

PTRA Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday July 18, 2016 12:00-1:30 PM
Sheraton Grand Hotel, Sacramento, CA

Committee Members:

Present: Pat Callahan (Chair), Robert Morse, Larry Cook, Tom O’Kuma, Kelly O’Shea, Earl Blodgett (via Facetime), Karen Jo Matsler (Director ex-officio member), Robert Hilborn (ex-officio)

Absent: Ed Price

Friends of Committee in Attendance:

Janie Head (PTRA), Bruce Mason (Compadre), Duane Merrell (PTRA), Linda Fox (PTRA), Dennis Fox (PTRA), Tommi Holsenbeck (PTRA), Jan Mader (PTRA and AAPT Board of Directors), George Amann (PTRA and AAPT Board of Directors), Trina Cannon (PTRA), Ann Robinson (PTRA), Sharon Kirby (PTRA), Steve Henning (PTRA), Nina Morley Day (PTRA), Alice Flarend (PTRA), Wolfgang Christian (AAPT Board of Directors), Deborah Roudebush (PTRA), John Roeder (PTRA), Bill Reitz (PTRA), Jay Bagley (PTRA), Elaine Gwinn (PTRA and AAPT Board of Directors), Lars Johnson (PTRA), Gay Stewart (West Virginia University), Gene Easter (PTRA), Mary Mogge (AAPT Board of Directors), Janelle Bailey (AAPT Board of Directors), Sherry Savrda (AAPT Board of Directors)

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon.

1. Members of the Committee were introduced and Friends of the Committee attending the meeting were briefly introduced.
2. Karen Jo Matsler presented her PTRA Director’s report (see PTRA Directors Report SM 2016) same report was presented to AAPT Executive Board
 - a. Gay Stewart made a point that PTRA needs to be included in any discussion of professional development involving AAPT
 - b. Jan Mader pointed out that Gay Stewart has sent several of her students to PTRA Leadership Institutes in the last few years
 - c. Pat Callahan pointed out that PTRA reports have been made to the AAPT Board of Directors the last few meetings and should continue in the future.
3. Information from Executive Office
 - a. Financial report as of May 2016 showed a balance of \$216,799.61 in the PTRA Continuation Fund. See complete report in file - May 2016 PTRA Cont fund balance
 - b. Pat Callahan reported on participation in micro chip meeting at ACP in May.
 - i. Pat, Rebecca Vieyra, Colleen Megowan (American Modelling Teachers Association), Wendy Heheman (AMTA), Jon Anderson (PhysTech) and Rennee Michelle Goertzen (Phystech) met for 2 days to discuss a professional development and leadership model for AAPT.

- ii. The creation of a Physics Master Teacher Leadership Task Force was discussed and initiated.
- iii. Pat, Karen Jo, Rebecca, Colleen, Jon and Jack Hehn reviewed over 80 applications for the Task Force and selected 17 to be Task Force members.
- iv. Task Force is to meet virtually and hopefully face to face at some point and develop recommendations to be brought to AAPT Board of Directors by Winter meeting 2017.
- v. Some remaining applicants were appointed to a teacher advisory group, Rebecca, Colleen, Jon, Elaine Gwinn, Jan Mader, Karen Jo and Pat will serve as a Leadership advisory group, Jack Hehn and Steve Iona will serve as special advisors to the task force.

4. Additional information concerning workshops

- a. Alabama (APEX Grant)--Jim and Jane Nelson
 - i. Jim Nelson, Tommi Holsenbeck, Mark Maddox, Eric Lambert and Bill Ossenfort attended the PTRA Leadership Training sessions at Pasco Scientific last week
 - ii. Jim Nelson reported the following gains have been reported by participants of the APEX workshops
 - 1. Knowledge of teacher
 - 2. Confidence of teacher
 - 3. Teachers instructional strategies include more inquiry
 - 4. Student achievement
 - iii. Jim also encouraged others to try to inform other states of these accomplishments and attempt to replicate this PD model.
 - iv. Jim suggested that PTRA could provide PD to AP Physics teachers possibly through a regular column in The Physics Teacher
- b. West Georgia—Bob Powell, Ann Robinson, Sharon Kirby, Bill Reitz, David Todd, Nancy Easterly, Stacey Gwartney
 - i. Ann Robinson reported that this summer marked the 7th year of the MSP grant
 - ii. 118 k-8 teachers attended the week long institutes, some were repeats from previous years.
 - iii. There is a hope for 2 more years of the program
 - iv. Karen Jo reported that Stacey Gwartney received support from the Continuation fund to serve as a workshop leader, all other leaders were covered directly through the MSP grant
- c. Idaho State—Steve Shropshire, Jan Mader, Duane Merrill, Lars Johnson,
 - i. Jan Mader reported that this summer marked the 9th year of the grant
 - ii. Workshops served K-5 teachers primarily from schools that had not been meeting AYP

