

USBPO Council Conference Call

Meeting Minutes

06/23/2017

Present: F. Waelbroeck, T. Biewer, J. Terry, G. Staebler, E. Marmar, S. Kaye, D. Brower, J. Rapp, D. Pace, C. Kessel

Ex-officio: C. Greenfield, A. Hubbard, M. Lanctot, N. Uckan, P. Ferguson, D. Clark

Matt Lanctot (FES) is the new USBPO program manager

Next meeting: TBD

Introduction

Chuck Greenfield introduced Michelle Metschel who is the USBPO Administrator and will be taking meeting minutes.

I. Presentation by Chuck G and Amanda H

- a. Slides of Annual Review – C. Greenfield will distribute copies of slides to group
 - C. Greenfield gave a skeleton presentation he is preparing for FES visit in July 2017, some highlights are below....Council members are encouraged to provide suggestions and feedback to Chuck ASAP.
 - D. Campbell is retiring from ITER, AFTER he completes the updated ITER Research Plan for publication in Nuclear Fusion.
 - USBPO total membership has reached 430.
 - Council election is coming up, and following this the Research committee will need to replace five leaders.
 - NOTED: USBPO is running out of ITPA members to serve as topical group leaders or deputy leaders.
 - Preparing for National Academy of Sciences study, is major undertaking in 2017, gave a talk at the first NAS committee meeting June 5, 2017.
 - Last Task group on Disruptions has not shown any new activity, however, a recent request from ITER on detailed definition of disruption mitigation system and its performance may require new work to be done soon.

b. Director's Report

- C. Greenfield has gotten an invitation to speak at the Fusion Power Associates meeting Dec 2017.
- May need to add an additional Research Committee member to serve as e-News editor.

c. Research Committee Membership – slides

- ITPA leader and deputy leader terms are ending, and USBPO advises FES on these nominations and memberships
- In the outreach area, ITER has hired professional people for this, maybe we can obtain some guidance from them on their approaches

II. NAS Study Preparation, USBPO Activities

- M. Mael has been forthcoming requesting information, C. Greenfield sees submitting ~ 2 whitepapers based on the Research Committee input
- A question to Chuck G. – what form of input does he want for the NAS Study Preparation – White paper, etc? C. Greenfield is trying to be more targeted.
- The June 5 presentation is to be uploaded to the website.
- Task Groups – new task group on hold
- Web Seminars
- ITPA Coordination Committee
- ITER Operations Fellows – resources could be a problem for Universities
- International School – Alternative plan: US Only Burning Plasma School since we have a better participation rate.
- Outreach activities –

III. Adding one more member to the Council

- Adding P. Ferguson (VLT Lead) to ex-officio list (bylaws amendment) A motion was made by Stan Kaye to change the bylaws. C. Kessel seconded the motion. Discussion.

- **A bylaws change was passed**, pertaining to the total membership of the Council. The motion passed unanimously.

a. *OLD*

The Council has 12 regular members who shall serve staggered terms of three years each. Council members shall not serve consecutive terms.

b. *NEW*

The Council has 12 regular members who shall serve staggered terms of three years each. Council members shall not serve consecutive terms.

The number of members will be temporarily increased in cases where a member's term has been extended to allow a term as Chair or Vice-chair so as not to interrupt the pattern of selecting four new members each year.

- A motion was made by T. Biewer to vote on language changes to the bylaws. C. Kessel seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- **A bylaws change was passed**, pertaining to ex-officio membership.

a. *OLD*

In addition to the Council members already described, two people will be ex-officio members of the Council with voting privileges: the Chief Technologist and the Chief Scientist (if different from the USBPO Director) of the U.S. ITER Project Office. The ITER Science Officer and the ITER Technology Officer at OFES, and the USBPO Director, will be ex-officio participants in Council meetings without voting privileges. At the discretion of the Council Chair, other individuals may be invited to participate in Council meetings, but will not be voting members.

b. *NEW*

In addition to the Council members already described, **three** people will be ex-officio members of the Council with voting privileges: **the Director of the Virtual Laboratory for Technology (VLT)**, the Chief Technologist and the Chief Scientist (if different from the **VLT Director and** USBPO Director) of the U.S. ITER Project Office. The ITER Science Officer and the ITER Technology Officer at OFES, and the USBPO Director, will be ex-officio participants in Council meetings without voting privileges. At the discretion of the Council Chair, other individuals may be invited to participate in Council meetings, but will not be voting members.

- In light of the change in ex-officio membership to include the head of the Virtual Laboratory for Technology, P. Ferguson is now an ex-officio member of the Council
- Ex-officio members from FES will include J. Mandrekas, (in addition to J. Van Dam, E. Synakowski, and G. Nardella) and others will be added if they desire.
- Updates to the website lists and bylaws will be made.

IV. Elections

- Council to replace David Brower, Juergen Rapp, Jim Terry, and Francois Waelbrook
 - Need to choose nominating committee – two by election, two by appointment. Choose a nominating committee (by Director and Council Chair), two from Council and two from Research Committee. Need to solicit nominations and put forth a slate of candidates for election.*
 - Generate a nominating committee – one week*
 - Committee to provide candidates - two weeks to solicit/identify*
 - Identify candidates – one week*
 - Ask Susana to chair Nominating Committee*
- C. Kessel will get the nominating committee for the Council election established, and follow a 1 week to establish nominating committee, 2 weeks for the nominating committee to collect candidates from the USBPO membership, and 1 week to determine the slate of candidates for the election. The USBPO will then open the election for ~ 4 weeks (or more if necessary)
- D. Pace presented a proposal to explore/develop outreach to the general public about fusion and government funded science. He presented very interesting results from ScienceCounts.org, which polls people about what research they think the government should fund, based on their political views and education level. Several ideas were generated for how to proceed. C. Kessel will arrange another Council conference call to discuss in more depth for those who are interested. Some level of fact-finding beforehand would help (e.g. at our institutions find out what is going on, what types of outreach, and coordination that is going on among US fusion institutions).

ORIGINAL AGENDA for Conference Call

Topics for this Council Meeting:

1) presentation by Chuck G / Amanda H in preparation for annual review of USBPO activities...our thoughts and feedback

2) NAS study preparation, USBPO activities

3) adding one more member to the Council?

4) elections for the Council to replace David Brower, Juergen Rapp, Jim Terry, and Francois Waelbrook

two by election, two by appointment

choose a nominating committee (by Director and Council Chair), two from Council and two from Research Committee, solicit nominations and put forth a slate of candidates for election

election

set some deadlines

Chuck G. appoints the remaining two

5) any other business

6) adding Phil Ferguson (VLT head) to ex-officio list (bylaws amendment)

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adding Matt Lanctot to list of DOE ex-officio members (and Mandrekas, Foster...just put them all on it?)

***update website to show ALL ex-officio members

7) I forward below a proposal for discussion that I sent out to Koepke, Greenfield, and Hubbard shortly after our last Council meeting (about one year ago). This concerns the fusion outreach work that we had just discussed during that meeting. Chuck Greenfield wanted to comment on this, so I am not sure we are ready to include it in the agenda... but I leave that determination to the three of you. I am happy to present this during the meeting if you will allow.

One benefit of the long time between Council meetings is that the ScienceCounts group has released a second summary page for their study. I have attached that polling data here in addition to the original summary sheet referenced in the message below.