

## MINUTES

AIAA Los Angeles Las Vegas Section  
Monthly Council Meeting  
April 14, 2020  
5:30 PM to 7:30 PM

### 6 PM Call to Order

Shekar Sonwane, Ken Lui, Gary Moir, Jordan Chilcott, Robert Baker, Dennis Wonica, Niyati Chokshi, Brett Cornick, Ian Clavio, Marty Waldman, Marilyn McPoland, Fred Lawler, Seth Potter, Lisa Kaspin-Powell (**Have I missed anyone?**)

Reading and Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting – Lisa  
Minutes approved

### CSULB – Ian

- Big news! CSULB will host the AIAA Region VI Student Conference 2021. Communicating with Oleg Yakimenko, AIAA region VI deputy director of education
  - Looking for a judging chair for that conference. Needs to be a senior AIAA member. Ian has another year left so he will be there.
  - Looking for quality speakers (speak for free, cover different aerospace topics)
  - To propose names of speakers or judges, email [chair@csulbaiaa.org](mailto:chair@csulbaiaa.org)
  - Conference is open to speakers from anywhere.
  - Who can attend? This is a paper competition and networking opportunity for students to meet with professionals. Ian will have the team start making advertisements.

### Financial Committee Chair & Enterprise – Dennis

- Dennis sent letter to AIAA HQ to clarify email correspondence from last week to advise on what should be done on the ISS.
  - He recommended that the AIAA seek an Advisory Committee Role to NASA as recommended by the just-released Independent Review Team Report. The LA LV Section would support ISS commercialization effort.
  - Dumbacher reply April 14: AIAA HQ “cannot support an independent AIAA activity at this point”
  - Dennis recommendation: do not conduct any events involving CASIS as they are being investigated again. Management changed frequently over 9-year period of performance. CASIS has had only negative reports. Also, they are strictly for marketing.
  - Shekar: all other sections are having the ISS event.
  - Gary: any ISS experiments have been loss leaders. Hard to build a business case for them.
  - Serious conflicts between senators about whether space is worth it at all, or what should be funded. Gary supports seed money feeding space
  - Dennis supports ISS research to support commercialization
- Approvals of expenditures
  - Transaction of \$250 or more has to be OK'd by treasurer, member of Finance Committee by 2 out of 3 approval, not just one person's approval.
  - Dennis proposed that the Council vote on expenditures that are much higher.

- Appropriations should be assigned at the beginning of June. If Moises, Dennis, Ken, Gary, anyone who holds events exceeds those appropriations, it needs a Council vote.
- Event types we haven't had before need a Council vote for approval.
- Most of Gary's events have a fee built in so they break even.
- Section has saved money because it eliminated in person meetings
  - ZOOM cost picked up by AIAA/HQ
- Marsha has been doing a fantastic job but won't be here forever. Marilyn doesn't think she has the skill set and she is still new to the Section, but is happy to give the role a try. Dennis noted that the Section does its own taxes, he will guide Marilyn. For short term, since we don't have expenditures, the job should not be too difficult



## SECTION OFFICERS, EX-OFFICIO POSITIONS

### REGULAR COUNCIL POSITIONS

in Positions (every Section)

Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary,  
Treasurer

Other Regular Council Officers

Technical

Education

STEAM K-12 Outreach

Membership

Programs

Public Policy

Young Professionals

Career & Workforce Dev.

Enterprise Program

Regional Advisory Committee Rep

Las Vegas Chapter Rep

### NON-VOTING EX-OFFICIO COUNCIL POSITIONS

May be eliminated by  
Section Council at any time

- Previous Chair
- Liaisons (Ambassadors)
- Newsletter Editor & Webmaster
- Public Relations

- Council members must be members of Section. A member of a Section may transfer by request to a different section. They are elected annually.
- Co-chairs are allowed; they are nominated and appointed by vote of the Council Officers.
- Emily Springer stated that a council member must be a dues paying member, because an e member is only a member for 12 months.
- Shekar says no, that all can run for a position but when their membership expires they can't any longer be a Council member.

Ambassador's report – Seth

- ISDC2020 cancelled due to COVID-19. NSS is considering a virtual event for the same date.
- Space Settlement Summit is still under consideration, but date and location TBD. SSS is smaller than ISDC and geared towards professionals, entrepreneurs as opposed to students, general public
- ISDC2021 will be in Los Angeles.
- A-MAN – Hal and Bettye Walker, the leaders, are in South Africa. They were going to have a 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary celebration of the Cape Town chapter, but it was cancelled due to COVID-19. They plan to return to Los Angeles in May.
- Aerospace Legacy Foundation: OuterRimCon was a single track event February 29. They had 30 people in the room at any one time. The event was more focused and saved money.
- A second OuterRimCon is planned for 29 August 2020 (TBD)

- Need to add NSS to Seth's office title.

