

Institute *of* Physics

Merseyside Branch Committee Meeting 5th October 2004 at 17.30

Room 315, Oliver Lodge Building, University of Liverpool.

Present: A Marks (Chair), S D Barrett (Vice Chair, who acted as minutes Secretary), J Bradshaw, V Ribeiro, D Farley, A Newsam, K Jones, N Marks, S L Bennett

1. **Apologies** D S Martin (Secretary and Treasurer), R McGrath, M Bode, N Heritage, M Chartier, N R Clitherow
2. **Minutes of the last meeting**
The minutes of the last meeting were accepted and signed.
3. **Matters arising not appearing in any item below**
None
4. **Reports on Meetings held since the last committee meeting.**
 - i) 15th June: A Non-specialist Teachers' Conference was organised by AM as an IoP Teachers' Network Co-ordinator. This was a new venture and attracted over 90. Feedback was very positive and indicated there should be another in 2005.
 - ii) 1st July: A report on the successful Annual Liverpool Teachers' Conference was given (Attendance of about 50). Demonstrations by the team from Physics Education were excellent. The national winners of the 2004 Paperclip Physics Competition gave their demonstration and joined in the discussions. It was suggested that undergraduates might be invited to take part in a future event.
 - iii) AM was invited to write a report for Physics Education which appeared in the September issue.
 - iv) CERN visit. Excellent feedback from teachers. The committee thanks Peter Butler for his contribution to the visit.
 - v) John Porter, fascinating talk – freshers' event- SSDB gave information about student membership of IoP and encouraged undergraduates to join. Attendance ~60.
5. **Forthcoming meetings**
 - i) 7 Oct. Nicola Pearsall – all organised
 - ii) Physics Olympics – all prepared
 - iii) 20 Oct. V. Howard **Action SLB to finalise details and to contact the Press**
 - iv) 4 Nov – R. Stephenson **Action AMN/AM**
 - v) 25 Nov – D Clark – in CLT because space for demonstrations needed
Action SLB
 - vi) 13 Dec – Laura Grant
 - Advertising via schools mailing list (Physics Dept) **Action: SDB**
 - Via Teachers' Network. **Action AM**
6. **Newsletter Feedback**
A lot of effort was required to produce the newsletter. The result appears very good.
7. **Einstein activities**

Andrea Fesmer and Andrew Newsam have an activity linked to the Liverpool Telescope, involving schools 'Hunting for Asteroids'. £1200 separate funding from IoP HQ.
John Bradshaw has been in contact with Paul Warren (Pilkington's rep) and there are plans for a schools' exhibition and visits.
Ronan McGrath and Dominic Dickson had an idea of a Science Fair. This is a suggestion which would need funding and much more work before it is viable.

8. Paperclip Physics

Deadline is 8th Oct for applications. Heats to be held in Liverpool and Manchester with the final at Daresbury. Details of venues and judges need to be finalised. **Action SDB, AM**
J Bradshaw has agreed to take on the role of communicating with schools.
Judges to be found by AM/SDB/NH

9. Budget 2005.

Awaiting outcome of budget proposal.

10. Education

[IoP Affiliated Schools can register for the National Schools' Observatory without charge.](#)

No report from Education Secretary.

11. PHYSOC

VR is advertising talks to undergraduates, in addition to the flyers SDB prepares. Suggested to try to advertise in University newspapers.

12. Blue Plaque

No progress

13. Capital of Culture

No progress

14. Einstein Stunt

Possibility of climbing stunt. Linked to a Science Fair?

15. A.O.B.

Career support offered by Institute may be of use to PHYSOC.

Branch Website – IoP now has a person to manage Branch websites. Aim to get all info onto IoP server rather than local Liverpool server.

Newsletter – Articles needed for next issue. Deadline 1st December **Action: ALL**

Einstein year Activities include Lab in a Lorry project.

16. Date of next meeting – Tues 9th November, 17:30.