during the Summer meeting and subsequently was placed in the lobby of the AAPT Executive Office. Items to be placed in the capsule include issues of the AJP, the TPT, and the *Announcer*, a CD, a physics text book, the 2006 Summer Meeting Awards Luncheon Booklet, a scroll containing the names of the meeting attendees, a current AAPT membership list, and a current AAPT financial report.
- Past recipients of AAPT awards were honored during the Awardees Luncheon at the Summer meeting. A special awardees booklet was distributed to those attending the luncheon and to all awardees.
- A special room was set up at the Summer Meeting to display the time capsule, several historical books, and books published during the past 20 years authored by AAPT members. In addition, the AAPT 75th Anniversary Celebration Room, displayed historical apparatus selected by Thomas Greenslade, Jr.
- Special 75th anniversary products, such as T-shirts and mugs, were created and will be sold throughout the year.

10. Budget Update. Robertson reported that it is hard to estimate the association's financial status in mid-year. The financial office will typically not have received all bills for expenses incurred by the association earlier in the year. However the current financial status was in line with the year's adopted budget. The long-term reserve had peaked at just over \$ 7 million, but had dropped down to \$ 6.6 million at the time of his report due to changes in the external market. The Board will consider and act on the proposed budget for 2007 in its October meeting.

Khoury explained that money received from the AAPT fundraiser activities would be placed in a designated account with TIAA-Cref. Consequently, Board members should

develop a habit of talking about the long-term account excluding the money from the fundraiser. Robertson reminded the Board that no decision had been made regarding how the money in the Dodge fund would be used. He also pointed out that some money remained in the Dresden Fund, which needed to be used. Leff explained that a Dresden Lecture had been proposed for the Summer 2007 meeting, which would use the balance in this fund.

11. AIP Report. Jack Hehn, AIP Education Director, expressed his thanks to the Board for extending a standing invitation to him in January 2006 to attend and participate in all meetings of the AAPT Board. He explained that he had not attended the March meeting of the Board due to a simultaneous meeting of PhysTEC in Arkansas. Hehn then summarized the strong cooperative efforts between the AIP Education Division and AAPT, which were initiated by Don Kirwan, then AIP Director of Education, in the latter part of the 1980's.

In its umbrella role, the AIP serves 10 member societies. The Institute celebrated its 75th anniversary in June, which some members of the AAPT Board attended. Each member society has some type of education component or focus. Hehn, as AIP Education Director, meets routinely with four of the ten societies three or four times a year. Before the AAPT Board extended its invitation to Hehn to attend our meetings, he had no way to directly interact with our association. He explained that while he can bring news to us from other societies, he is now in a position to "brag" to other societies and organizations about what the AAPT does. He routinely visits 32 organizations each year, including DOE, NSF, NOAA, and NIST. In addition he makes visits to Capitol Hill at different times in the year.

Hehn is extremely pleased with the way that the Society of Physics Students (SPS) is interacting with the AAPT. He urged Board members to attend the SPS reception and poster and paper sessions being held in Syracuse and regularly at every AAPT national meeting. A new program implemented at SPS is the student reporter program. SPS students attend the meetings of the ten AIP societies and interview society officers. Their reports of these visits provide a fresh view to the physics community. The SPS Intern Program had 11 interns this past Summer, including four at NIST, two at Goddard, and four at ACP. The interns' journals are posted on the SPS website. This SPS program has been in existence for four years. In special activities, the interns visit the Hill and attend an NSF reception. Three of the SPS interns have made a commitment to become teachers.

An additional activity occurring within the AIP Education Division is its initial efforts to assess the impact of the undergraduate experience on students. The AIP would like for the AAPT to partner with them as they seek funding for this effort.

12. Update on the PER Topical Group. W. Hein reported that the topical group now has about 300 members. The national office assisted the PER leadership in conducting its first elections of officers. Electronic communications concerning future PER conferences are underway. (See these Minutes, Item 27.)

13. Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer had no additional report at this time.

14. Secretary's Report.

- Monroe reported on the two electronic motions conducted by the Board since its last meeting in March.

On May 26, she transmitted a motion prepared by Bernie Khoury concerning the designation of a future meeting site. The motion was subsequently sent to Council for a vote. Khoury moved that

The AAPT Council authorize the Executive Officer, or his designee, to join with the APS in signing a hotel contract to hold a joint APS-AAPT meeting February 13-16, 2010, in Washington, D.C.

The motion to Council passed with a vote tally of 40 yes and 2 no. By Board decision the motion required a yes vote from the majority of the 53 voting members of Council (11 Board members and 42 Section Representatives). The action carried by the June 2 deadline.

On May 8, Monroe transmitted an electronic motion prepared by Bernie Khoury.

The AAPT Executive Board authorizes the submission of a proposal in the total amount of approximately \$ 1.5 million to the MSP program.

The contents of the proposal are essentially as outlined in the attachments provided by Warren Hein. It is understood that the draft proposal will continue to be edited until the time of submission.

The deadline for submitting the proposal to the Math and Science Partnership Program of the National Science Foundation was 5:00 PM, May 17. The motion passed with 9 yes votes, 1 abstain, and 1 member not voting.