- iii. Schools sent groups of teachers, experiences varied from 1 to 45 years
- iv. The state of Idaho has tracked students of teachers who have participated in program and report improvement in student performance on state tests well above students of non-participants

d. Oklahoma—

- i. Grant was not funded for 2016

e. Fee for Service workshops

- i. University of Wisconsin- River Falls – Earl Blodgett, Lowell McCann and Elaine Gwinn
 - 1. PTRA Continuation fund provided \$200 stipends to participants to help defray out of pocket expenses
 - 2. Participation increased from 10 in 2015 to 13 this year
 - 3. Two week workshop on incorporating NGSS and the topic was waves and sound. There was a focus on the engineering aspect of the topics
- ii. Texas – Meggers Grant – Tom O’Kuma, Karen Jo Matsler, Janie Head, Evelyn Restivo, Michael Strange, Kenric Davis
 - 1. workshops focused on quantum physics held at three sites using a slightly different PD model that involved having teachers come and learn and then teach what they learned to students who attended for the afternoon of 3 days.
 - 2. Workshops at Fort Worth Museum of Science and Lee College were free to participants and students thanks to funding by the Meggers Grant (AIP)
 - 3. Due to demand, a similar workshop was held at Sherman (TX) Austin College and was run by Kenric Davies. The 3 day workshops required a participant fee of \$100. Andrea Petrean was the host for Austin College
 - 4. Tom O’Kuma suggested similar workshops be planned as fee for service since no grants would cover next year.
- iii. Brigham Young University – Duane Merrel and Lars Johnson
 - 1. PTRA Continuation fund contributed \$200 to 10 participants to offset registration fees
 - 2. BYU provided lunch and facilities at no cost to participants or PTRA
- iv. Central PA Section of AAPT
 - 1. Pat Callahan and Dave McCachren run PTRA workshops twice each year as part of Central PA Section activities
 - 2. Workshops have been held since 1992
 - 3. Workshops are 6 hours each
 - 4. 2015-16 workshops were on Hollywood Physics (Fall at University of Scranton) and NASA Aeronautics and Rocket Science (Spring at Moravian College in Bethlehem, PA)
- v. New York Section, New England Section and Northeast Regional

1. Steve Henning coordinated and ran three workshops with assistance from Pat Callahan (NY) and George Amann (NE and Northeast Regional)
 2. Each workshop was 3 hours
 3. Northeast Regional and New England workshops were on TIPERS/Ranking Tasks, New York was Perimeter Institute
 4. NY Section received funds from Bauder Grant that covered cost of participant expenses for NY workshop
 5. Steve Henning was congratulated for bringing over \$2000 into the PTRAs Continuation fund through these workshops
- vi. North Dakota – Larry Cook
1. 1 hour awareness session held as part of ND Section meeting
 2. 3 hour workshop with teachers in Bismarck
 3. 15 hours of workshops on CASTLE materials funded by Bismarck School District
5. Beth Cunningham made a brief appearance to thank PTRAs for their efforts and to indicate that she had heard good things about the recently completed PTRAs Leadership Institute.
6. NASA Heliophysics Grant
- a. Bob Hilborn reported that NASA had removed all funds for K-12 involvement in the grant
7. PTRAs Budget
- a. The 2017 budget will need to be prepared soon
 - b. Any information concerning planned workshops need to be communicated with Karen Jo and/or the committee so they can be factored into the budget
8. Systematic Program Review - Mary Mogge reported on the process that PTRAs will undergo
- a. AAPT programs are scheduled to be reviewed every 5-10 years, PTRAs review is next
 - b. PTRAs Director will set up an internal review board of 2-4 people, Bob Hilborn has been designated as the contact with the AAPT Executive Office to assist in data gathering
 - c. The Board of Directors Review Board has provided a set of leading questions to assist in preparing a 3-5 page internal report
 - d. The internal report is requested to be completed in about 3 months (November)
 - e. Internal report will be sent to external evaluators to review
 - f. External evaluators have about 3 months to prepare reactions to internal report
 - g. All costs for review are absorbed by AAPT

- h. Final report of recommendations sent to AAPT Board of Directors
9. PTRAs Presentations to AAPT Board of Directors
- a. Pat and Karen Jo have been invited to attend and present reports to both winter and summer meetings of the Board of Directors
 - b. They both also were included in discussions during the October Board meeting and have had a number of WebEx discussions with board and executive office personnel
10. Revisions to PTRAs resources
- a. Karen Jo indicated that a template is in place for revision of current PTRAs resource materials
 - b. John Roeder has begun the process with the Energy Resource that he had authored
 - c. Wolfgang Christian and Bruce Mason offered to assist in the revision process, just ask for help.
 - d. Jan Mader pointed out that new and revised resources need to reach down to K-8 level and include references to Common Core Math, state Science standards in addition to NGSS
11. Publishing, distribution and printing of resources – these processes will be reviewed and carefully examined in the future.
12. The issue of electronic access to PTRAs materials for leaders continue in delay pending changes in the PTRAs web site.
13. It was pointed out that the availability of funds for STEM opportunities will be following the block grant model, PTRAs need to remain aware of what is happening in your state and seek the assistance of the AAPT and PTRAs leadership as needed.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick Callahan
AAPT/PTRAs Oversight Committee Chair

Note: Thanks are extended to Janie Head for taking meeting notes!