

### AC3 Small Group Meeting Thursday, May 24, 2007

1. Introductions; Those present include (along with their committees)
  - a. Marie Plumb (facilitator)- Women in Physics
  - b. Tom Greenslade- History and Philosophy of Physics
  - c. Michael Thoennessen- Graduate Education in Physics
  - d. Michelle Strand- Educational Technologies
  - e. Richard Jacob- Interests of Senior Physicists
  - f. Gordon McIntosh- Space Science and Astronomy
  - g. Rachel Scherr- PER Organizing Council
  - h. Observers: Lila Adair-president elect; Greg Puskar- Laboratories
2. Time to look over revised AAPT Visioning Challenge and the premises
3. Rules of Engagement- (General ideas)
  - a. Reminder that this is a brainstorming session.
  - b. Do not worry about constraints.
  - c. Look at the big picture.
4. Visioning Charge (Dialogue of concerns and ideas)
  - a. As a member of AAPT, not knowing how things got decided, whether you could do go to the committee meetings, how committees worked, etc.
    - i. Ideas: Invitations at new member meetings and announcement of committee meetings at sponsored sessions, actively advertise; separate invitation in registration materials; article about committees and structure in new AAPT's publication;
  - b. Disconnect between committees, section reps, and the AAPT structure
    - i. Ideas: Set up the AAPT office to match an AAPT person with area committees and section reps (partners); Not just about logistics and meetings, but including advocating.
  - c. Cracker barrels have been a great addition, allowing discussion within groups
    - i. Ideas: Make sure each groups has a cracker barrel as part of each meeting.
  - d. Some committees are doing "real" committee work, i.e. Graduate Ed creating actual publications, etc.
    - i. Ideas: Liaison at AAPT for each committee could help all committees go to that level.
  - e. Concerns about value of New Chairs meeting. Time was not well spent.
    - i. Ideas: Vice-chair system should help (2 yr appointments will not work); Liaison at AAPT office could also help; Liaison at AAPT office might also make it more likely for people to accept the challenge-after appointment, personal calls from AAPT liaison to new chair
  - f. How to get audio, video, written materials from talks at AAPT meetings
    - i. Ideas: Some of that is already done and on the AAPT website. More is in the works.
  - g. How committee chairs are selected (by president) without input from committees
    - i. Ideas: Liaison at AAPT could help get input, but if the president does not want input, he doesn't need to use it; New mechanism for selecting chair is not possible without changing constitution; sometimes presidents are bringing in "new blood" to the committee
5. Proposed Model: Structure at AAPT national office to improve communication between committees and the AAPT national office. Have staff member AAPT liaison for each committee; i.e. one staff member has responsibility for a specific group of committees. AAPT liaison helps with logistics but will also be a participant with what the committees want to do. Best idea would be for these liaisons to have physics backgrounds consistent with the committees they are responsible for.