- Monroe reported the candidates for the Fall 2006 elections:

Vice President – John Ertel and Alex Dickison

Secretary – Steve Iona and Myra West

At-Large Member representing Four Year Colleges and Universities – Steve Shropshire and Gordon Ramsay

The bios for these candidates appeared in the Summer 2006 *Announcer*. Joe Meyer and Deborah Rice will serve as Teller and Assistant Teller for the election. The voting deadline is November 1. After Monroe receives the official election results from the Tellers, she will first notify all candidates by phone and then email the results to the members of the Board. While not a secret, the formal announcement of the newly elected candidates will be made at the Winter meeting in Seattle.

In discussion of the Secretary's report, Hein explained that there had been a problem in last year's election. The ballots to international members were mailed late and consequently their votes were not received by the November 1 deadline. Khoury said he would review this matter to insure that this was not repeated.

15. Report from the Past President. D. Peterson reminded the Board that one of his responsibilities this year is to chair the Review Board, which will review the annual reports from area committees to be submitted by November 1. Khoury explained that in previous years there had been some question about the late deadline for these reports and some interest had been expressed in providing more significant feedback to the committees. After learning that there are no specific criteria for these reports, Chabay suggested that templates should be developed. Heller expressed that the review of area committee activities is a serious issue.

16. Report from the Vice President. Adair described the planning for the Winter and Summer 2007 AAPT national meetings as a significantly different way of doing meetings from previous years. She and Leff have been actively trying to involve local sections in these national meetings.

The plans for the Seattle Winter meeting are progressing nicely. This meeting is a joint meeting with the AAS. When the organizations met together in San Diego in 2001, participants characterized the meeting as actually two totally separate meetings in the same building. She and Leff are trying to better integrate the activities of the two organizations into the one program.

Adair attended the AAS Summer meeting in June to observe and finalize plans with their officers and program chairs. AAPT will sponsor the introductory welcome and opening plenary at the joint Winter meeting. Kathryn Thornton, University of Virginia and former astronaut, has educational background in physics and career experience in astronomy, well positioning her to address both organizations. While AAPT and AAS will have individual abstract books, the joint meeting will have one common program. The two organizations will display posters in the same area; all audio-visual technology will be routed through a joint media-ready room; and the two organizations will have a joint banquet. To accommodate the joint program, the committee meetings, workshops and sessions for the AAPT have been moved forward a day.

In preparation for the 2007 Summer meeting in Greensboro, NC and the 2007 Winter meeting in Seattle, Adair has communicated with the AAPT sections in North Carolina and Washington state in an effort to enlist their active participation in these. North Carolina is already involved in plans to participate. Washington has not yet made a commitment. Adair recommended that future AAPT program chairs seek the involvement of local sections in national meetings. She described such cooperation as leading to stronger national meetings while also strengthening the relationships between the national AAPT and AAPT sections. In addition to these efforts, Adair collected the names and addresses of all high schools and colleges within a reasonable distance from each meeting site.

In an effort to maximize the use of time and space for sessions and workshops sponsored by area committees and to help insure a more equal representation from all area committees, Adair asked committees to submit their lists of proposed sessions/workshops along with a "wish list" that could be possibly assigned to available slots. These lists are

due at the national office three weeks after the national meetings. Adair and C. Heimpel review the lists and reallocate some of the extra slots. After the final allocation of slots, organizers must submit the information for the sessions by the published deadlines. This requirement avoids the last minute cancellation of proposed sessions. The new process seemed to have worked for the Seattle meeting.

Adair will be attending the International Conference on Physics Education in Tokyo in August 2006 as the official AAPT representative. This year's theme is "Physics for All". She will present her report to the Board during its October meeting.

17. Report from the President Elect. Leff explained that the Board would hear final reports from the Area Chairs Meeting Committee and the Advanced Labs Task Force in later sessions of the Board. (See these Minutes, Items 22 and 28.) He also reported that he had been in contact with the 2007 Nominating Committee and the current area chairs regarding his appointments to area committees for 2007.

18. President's Report. Heller reported that he had completed the appointments to the Retreat Planning Group and to the 2008 Nominating Committee. Members of the Retreat Planning Group are Al Gibson, Dwain Desbien, Ruth Chabay, and Dick Peterson. This committee will be working closely with the new Executive Officer, Toufic Hakim. Members of the 2008 Nominating Committee are Wolfgang Christian, Chair; John Fitzgibbons; Ken Krane; Linda McCullough, and David Shaw Wright.

19. Topical Conference on Computational Physics. Holbrow requested, on behalf of Wolfgang Christian, the endorsement by the AAPT for a Topical Conference on Computational Physics to be held the day preceding the AAPT Summer meeting in Greensboro. **Roeder moved that AAPT endorse the topical conference and Robertson seconded the motion.** Holbrow recommended that the Board authorize the registration fee to automatically include a year's membership in our association.

