

Florida AAPT Section Overview

(Suggest improvements in slides to
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Florida Section American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) Purposes

The purposes of the Florida Section of AAPT is to advance the teaching of physics and the role of physics in our culture and to enhance effective communications in the teaching of physics at all levels.

Florida Section AAPT

Continuing Actions

- Promoting Physics Teacher Sharing and Aids to Enhance Physics Teaching
- Fall/Spring Meetings
- Future Meeting Hosts, Locations and Dates
- Arranging Speakers
- Selecting Officers
- Awards
- Representation with National AAPT – Section Reports
- Maintain Addresses and Account for Section Funds
- Communication and Sharing Information with Florida Physics Teachers
- Maintain web Site
- Increase Membership and Participation at Meetings
- Representation at AAPT, FAST and NSTA Conferences
- Input to Florida Department of Education
- Participate in FAST Meetings

Possible Initiatives

- New Florida Section Web Site
- Share Physics Information
- Increase Section Membership
- Increase Attendance at Meetings
- Make Contacts and Provide Physics Teaching Information and Recommendations to Florida Department of Education
- Request Suggestions from Florida Physics Teachers – Information, Support Needs, Florida Section Activities, Nature of Meetings
- Compile Meeting Arrangements Suggestions for Hosts
- Banner for AAPT and/or Fl Section of AAPT

Possible Initiatives

(Suggested in Fall 2002 Meeting)

- Spring Meeting at Eckerd College, Anne Cox is hostess
– April 12 is possible date – Anne Cox to confirm.
- Paul Hewitt and David Wall are potential speakers.
- Pursue Fall 2003 meeting at Orlando Science Center:
Contact Professor Tonner to confirm.
- Promote attendance at FL AAPT meetings as an activity
in grant proposals.
- Promote FL AAPT participation at March Engineering
April physics competitions at U. of Miami, chemethon
at Barry University – John Goehl is contact, competition
at Pensacola Junior College – Joseph Zayas is contact.
- Send letters to school principals.

Possible Initiatives

(Suggested in Fall 2002 Meeting)

- See web site enhancements slide.
- In some way better link HS and college physics teachers.
- FL AAPT could be a source of professional development for new teachers – contacts/mentors for new teachers – Jack Brennon is contact.
- For Spring meeting – up to \$25 credit for first time attendees.
- Update section data base of physics teachers.
- FL AAPT Section Banner.
- Present two hours of demonstrations at FAST meeting. October 18, 2002.

Meeting Arrangements

- Confirm Date , Location and Schedule
- Arrange for Hotel, Sharing of Rooms, Possible Staying with Local Members
- Arrange Meeting Rooms
- Arrange for Meals – On Site Preferred
- Confirm Detailed Directions with Maps and Signs
- Provide All Support for Presenters – Power, Audiovisual, Equipment
- Coordinate possible meeting theme
- Keep member costs low
- Confirm Parking Locations and Permits
- Confirm door prizes
- Confirm Number Attending
- Confirm Room Access
- Coordinate Agenda w/ President
- At meeting - Provide Name Tags, List of Attendees w/ Addresses
- Provide Overview of Host Site – Physics and School
- Provide Copying Support
- Provide Receipts to Members
- Assure Treasurer Pay Bills

Meeting Arrangements

Additional Attractive Features

1. Person to act as registrar – Nametags, Certificate, Collect and verify member data (Name, address, e mail, #)
2. Very nice certificates of attendance
3. Person on hand to help with technology/AV support
4. Excellent speaker on WTC construction.
5. Advance general agenda to inform and promote attendance, and past detailed agendas on web site for reference; detailed agenda, as feasible, in advance of the meeting to presenters and others.
6. Breakfast snacks, lunch, break and discussion periods in the meeting room to promote member interaction.

Meeting Arrangements (Advance Information to Members)

- Host, President and any others: Provide meeting information to secretary no later than 13 weeks before the meeting. (Give partial information, rather than late info.)
- Secretary sends out meeting info out at Least 9 Weeks by e-mail and 10 weeks by Mail.
- Secretary sends meeting information to physics teachers, county supervisors – Florida Association of Science Supervisors (FASS), 6 area centers for education enhancement and Fl Science Teacher Magazine.

Standard Business Meeting Agenda Items

- Review and Approval of Record of Last Meeting
- Section Representative Report
- Treasury Report and Approval
- Select Future Meeting Dates and Locations
- Suggestions for Future Speakers and Workshops
- Awards
- Election of Officers
- Announcements
- Update Member Database (date dues paid, school address, phone number, e-mail address, etc.)