#### YP – Moises

- “What's Next?” open forum to discuss key issues facing young professionals and opportunities available. (Ken had a great event about this before.)
  - Issues: new work dynamic, job opportunities/unemployment insurance, making ends meet, retirement/investing, what will come over the next few months and how to prepare for it
  - Planning for early May but may be pushed off to later
- YP is holding off on any other events, but will lend time to support Ken's events though.
- Moises is not sure he can go on as YP as he travels a lot, launched a startup (UPDATE he is not running)
- Brett would re-up his membership: he's considering the position. (UPDATE: he is on the ballot)

#### Public Policy – Kenneth Varghese & Jordan

- Jordan can go on as public policy – he has to renew his membership (was full member)
- No word yet from Kenneth regarding the Santa Monica Airport noise abatement issue.

#### Las Vegas Activities – Marty

- Yuri's Night went well, except there was Zoom bombing at the beginning.
  - A number of LA members such as Seth were online. There were 17 people on and Ken was able to weed out the bad ones.
  - But how to keep people from doing something malicious if we have a much bigger group?
  - Networking went on during the event.
- Marty put in 3 different topics for ASCEND. It will be in Las Vegas. John Spencer's ideas are being used.
- Spaceport event May 7 will be virtual.
- Andrea Diamond (STEM/STEAM) is moving to Las Vegas, Marty is connecting her with Las Vegas STEM/STEAM people.
- Homeland Security meeting “we got in the back door on that”
- Dennis asked what Marty heard – will the governor extend closure of Las Vegas? Dennis asked Marty to keep them posted in case ASCEND is affected. Nathan says they would make that decision in July, but they still are going forward with it
- Marty is still a member and will still be a member.

#### Career and Workforce – Marilyn

- Shekar noted that Fred has done work on this area too (eg, resume workshops, career events).
- Marilyn is an e-member, and will renew as a full member when her e-membership is up

#### Membership & Awards – Aldo (Shekar needs to check if he still wants to be membership chair)

- Membership numbers: Professional 870. E-members 75, students 192, educators 201 total 1263
- Total members have dipped over the last 2 months approximately 1300 to 1260

- Level specific membership – Students accounted for most of the decrease – Jan to April



## Awards Updates

becoming a...

Senior Member

- demonstrated a successful professional practice for at least 8 years (4 year credit for degree)

Associate Fellow (Nomination due: May 15)

- AIAA Senior Member in good standing
- minimum of 12 years of professional experience
- furnish three references from members at the Associate Fellow grade or higher

Fellow (Nomination due: July 15)

- Associate Fellow at the time of the current deadline for Fellow nomination
- furnish three references from members 4 AIAA members in good standing

potential for membership upgrades

Senior Member to Associate Fellow: 402

Associated Fellow to Fellow: 136

- San Gabriel Valley section is joining ours

Events / Programs – Ken

- eTown Hall Meeting March 28
- Jeff Puschell, John Rose, Marty Waldman, Bill Kelly, Brett Cornick gave talks
- eHappy Hour sponsored by the YP committee but for all ages.
- eTown Hall meeting April 4. Interview techniques, Fred Lawler talking about resumes, Erik Jensen talked about Agile
- Michelle Rouch – aerospace art
- eYuri's Night
- Upcoming events:



## Upcoming AIAA/LA-LV Events

r. 15 (Wed.) (Aero Alumni) Apollo 13 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Online) (11AM-1:30PM)  
 r. 18 (Sat.) AIAA LA LV New Space mini-Conference (Online) (9AM-4:30PM)  
 r. 25 (Sat.) Earth Day event with AIAA LA LV and SCALACS (Online)(10AM-1:30PM)  
 y 2 (Sat.) e-Town Hall Meeting with Guest Speaker Michael Staab (JPL) (10AM-12PM)  
 y 9 (Sat.) e-Town Hall Meeting with Guest Speaker Maureen Zappala (10AM-12PM)  
 S US National Lab.: converging on schedules of 5-6 PIs/speakers  
 ne 27 (Sat.) AIAA LA LV Planetary Defense and Asteroid Exploration mini-Conference  
 line?)

- Shekar asked if we can get a financial advisor to speak as well

Technical Chair – Gary

- Apollo 13 presentation on April 15, those who worked on the lunar module descent engine and on the lunar guidance engine.
- Gary is a member emeritus – lifetime member

SCALACS Agenda

Treasurer – Marsha

- Bill had resigned – Marsha taking up duties through end of year
- Report on budget as of 29 Feb was sent 4 March to HQ

Chair's Report – Shekar

- Philippe is writing an article for our Section
- Chart with Section Council positions
- Replace Marsha's name with Marilyn's
- Finalize the list and give it to Lisa in a week or two
- Niyoti is a full member.
- Gary asked Niyoti to send him a description of what she wants to present, for a technical meeting. Francesca may have a technical talk to give too. This is good for industry exposure.

Meeting adjourned 7:53 pm