Khoury offered two observations. (1) Such activities are part of the portfolio of the new Senior Fellow. (2) The topical conference was being held on the campus of Davidson College instead of the University of NC campus, the site for the AAPT meeting. In discussion of the site, Board members clarified that while Danford would like for the conference to be held on the university campus, Davidson provided facilities more suited to the goals of the conference and since this is Christian's home institution, he had more access and control over the computers and software. R. Peterson asked if the topical conference would compete with the AAPT workshops on computational physics. Chabay replied that the workshops normally targeted lower division courses while the conference would target the needs of upper division courses. Hehn recommended that the conference be listed in the *Physics Today* calendar.

The motion passed unanimously.

20. Syracuse Meeting Report. C. Heimpel reported that more than 1000 people had pre registered for the meeting, including more than 100 first timers. In addition, 100 posters had been submitted.

(Heller adjourned Session I of the Board.)

Session II, July 23

Members Present: Ken Heller, President; Dick Peterson, Past President; Harvey Leff, President Elect; Lila Adair, Vice President; Mary Beth Monroe, Secretary; Chuck Robertson, Treasurer; Randy Peterson, Chair of Section Representatives; Al Gibson, Vice Chair of Section Representatives; Ruth Chabay, At-Large Member; John Roeder, At-Large Member; Dwain Desbien, At-Large Member; Jan Tobochnik, Editor, *American Journal of Physics* (AJP); Karl Mamola, Editor, *The Physics Teacher* (TPT); Bernard V. Khoury, Executive Officer

Guests: Gordon Ramsey, Karen Johnston, Howard Voss, Jack Hehn, Warren Hein, Charlie Holbrow, Mary Fehrs, Ted Hodapp, Maria Elena Khoury, Len Jossem, Bruce Mason, Jim Stith

(Heller convened Session II.)

21. 2006 Strategic Planning Retreat. Karen Johnston, Retreat Facilitator, presented a Summary Report of the Board's retreat held June 22-25 in Elkridge, MD. The question addressed during the retreat was how the AAPT could strengthen its role as a recognized leader in physics education. Johnston reviewed the status of immediate next steps identified during the last session of the retreat

- Heller, in consultation with T. Hakim and AAPT officers, were directed to appoint a task force to assist the new Executive Officer in the preparation of a blueprint for the association activities. The task force evolved to an advisory committee and four members were appointed. (See President's report in these Minutes, Item 18.)
- B. Khoury was asked to initiate a few changes within the AAPT that did not require special financial or staff support.
- Adair, Steve Iona, Khoury, and Leff were directed to prepare a one-page description of the retreat and retreat outcomes to be used to communicate with the membership and subgroups within the membership. The document was prepared and was circulated among retreat participants for their input. The document was distributed to Section Representatives, Area Chairs, and other AAPT groups during the Syracuse meeting. (See these Minutes, Item 29.)
- Johnston was asked to prepare a retreat report as a record of the activity and present it to the Board. Johnston completed the report and an electronic copy of the summary report retreat proceedings was given to Monroe as AAPT Secretary. She clarified that the proceedings could not be circulated because permission was not obtained from the participants. The AAPT will need to decide how it will archive this document.

Johnston reviewed the elements in the planning stages that she felt worked well (1) ten-month planning horizon; (2) Board-led discussions on topics self-identified by Board members; (3) AAPT staff support before and during the retreat; (4) good meeting facilities (although she observed that if participants were housed together, more working time would be available in the evenings); and (5) mid-day breaks. However, Johnston described the meeting closure as problematic. She attributed commitments made with the EO Designate to delay major planning had prevented the extent and kind of closure work that generally occurs in a planning retreat. She proposed two negative outcomes likely to result from this failure: (1) the likely perception that the retreat was held prematurely and (2) nothing of substance with respect to implementing change occurred as a result of the retreat.

Johnston listed seven areas that were identified as focus areas for the association:

- Professional development for our members,
- Continued financial well-being, which includes AAPT publishing,
- An intent to respond to the different needs of our members,
- Web presence as it relates to the quality and ownership of the AAPT brand,
- Stronger connections with the Sections, and
- More credit for what the association does in its partnerships.

Referencing the last focus area, Johnston advised the Board to know the principles and practices the AAPT should be engaged in prior to entering into partnerships

Three important points not discussed during the retreat were how to identify AAPT members that could assume leadership roles to address some of our immediate goals, AAPT journals, and activities of the area committees.

Johnston emphasized the need for AAPT not to focus exclusively on the planning document as the sole outcome of the retreat. (1) The document from the Executive Officer is not a document from the membership. There are things that can be acted upon immediately without waiting for this document. The document over-emphasizes one thread within the retreat discussions and devalues all of the other work that can be accomplished from the detailed Board discussions. (2) The agreement that the new Executive Officer would bear the primary responsibility for the development of a set of actions to prepare a planning document was negotiated during the hiring process and independent of the retreat. The hiring of a new Executive Officer and the development of the planning document were integrated as a thread throughout the retreat and more extensively in the wrap-up session through the agreement to appoint an advisory group to work with the new Officer.

Johnston sees the planning document as largely centered in the Executive Office and she does not know what the document will look like.

Johnston offered suggestions for near term actions that are possible and desirable. All involve the appointment of small working groups.

