

## WAPT Annual Meeting---October 10 & 11, 2008

Chippewa Falls High School  
**High School Committee Report**  
Judy Schmidt

**The following was from the July 21, 2008 Edmonton Summer Meeting High School Committee minutes :**

### **Announcements:**

Stamatis Vokos (vokos@spu.edu) – Is a part of a national teacher prep task force. They want to address 1) What do programs do that leads to a large number of physics teachers? 2) What are the best practices in HS teacher prep? 3) What are the policy changes that need to be made at universities? Please email with suggestions and complaints.

John Layman and Kristel Burgess – They are a part of the fundraising planning program. When the HS gets money donated to it typically it goes to the HS teacher grant program, but can we brainstorm other ideas of what to do with this money? Ann Brandon suggested funding teaches involvement in NSTA. Shannon Mandel suggested using the money to help HS teachers with registration for National AAPT meetings.

Susan White (AIP) – Presented the 2005 High School Survey of Physics Teachers. It has information on number of schools doing physics first, types of textbooks used for different levels of courses, and much more. She is worried that the response rate to the surveys is going down and wanted suggestions on how to get more feedback. The report should be posted to the web soon at [AIP.org/statistics](http://AIP.org/statistics).

Liz Chesik (echesick@aol.com) – Is the High School Rep to the board. She wants to bring our concerns to the board. So far she wants to address 1) Registration fee being too high, 2) Getting more posters viewed by putting them in the room with the paper sessions, 3) Providing support for new teachers / burnt out teachers.

Cathy Ezrailson – physics front – come visit the site! New units are up, lesson plans for k-8, physics first, and all levels including AP can be found on the site!

### **Chicago Meeting:**

Programs meeting recap. Winter meeting will be held in Chicago 2/12 – 2/16 due to a joint meeting with AAAS. Registration fees should be the same as always. The meeting will be held at the Hyatt and Fairmont hotels. Workshops will take place on Thursday and Friday. Sessions are Saturday thru Monday. This may be better for high school teachers because it is during Lincoln's birthday and President's Day so the teachers may have one or two days off of school during the conference.

Things happening in Chicago include: HS Science Fair/AAAS Family Day, FermiLab talks by 3 scientists, AAPT Plenary on Dark Matter, Museum of Science and Industry daylong workshop, Symposium on Physics First with Leon Ledermen who arranged Nobel Laureates, and possibly the Governor of Rhode Island, and a Demo Show organized by Tom Senior with the "Bigger is Better" theme.

Deadline for invited speakers is 9/1. We filled our allotments for sessions with a lot of co-sponsorship that is good for all involved. The Share-a-thon will happen. There will be a Make and Take session run by Scott Beutlich and Tom Senior.

### **Edmonton Meeting:**

Workshops that ran included: Inquiry, Low Cost Labs, and Quarknet physics at LHC. All went well. Physics front didn't run due to numbers.

The Share-a-Thon was well attended and started off slow, and picked up steam.

The photo contest is in an undesirable location. Vote early and often! Paul Hickman suggested asking the people around the area to vote as well.

The document on high school laboratories is still not finished. Since Olga Livanis isn't here, can some other people volunteer to head up this new effort to get it done? Cathy Ezrailson suggested collaboration with the Pre-High School Committee. John Lewis from the High School Committee and Diane Riendeau from the Pre-High School Committee volunteered to work together to finish the document. Don Cameron may help as well and voiced a concern about the students not being able to answer lab related questions on the test. Patty Blanton suggested there was a definition of what we mean by the word "lab". Maybe call it hands on investigations? There was also a suggestion for the inclusion of the different types of labs and what values they each have including inquiry, verification, and paradigm labs.

Mary Winn -Photo contest: 778 entries. 161 schools and many countries represented including Korea, Singapore, New Zealand, Slovenia, Canada and more.... Students are having a positive experience with AAPT from a young age due to the contest. Next year a possible third category? Dean Baird, Marla Clover, Laura Nickerson, and Michelle Strand all volunteered to help with the naming and regulations of the category. It was agreed by all we should keep up with the times. Drew Isola suggested the explanation of how they produced the picture should be part of the write up. Hopefully the registration will get online and more people will help Mary.

Trina Cannon - Video Contest. 2 entries. Put them on youtube? Vote online? Jaime Stasiorowski suggested a Myspace page with a login? Don Cameron suggested putting old winners on youtube to provide interest and comparison for future entries. Drew Isola suggested having the title of the video include the words AAPT video contest so they were easy to search.

Laura Nickerson - The right kind of help for the standards document is needed. Laura wants to make site that helps plan lesson plans around standards. Bruce Mason's name was offered, the physics front was suggested, and possibly Dean Baird may help?

The document RQEHSPT is moving forwards with a meeting between the writing committee, teacher prep, and PER representatives. We are going to collaborate on pulling out an "executive summary" for administrators with reference to the complete document.

High School Teaching Grants - Need a contact person. Jaime Stasiorowski volunteered. Diane Riendeau, Laura Nickerson, Pat Callahan, Ann Brandon, and Shannon Mandel volunteered to help.

**Respectfully submitted (for the last time)**

**Judy Schmidt**

**High School Rep. WAPT**