Thoughts to Increase Meeting Attendance

- Increase mailing list to include more physics teachers – via – a FAST list of physics teachers, past physics workshop participants, PASCO mailing list, coordination with county resource teachers (CRT) ...
- Make announcements earlier
- Arrange to get in service points for attendance
- Have workshops in conjunction with meetings
- Seek to have meeting costs not increase

Thoughts to Increase Meeting Attendance

- Have an hour of sharing – will be good for new teachers as well as old.
- Have one engaging activity at each meeting – common topic with complete handouts and support materials – so a new teacher may carry something complete and concrete away.
- Have traveling workshops to each county or region – to stimulate interest – would be rather time consuming
- Spark interest by having local Saturday morning sharing sessions

Thoughts to Increase Meeting Attendance

- Arrange for an engaging speaker
- Make and distribute a list of benefits of F1 AAPT section meeting attendance and membership
- Promote section activities by having a demonstration session at Fall FAST meetings
- Hold meeting at a four year college – include orientation of physics teaching facilities and some ongoing current research updates
- Further use the F1 AAPT Section web page to distribute information and announce meetings

Benefits of Section Meetings

- Knowing and interacting with fellow physics teachers
- Presenting and receiving information on physics concepts and teaching
- Hearing keynote presentations
- Sharing of physics demonstrations
- Developing your physics knowledge in a professional organization
- Completing physics workshops
- Visiting different physics teaching environments
- Participating in planning future physics activities
- Enjoying physics and social discussions with rather experienced fellow physics teachers

President

- Provide Leadership and Supervision of Section Activities
- Appoint Meeting Committee
- Set Agenda section meetings and for Business Meetings
- Contact Vendors for Meeting Door Prizes
- Invite Vendors to Present Meeting Workshops
- Conduct Section Meetings
- Appoint Awards Committee (Annual Section Service Award, Plaque Engraved and Purchased, Request National AAPT Ltr's.)
- Appoint Nominating Committee (President, President Elect, Secretary/Treasury, Section Representative – for Spring Meeting – Arrange for Ballot Printing)
- Represent Section (With FAST, DOE, Fl Legislature, AAPT, NSTA)

Secretary/Treasurer

- Maintain Member Database (date dues paid, school address, phone number, e-mail address, etc.)
- Distribute Information to Members
- Prepare Meeting Announcements – 10 weeks prior to meeting
- Receive and Process Meeting Attendee Information
- Prepare and Distribute Meeting Agendas
- Prepare Meeting Minutes
- Prepare Correspondence for Section
- Send Thank You Notes to Sponsors(s), Hosts(s) and Speaker(s)
- Maintain Historical Records (History of Officers, Meeting Locations and Dates, Speakers, Annual Service Award)
- Provide Information to the Section Web Master
- Pay Bills
- Account for Funds Received and Disbursed
- Prepare Treasury Reports for Member Approval

Section Representative

- Represent Section with AAPT Office
- Provide Section Meeting and Activities Reports and Information to AAPT Office
- Provide AAPT Updates at Section Meetings
- Take and Provide Photographs of Section Activities
- Coordinate national and sectional constitution and bylaws.
- Gather information and suggestions of successful initiatives and programs of other AAPT sections – including good web sites.

FAST Meeting Coordinator

- Arrange Section AAPT participation in FAST fall meetings – arrange for two hour session.
- Coordinate and make agenda for session.
- Coordinate and arrange for AAPT promotion in FAST session – information, banner, AAPT membership forms ...
- At least 13 weeks before FAST meeting, provide session information and requests for AAPT member participation - to secretary for distribution of information to physics teachers.

Special Assistant – Jim Nelson

- Assist everyone with everything.
- Special assistance with suggestions and arrangements for meeting speakers.
- Special assistance with suggestions and arrangements for meeting locations and hosts.
- Receive member suggestions for meeting presentations, compile information and suggested agenda – coordinate with President.
- Assist Secretary.
- Assist annual Section Presidents with everything.

Constitution and Bylaws

- If a copy exists, Jane or Jim Nelson should distribute at a future meeting or by e mail – or at least to Sherry and other officers of the Fl section of AAPT.

Physics Teacher Interests

- Share and Learn Information with Other Physics Teachers
- Physics Ideas and Materials for Immediate Class Use
- More Coordination between Colleges and Local High Schools
- Attend Physics Lectures
- ???
- ???

Web Site Enhancements?

- Put Spring and fall 2002 agenda and information on web site so that potential attendees can see the nature of the meetings.
- Provide links to Florida physics, chemistry and science competitions.
- Advice/information to have grant proposals include funds and activities to attend FL AAPT meetings
- Information on Spring 2003 meeting ASAP – as soon as information is known.

President's Message

Greetings! From Lee Murfee, the current President of the Florida Section of the American Association of Physics Teachers (FL AAPT). Our section benefits from the participation of experienced and new physics teachers throughout Florida. Jane and Jim Nelson continue to provide leadership and administrative support to our section's activities; we are most appreciative of their contributions over the years. Our fall and spring meetings are our principle activities. Possible benefits of your attending the FL AAPT meetings include:

- Knowing and interacting with fellow physics teachers
- Presenting and receiving information on physics concepts and teaching
- Hearing keynote presentations
- Sharing of physics demonstrations
- Developing your physics knowledge in a professional organization
- Completing physics workshops
- Visiting different physics teaching environments
- Participating in planning future physics activities
- Enjoying physics and social discussions with rather experienced fellow physics teachers

This fall's meeting is Saturday, October 5, 2002, at the Miami-Dade Community College, Kendall Campus. Professor Joseph Boyle is our host; please join me in thanking Joe for all of his support and time in arranging this meeting. We look forward to a fine meeting today; let us see if we can realize the benefits above. Our web address is <http://www.physics.ucf.edu/~peg/FL-AAPT>. We hope that you can join us for our 2003 spring meeting at Echard College in St. Petersburg, hosted by Anne Cox.

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