- How can the Executive Board be more agile? A small working group could identify information that would be needed to monitor the health of our member

- services and a second group could examine how the existing budget information could be used by the Board to develop an operating budget or spending plan.
- How can AAPT be a responsive organization? A small working group, with allocated resources, could pick 1-3 actions for working with Sections during the next year. A working group from appropriate area committees could be engaged to work with Khoury on the policy statement on professional development.
 - How can AAPT improve the quality of our resources? A small working group could be charged to review the PTRAs materials and resources to determine they all of excellent quality. This focus would strengthen the AAPT brand.
 - How can the AAPT improve its public image? Johnston advised the Board to engage in an exercise to specify the AAPT core values and then integrate this information into the web page on our Mission Statement.
 - How can the Board complete the retreat? The Board should determine which retreat documents should be made public and how the materials could be archived. The Board should also prepare follow-up reports to retreat participants to keep them informed and solicit further input when appropriate.

In discussion of Johnston's report, Tobochnik commented that the Board operates better than it did five years ago. However, he added that the Board spends a lot of time on reports with no goal. He added that we are doing a better job of making information available ahead of time that facilitate our decision making during Board meetings.

Johnston asked if the Board were ready to assign working groups as she had recommended. She said the groups could report on possibly ten pieces of information within the next year. Johnston stressed that the Board should tell the new Executive Officer now what information the members want on a regular basis. Holbrow concurred, saying that the lack of quality information is a serious problem. For example, the Board was not given a clear statement on its financial status because the bills had not been paid. He said that since we know how much was allocated for the meeting, the staff should be able to estimate available money for other efforts. As another example, Holbrow cited Khoury's report of special appropriations by the Board. The Board's appropriations during the last year will cost the AAPT approximately \$620,000. Holbrow explained that the Board authorized that this money be taken from the Klopsteg Fund without first examining the budget.

In further discussion, Johnston explained that the databases in the national office need to be linked so that it is easy to determine which meeting attendees are AAPT members. Heller added that any Board member should be able to get this data. He then directed that further discussion of this be postponed to Board Session III at which time we would assign a study group.

In formal action the Board passed the following resolution.

The AAPT Executive Board extends its deepest gratitude to Karen Johnston for her role as facilitator of the Executive Board Planning Retreat held June 22-25, 2006. Not only did Karen prepare extensive background material for the discussions, she also participated actively in assuring that those discussions

remained focused on the long term interests of our members and on accomplishing our mission to enhance the understanding and appreciation of physics through teaching.

22. Area Chairs Committee on Meetings (ACCOM). During the 2006 Winter Meeting, Leff appointed a committee comprised of area committee chairs to carefully examine AAPT's national meetings and to suggest how we can enhance their content and improve their attendance. The Board presented six initial questions for consideration by the committee. At the request of the Board ACCOM submitted a written interim report prior to the meetings of the Board in March and in June. The final report was due at this meeting in Syracuse. Serving on ACCOM were Gordon Ramsey, Chair (Loyola University Chicago), Wayne Fisher (Myers Park High School), Andrew Gavrin (Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis), Steven Hoffmaster (Gonzaga University), Rachel Scherr (University of Maryland), and Steven Shropshire (Idaho State University).

The committee consensus was that a balance between the key elements of meeting planning and preparation is crucial. In their final thoughts stated in the final report, ACCOM recommended that

1. Both Winter and Summer meetings, perhaps with slightly different formats, should be continued as they service different of members.
2. When choosing a meeting site, both costs to the participants and to the association should be considered and balanced.
3. The meetings should have both paper and poster sessions with adequate space for each.
4. The sessions should adequately address each of three content areas: physics, PER, and teaching methods.
5. The meetings should balance time for workshops, sessions, and networking.

In the subsequent discussion of the AACOM report, Heller pointed out that the committee advised the AAPT not to make the costs of the meeting so important that it was a driving factor in the selection of sites. The association should keep in mind what would draw the members to the recommended site. In the report, the committee also encouraged the use of teacher day discounts and recommended that the AAPT seriously consider how we can cut staff costs.

In reply to questions from Heller, Ramsey said that ACCOM supported the meeting criteria Heller had proposed, but with some flexibility. ACCOM recommended that Winter meetings should be continued at some scale. The Board asked if ACCOM had come to a consensus regarding different goals for the Winter and Summer meetings. Ramsey said the input from area committees and local sections pooled by ACCOM had not been clear.

23. PhysTEC Report. W. Hein reported that the annual meeting of the PhysTEC Coalition was held at the University of Arkansas in March. More than one third of the participants were from the community outside the PhysTEC project. Prompted by

expressed concerns of insufficient staff, the project had hired Paul Hickman and Mary Fehrs and there are plans to hire additional staff. Ted Hodapp (APS) is the PI for the project, and Jack Hehn (AIP) and Warren Hein (APS) serve as CoPIs. (See Board Packet, Item V D for a comprehensive status report.)

Hodapp, APS Director of Educational Programs for APS, reported that he had made presentations regarding teacher preparation to the APS Board, as well as around the country. His major goal was to increase awareness of teacher preparation. The APS Board has expressed that they want Hodapp to continue these efforts. They have asked Hodapp to propose new education issues to be addressed, particularly with the AAPT.

