

Business Meeting at the ICOPS 2011

The annual PSAC business meeting was held on Monday, 26 June 2011 in room CC21A of the Hyatt Regency McCormick Center, chaired by Rickey Faehl. The meeting commenced at 17:30.

The first order of business was the announcement of the upcoming ICOPS, with as much detail as was then available. Next year's conference, ICOPS 2012, will be held in Edinburgh, Scotland, UK. The dates are 8-11 July 2012, and the venue is the Edinburgh International Conference Center. Michael Kong is the Conference Chairman, and Christine Coverdale is the Technical Conference Chair. ICOPS 2013 will be held in conjunction with the Pulsed Power Conference in San Francisco on 16-20 June 2013 at the Hyatt Regency. Bryan Oliver is the Conference Chair for this joint meeting, and John Verboncoeur is the PSAC Technical Conference Chair. The following year, ICOPS 2014 will be on 25-29 May 2014 in Washington, D.C. Joe Schumer is the Conference Chair for this meeting, and John Luginsland is the Technical Conference Chair. Finally, the latest conference to be approved by PSAC is in 2015, to be held in Turkey. The dates and venues are still being negotiated by the Conference Chair, Lutfi Oksuz, Istanbul or Antalya (on the southern coast of Turkey) are likely conference venues.

The next item of business was a presentation on "Funding Views from the Agencies", given jointly by Chris Deeney (DOE), Steve Gitomer (NSF), and John Luginsland (AFOSR). The individual presentations were required to be brief overviews, because of time conflicts with another ICOPS Social Event, but a common feature of the presentations was that R&D budgets allocations had been largely spared cuts at that time. However, budget negotiations were still underway, and so there was considerable uncertainty about the future. The presenters also gave individual funding programs within their agencies that could benefit Plasma Science researchers. All three emphasized that they have special programs targeted at outstanding young researchers, established to give promising people a step up in the beginnings of their careers. The presentation was then opened to questions from the floor. There was good interaction with the Meeting attendees, but the time constraint mentioned above required the question and answer to be closed shortly before 18:00.

Before closing, the Chair inquired if there was any new business to be brought forward. In the absence of any new business, the 2011 Business Meeting was closed.