

Society of Physics Students

General Meeting

Minutes

November 3, 2008

Call to order: 5:05 p.m.

Attendance: 14 members

Officers present: Laura Seward (President), Autumn Hallmark (Vice President), Bob Baker (Secretary, Treasurer).

- President Report:
 - President Seward announced that Dr. Rob Rice's talk has been postponed until the next meeting.
- Vice President Report:
 - The trip to the Air Ballistics Range was to be the same day as the AMRDEC trip, so a new date will have to be found.
- Treasurer Report:
 - We have \$73.00 in the checking account and \$5.00 in petty cash on hand.
- Social Chair Report:
 - Kira discussed the attendance at the movie nights. Attendance has been poor and with final exams rapidly approaching, so there will be no more movie nights until next semester.
- Post-exams potluck. Date: Dec. 6th, afternoon. Time will be decided. Location: probably the second floor of the Optics Building.
- The tour of AMRDEC is scheduled for Nov. 21st at a time to be decided, but will be in the early afternoon. Members or other students wishing to go on the tour must provide Social Security Numbers, date of birth, and place of birth, to the facility ASAP. Tour may be postponed due to complications with our point of contact.

- UAH Open House/ Club Fair: The next open house will be on Saturday, Nov. 15th. We need volunteers to staff a table and speak to prospective physics students. The time will be 9 a.m to 10 a.m. A free breakfast will be provided by the University.
- Ashley Campbell was elected to homecoming court representing SPS. Members were reminded that voting for Homecoming Queen would be on Nov. 4th and 5th at University Center.
- Demonstration Committee: We need volunteers. Stephanie Long volunteered to head the committee.
- Announcements:
 - President Seward reminded everyone of the national election and encouraged them to vote on Tuesday, November 4th.
 - “Black Body test on the WMAP 5-year data” by Ally Zhang, Tues. Nov. 4th.
 - Dr. Ernst Stuhlinger Recognition Symposium, Tues. Nov. 18th, UAH Louis Salmon Library.
 - National Space Society 2009 calendars are on sale for \$15. Contact Laura if interested.
 - A local high school student is in need of help from someone with experience building a trebuchet for a science project. Contact Laura if interested in helping.
- A discussion of “Politics and Science” was held at the end of the business meeting. Topics discussed were global climate change, cloning, embryonic stem cell research, human genetic sequencing and liberal eugenics, government funding of eco-friendly technology, and the gap in U.S. space capability caused by the imminent retirement of the space shuttle.
- Next Meeting: Monday, November 17th, 5:00 PM. This will be the last meeting of the fall semester. Dr. Rob Rice will also be the guest speaker. Dr. Rice received his Bachelor of Science Degree in pure mathematics. He received a Master’s Degree in Physics from DePaul University in Chicago, and his Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Wisconsin. He is Director of Medical Physics at Clearview Cancer Institute, Huntsville, AL. His specialty is Therapeutic Radiation Oncology. He will talk about careers as a medical physicist.