The PhysTEC project is coming to the end of its fifth year, but has funding for two more years, one for activities and one to bring the project to closure and writing final reports. Hodapp believes that PhysTEC has some good activities underway. He asked for AAPT Board input regarding how we could spread the awareness of teacher preparation nation wide. He pointed out that the project leadership is seeing gains in the number of qualified high school teachers with active engagement scores as well as systemic change addressing teacher preparation at some universities such as Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. The project is now supporting two Teachers in Residence at Cal Poly. Project participating institutions are finding internal funding to support these master teachers. Two more institutions have come on board. Hodapp described the project as doing very well and complimented the efforts of Mary Fehrs in organizing the Coalition. The Coalition will meet in Boulder, Colorado next year. One big problem that still needs to be addressed is thinking broadly about systemic change. The APS Board believes they are seeing the beginnings of such change but the next step is to determine how to support this effort. Hodapp believes that a proposal recently submitted to FIPSE will be that next step. The main purpose of that proposal is to provide additional funding of \$479,242 for the Coalition over a three-year period.

In reply to Hodapp's report, Hehn called the Board's attention to a report that will be issued in the near future from the Commission on Higher Education. The Commission was appointed by the Secretary of Education, Margaret Spellings, and was chaired by Charles Miller. Hehn reported that there was concern within the education community that the report might prompt "No Child Left Behind" legislation for colleges and universities.

In discussion of the report, Tobochnik asked to what extent the physics community should be concerned with math education in the high schools as serious math problems will affect physics instruction. Hodapp said he had seen a recent report citing special education, math, and physics as the areas needing most attention. The UTeach project at UT Austin is one project addressing math. He explained that the project leadership believes their efforts in physics will flow over to the other STEM disciplines. Roeder asked why the FIPSE proposal asked for support of the PhysTEC Coalition and not the PhysTEC project. Hodapp explained that the continuance of the project was still uncertain since there were still two years of NSF funding available. Hein pointed out that

the project provided for initial support for the institutions but that institutions were expected to find their own resources to maintain support of their efforts.

24. Executive Board Planning Group. Khoury relayed an email request from Hakim to the Board requesting its authorization of up to \$87,000 to support the work of the Executive Planning Group. The charge to the task force was to work with the new Executive Officer to develop a strategic plan by the Summer 2007 at the latest. The budget will support travel and consultants (up to three). Khoury explained that the consultants were not yet identified, but Hakim would like to have two physicists, but not necessarily members of the AAPT. In response to a question from Gibson, Khoury characterized the consultants as goal setters who could help with the planning process, suggesting that one might be a physicist at an administrative level such as university president. He added that since he was merely transmitting the request, the Board had the option to accept the proposal or reject the proposal with a request for more information.

A short side discussion ensued regarding the drain that this request and future requests from the new Executive Officer would have on the long-term reserve. Khoury reported that the base budget for 2007 was in the process of being prepared. Robertson asked the Board to consider how much money they would be willing to withdraw from the long-term reserve. Holbrow advised that the 2007 budget, prepared in consultation with Hakim, should include a specified amount designated for special efforts to be initiated by Hakim.

Roeder moved that the Board authorize up to \$87,000 to support consultants and the work of the Executive Board Planning Group. The motion was seconded. The motion passed with 10 yes votes and 1 abstention.

25. Executive Session I (with Hehn, Hodapp, Hein, Mason, Holbrow, and Khoury). Heller convened the Board in Executive Session to consider the response from the Online Publications Editor concerning the Five Year Review of the PSRC.

(At the conclusion of Executive Session, Heller adjourned Session II of the Board.)

Session III, July 26

Members Present: Ken Heller, President; Dick Peterson, Past President; Harvey Leff, President Elect; Lila Adair, Vice President; Mary Beth Monroe, Secretary; Chuck Robertson, Treasurer; Randy Peterson, Chair of Section Representatives; Al Gibson, Vice Chair of Section Representatives; Ruth Chabay, At-Large Member; John Roeder, At-Large Member; Dwain Desbien, At-Large Member; Jan Tobochnik, Editor, *American Journal of Physics* (AJP); Karl Mamola, Editor, *The Physics Teacher* (TPT); Bernard V. Khoury, Executive Officer

Guests: Jack Hehn, Rachel Sherr, Mike Wittman, Maria Elena Khoury, Rob Headrick, Van Bistrow, Valerie Evans

(Heller convened Session III.)

26. Review of the Syracuse Meeting. Heller asked the Board members to report their reactions concerning the meeting – what was good, what was bad, and what could be improved. Holbrow said that the plenary and award speakers were spectacular. Khoury and Gibson reported that the vendors were complimentary of the arrangement of tables in the Exhibit Hall. One vendor even remarked that he liked having only one 10 foot x 10 foot table. Some Board members explained that they would have preferred to have had the presentations by award recipients in a classroom, rather than at a luncheon. Board members reported that some participants complained about the short 8-minute time slot for paper presentations. Participants also did not like evening paper sessions. Problems with AV and crowded poster space were also noted. At the conclusion of the Board discussion, Leff said he would make a list of pros and cons for the meeting, incorporating the comments reported in this discussion, in an effort to determine how these factors might impact future national meetings. In response to a recommendation from Heller and Gibson, Adair will form local meeting committees to help the host departments prepare for the Summer meetings. Although the Winter meeting in Seattle will not be held on a college campus, Adair will attempt to involve the faculty of local universities in the planning and hosting of the meeting. D. Peterson reminded the Board that the local organizing committee for the 1998 Summer meeting in Nebraska had produced a meeting guidelines document, which may provide some help to local organizers.

27. PER Topical Group. Rachel Scherr and Mike Wittman presented a request to the Board asking for AAPT's endorsement of a 2007 Foundations and Frontiers in Physics Education Research (FFPER) to be held August 5-11, 2007 in Bar Harbor, Maine. The PER conference will follow the Summer AAPT meeting in Greensboro, which will end August 1.

The first FFPER conference was held in August 2005, also in Bar Harbor and had been endorsed by the AAPT. The cost of the 2005 FFPER was slightly less than \$20,000 and was entirely covered by registration fees. The meeting was attended by 60 active researchers in the field of physics education. The conference provided a forum for participants to examine and articulate the current state of the field, to explore new directions, and to discuss ways to pursue the most promising avenues for future research. Scherr explained that the 2007 conference would be similar in size, format, and purpose as the 2005 conference. The 2007 FFPER conference has been endorsed by the AAPT Research in Physics Education Committee and the Physics Education Research Leadership and Organizing Council (PERLOC).

Scherr and Wittman also asked for financial support of \$5000 from the AAPT that would pay the registration fees for their plenary speakers. Wittman said the APS has agreed to pay support for graduate students and the organizers might seek funding support for travel from the NSF.

D. Peterson suggested some plenary speakers might be able to obtain travel support from their grants. Hein asked if PERLOC money would be used to support this conference. Wittman replied that the organization was too new to ask. Holbrow noted that the

conference is similar to an AAPT topical conference. **Robertson then moved that the AAPT provide support for up to \$5000 to pay for the registration fees of plenary speakers at this PER conference. R. Peterson seconded the motion.** In discussion of the motion, it was clarified that the organizers will make the support to speakers known up front. **The motion passed unanimously.**

28. Advanced Labs Task Force. Van Bistrow, representative for the eight member task force, summarized their efforts and recommendations presented in the committee's final report. The Board created the task force in January 2006 and charged the members to prepare a set of sharp, focused recommendations for the Board's consideration. Members of the task force represented a broad range of institutions, including research universities, large state universities, and small private colleges. The members included both instructional staff and regular academic faculty. The committee stressed in its report the importance of the breadth of experience of its members as advanced laboratory instruction varies greatly across institutions. Therefore the committee endeavored to prepare a set of recommendations that would suggest ways that the AAPT could assist the entire highly heterogeneous advanced laboratory community. The work of the task force was primarily accomplished by email, which each member found to be satisfactory. The members of the task force were Jeff Dunham, Chair (Middlebury College), Van Bistrow (University of Chicago), Bob DeSerio (University of Florida), Elizabeth George (Wittenburg University), Daryl Preston (California State University, East Bay), Patricia Sparks (Harvey Mudd College), Gerald Taylor (James Madison University), and David van Baak (Calvin College).

Bistrow explained that although the point charge to the committee had made their job easier, the members were faced with addressing the needs of a community whose faculty tend to be isolated from the other faculty in their institutional departments, as well as the physics education profession. Therefore there is really no "community" of advanced laboratory faculty and staff beyond the informal network of personal contacts. Even the members of the task force had not had professional contact with each other prior to this appointment. In the final report, the task force advocated that AAPT should take a leadership role in the improvement of advanced laboratory teaching by creating highly visible opportunities at its national meetings. The Lab Focus '93 conference in Boise is an example of such opportunities. However, the task force pointed out that it will require planning and promotion by the AAPT to attract the faculty to advanced laboratory sessions at national meetings. This faculty typically have research programs that require that they attend meetings devoted to their research specialty and so attendance at AAPT meetings would be a luxury for them. Also the temperament of this faculty is not to attend national meetings for the purpose of giving presentations on "what works" in physics education.

The recommendations to the AAPT are listed below.

- As a regular part of one of its national meetings, likely the Summer meeting, the AAPT should sponsor a session or group of sessions and workshops devoted exclusively to the advanced laboratory. Foremost, this should be a predictable annual event, which over time would become an AAPT tradition. The AAPT

should commit the necessary resources to establish this tradition over a period of a few years.

- As a way of raising the visibility of AAPT's commitment to the advanced laboratory, the task force recommended that a one-time-only special conference be held on the advanced laboratory.
- The AAPT should establish an award or prize to reward significant accomplishment in advanced laboratory development and instruction.
- The AAPT should demonstrate its leadership in improving advanced laboratory instruction by developing the premier web site for advanced laboratory course materials and tricks of the trade. The web site should also serve to maintain communication among the community of advanced laboratory instructors.
- The AAPT should establish a visiting lab developer program, similar to a visiting lecturer program, whereby those who have been successful in laboratory innovation can travel to those institutions that seek to strengthen their advanced laboratory programs.
- The AAPT should take on a stronger advisory role to the NSF instrumentation grant program in physics.
- The AAPT should seek ways to improve the contribution of its principal publications, AJP and TPT, to the work of advanced laboratory instructors and developers.

The Advanced Laboratory Task Force, in its concluding comments, pointed out two questions that they discussed but did not elaborate on in its Final Report. The committee felt the questions went beyond the scope of their charge. These questions are (1) Do the traditional goals for an advanced laboratory course make sense today? (2) Are students well served by the kinds of advanced laboratory courses we offer? The task force advised that another AAPT group should address these areas of concern.

In discussion of the report, Hein recommended that the task force should initiate immediate discussions with Bruce Mason to create a web site for advanced laboratory faculty on ComPADRE and to create a listserv for these faculty and staff. Bistrow expressed a concern that the faculty would not know to look at the sites for such a service. Chabay explained that the AAPT News email blast could publicize this new service. Tobochnik stated that he really liked the idea of the visiting lab developer program and asked how the AAPT could help support this initiative. Bistrow replied that AAPT could provide travel funds for the program and added that the visits could be both ways – lab developer to faculty and faculty to lab developer.

D. Peterson explained that the AAPT area committee on laboratories had helped to create the formation of the advanced labs task force. The AAPT does not have an area committee on advanced laboratories. Bistrow said that most faculty with interests in advanced labs are not AAPT members. Leff suggested that this could be one area in which the AAPT could collaborate with the APS. D. Peterson pointed out that David Haas, incoming chair for the Forum on Education, was considering a presentation on advanced labs for the APS March or April meeting.

Mamola, referring to recommendation 7, explained that advanced labs are really outside the mission of the TPT. Bistrow said the preference would be more publications in the AJP. Tobochnik welcomed more submissions from the group and noted that the acceptance rate for this topic is probably pretty high. D. Peterson stated that advanced labs is not a well-defined term, but issues relevant to this area do overlap with research issues appearing in the AJP. The apparatus for advanced labs is a long way from commercial apparatus and there is a broad spectrum of what constitutes advanced labs.

Heller asked the Board to consider who would maintain the momentum for this interest since the task force had completed its charge. It was not clear to the Board members that the AAPT committee on labs was the appropriate committee to represent the interests of advanced labs faculty. When Robertson suggested the creation of a subcommittee of the labs committee, Bistrow commented that the subcommittee could be larger than the committee.

Leff said the AAPT could build on the work done by the task force. One action for the association is to provide communications to the advanced labs faculty about relevant workshop opportunities and AAPT can provide help with the creation of a web site. Leff added that Jonathan Reichert had expressed an interest, depending upon the conditions, in sponsoring an award and a willingness to share his list of advanced labs across the country. Hein said he would talk to Bruce Mason about the creation of a web site for this group. Bistrow volunteered to contact potential editors and report back to Hein. Bistrow commented that the apparatus committee had better addressed the needs of the advanced labs faculty than the labs committee. D. Peterson volunteered to serve as a liaison between the advanced labs group and these two AAPT committees. He said that he would encourage the organization of one session a year in addition to a workshop.

Tobochnik proposed that the Executive Office organize a topical conference for advanced labs within the next two years. In response to a suggestion from Heller, Khoury explained that the addition of advanced labs as a check-off interest item on membership application forms could be easily addressed but with some lead-time. Holbrow added that three days of computer emailing, akin to what he had done on preparing an invitation list for TGRU, could provide the AAPT with a list of advanced labs faculty, including those who are not AAPT members.

29. Retreat Feedback.

- Area Committees. Adair reported that the retreat report was distributed to the Area Chairs at the beginning of the Syracuse meeting. The chairs shared the report with the members of their committee and reported the committee reactions to Adair and Leff. Adair said that they had received the committees' feedback and had begun to cross-reference the ideas to the committees.
- R. Peterson reported that the Section Representatives had a brief panel presentation concerning the retreat. Little time was spent in discussion of the retreat. He felt that it was too soon to expect reactions from the section reps.

30. Report from Section Representatives. R. Peterson reported that during the meeting of Section Representatives, they discussed the professionalism of section reps and their minimum duties. The section rep's discussion of the Board retreat was reported above (Item 29).

Heller's excellent presentation of his proposed meeting requirements was discussed widely by the representatives. There was strong, general support for using these criteria when the national office brings recommendations for future meeting sites to Council. Gibson added that the reps expressed some disagreement regarding the details of some of the criteria.

Khoury explained that Hakim as new Executive Officer would present proposed meeting sites for Winter dates as well as the Summer 2009. However, to date the AAPT did not have invitations for the 2009 meeting. Gibson asked which criteria were going to be used to gauge the proposed sites, Heller's criteria or the ACCOM criteria. He felt there was a difference in the two sets of criteria. Khoury replied that the Executive Office does not need polished criteria, just the sense of the criteria, to prepare the recommendations for Council. It will be difficult for the staff to find a university that will meet all criteria for a Summer meeting. R. Peterson added that the section reps had asked that when the Board finalizes the criteria for national meetings that the staff apply them retroactively to see how well they fit the past meeting sites.

31. Memberships and Benefits Committee. R. Peterson reported that the Membership and Benefits Committee had decided to extend the six-month, free AAPT membership with one online journal to additional twelve months at half price. Those who qualify for this must be new AAPT members who have joined local AAPT sections.

The committee will try to form a R1 institutional membership after studying the revenue implications to AAPT at twelve R1 institutions. The committee is exploring the provision of three-year memberships for undergraduate and graduate students, joint memberships between NSTA and AAPT, and renewable memberships by credit cards.

Three Fuller Fund applicants were awarded, two from Cuba and one from Georgia.

Valerie Evans added that the AAPT Memberships Department was reviewing journal online subscriptions only to determine how many members will renew their subscriptions. Tobochnik suggested that AAPT should provide the option of getting the electronic version only but at the subscription rate for print copies. Khoury pointed out that the two versions are not identical. The electronic version does not include vendor advertisements since no one had identified a way to successfully transfer print advertisements to the web. In reply to a question from Heller, Evans said that the AAPT has given five teaching assistant memberships.

32. Publications Committee. Monroe, as Chair of the Publications Committee, recommended that the Board:

- **Reappoint Karl Mamola as TPT Editor for a new three-year term;**

- Reappoint Jan Tobochnik as AJP Editor for a new three-year term; and
- Extend Bruce Mason's term for one year as Interim Online Publications Editor.

The motion passed.

The Board also approved the following appointments to AAPT Editorial Boards:

- AJP – Robert Geroch (University of Chicago), Madeleine Msall (Bowdoin College), Lev Vaidman (Tel Aviv University) for three-year terms; and
- Resource Letters – Kenneth Ford (Philadelphia), Thomas M. Miller (Hanscom AFB) for three-year terms; and
- Books Editorial Board -
 - One-year term: John Hubisz (North Carolina State University), Tom Greenslade (Kenyon College), Tom O’Kuma (Lee College)
 - Two-year term: Patricia Viele (Cornell University), Stamatis Vokos (Seattle Pacific University)
 - Three-year term: Laura McCullough (University of Wisconsin, Stout), Dwight Neuenschwander (Southern Nazarene University), Ann Brandon (Joliet West High School)

All appointments will begin in January 2007.

Monroe reported that the Publications Committee has asked her to appoint a study committee to review the current job description for Online Publications Editor and recommend members for a Search Committee for a new Online Editor. The study committee will work with Bruce Mason and T. Hakim. **In response to a request from the Publications Committee, the Board authorized up to \$5000 to support the work of the Study Committee.** The Study Committee will present its report to the Publications Committee in January 2007.

Monroe reported that the appointments to the AJP Review Committee had been completed. Serving on the committee are Beth Ann Thacker, Texas Tech University; June Matthews, MIT; Jim Cederberg, St. Olafs College; and Tom Olsen, Lewis and Clark College. The committee will present its report to the Board early in 2007.

33. Awards Committee. D. Peterson reported that the Awards Committee had selected recipients for AAPT awards to be given in January 2007. He will be contacting these to see if they will be able to accept the awards.

34. Visits to Area Committees. Heller asked Board members to report any items of special interest from area committees. Monroe will collect the visiting Board member reports and these will be included in the Board packet for the October meeting.

Highlights of the Board reports follow.

- Roeder reported that the High School Committee would like for the word “innovative” to be removed from the title of teacher grants. Heller directed that this could be done with the help of M. Khoury and did not require Board action. Pat Callahan will work with the Teacher Prep and HS Committees to update the “Role, Education, and Qualifications of High School Physics Teachers”. Roeder

advised that Mary Winn might need help in screening the photos submitted for the High School Photo Contest.

- Robertson reported that Professional Concerns Committee might bring a proposal to the Board seeking help to translate _____. He also reported that the International Committee indicated that AAPT might receive applications for section status from Mexico and Europe.
- Mamola said the Minorities Committee had described the Board retreat as paying too little attention to diversity. The committee would like for AAPT to reach out more strongly to minorities local to future meeting sites, beginning with the AAPT meeting in Greensboro. Mamola asked Adair to talk with Floyd James, Chair, about meeting logistics.
- R. Peterson reported that the Labs Committee would like the Board to make a strong effort to attract REU students to the SPS student activities at national meetings.
- Chabay reported that the Teacher Prep Committee was working with the Undergraduate Committee to prepare a proposal for the Board requesting the creation of a special task force on the physical science preparation of K-12 teachers.
- Desbien reported that the Science Education for the Public Committee would be seeking ways to measure the impact of the “physics of the road” workshop. He also noted that the TYC Committee was discussing the organization of a TYC21 reunion and revitalization.
- Heller advised that the Graduate Education Committee was involved in the preparation of a joint AAPT/APS proposal to fund a conference on graduate education.

35. Executive Session II (without Executive Officers.) Heller convened the Board into Executive Session to review the Minutes of the Executive Sessions for March and April and to review the three sessions of the Executive Board.

36. Adjournment. At the conclusion of Executive Session II, Heller adjourned the meeting of the Executive Board.

Mary Beth Monroe, AAPT Secretary