

AIAA LA-LV Section Council Meeting Minutes

AIAA LA-LV Section Council Meeting July 11, 2023, 6:00 PM PDT

– Hybrid Conducted

Meeting Location: Lawndale Library/ WebEx

Attendance: **X** – Absent; **A** -Attended; **V**-Vacancy

	Council Member, Council Position	Attendance
1	Dr. Ken Lui, Section Chair	A
2	Lynn Jenson, Treasurer	A
3	Courtney Best, Secretary	X
4	Dr. Seth Potter, Ambassador	A
5	Marty Waldman, Las Vegas Chapter Chair	X
6	Sherry Stukes, Membership Chair	A
7	Ian Clavio, Education Chair	X
8	Arpine Ovsepyan, STEAM K-12 Outreach	X
9	Daniel Scalese, Public Policy Chair	X
10	Jeremy Robins, Career and Workforce Development Chair	X
11	Luis Cuevas, Young Professionals Chair	X
12	Gary Moir, Technical Chair	A
13	Dr. Ken Lui, Events and Program Chair/Newsletter Editor	A

ADDITIONAL GUEST- Pedro S. Rendon (CSULB Student Branch Chair), Kate Oberlander (UCLA Student Branch Chair)

6:10 PM- Meeting Called to Order by Dr. Ken Lui, Section Chair

- o Each council member is welcome to briefly introduce oneself during reporting, when the new attendees join the meeting.

6:10 PM- Secretary- (Courtney Best (Absent), Dr. Ken Lui on behalf or her)

- o Courtney is still out of town on her company's assignment till the end of summer.
- o The meeting minutes for the April 11, May 9, and June 13 council meetings were compiled on July 9 by Ken. They are being reviewed by Lynn and will be provided to the Council for review.

6:11 PM Section Chair Updates (Dr. Ken Lui):

- o Ken Lui displayed Agenda.

- Dr. Seth Potter accepted the appointment as Ambassador.
- Ken explained it's like re-orientation. It's very important for people to understand what AIAA is. It's better to understand / learn more than doing a lot of things that might impact negatively. Even if not doing much, one can get trained / better equipped, and more familiar with AIAA, for further LA-LV Section volunteering, or maybe later with Regional or National activities.
 - Non-profit/non-biased
 - Advertisement vs participation
 - paid-donation ads space/page in newsletters.
- Ken briefly showed the bylaws, brief introduction of AIAA and the LA-LV Section, and the responsible areas of the LA-LV Section, as well as what the area and section affiliation mean.
- Ken showed the timeline for the upcoming Section activities, like tax filing etc.
- 2023 June Newsletter was ready on June 29, with a cover page of DART Mission, featuring the Section mini-Conference on June 24, the Planetary Defense mini-Conference and 30th Anniversary of Shoemaker-Levy 9 Discovery.
- Budgets: In savings mode due to reduction for Section rebates down to 10% since last year, till at least 2027.
 - Annual Report (May 31) and Audit-Budget (mid-June)
 - 0 budget / Explored more economy meeting places.
 - CAT I fund is based on the number of AIAA members affiliated with the LA-LV Section, mostly by their AIAA My AIAA in the Profile Primary Address, work, home, or other address. If nearby, temporary trip/assignment, or other special reason, it could be adjusted with special request. A member can not serve as a council member in more than 1 section council, as stated in the AIAA by-laws. This is another reason keeping / growing membership is a very important aspect of our activities / roles. Last year we received \$700-\$800 for CAT I fund from HQ.
 - CAT II fund is from the Section Award(s). Last year we won several awards from AIAA HQ, and we received around \$2,000 from HQ. This is another reason our activities matter.
 - Section Address (+\$131 / year)
 - 2629 Manhattan Ave #1020, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254
 - Ken shared his own mailbox. Don't mail there as it will incur more fees, unless absolutely necessary.
 - PO Box closed. It is \$230 / yr. Big saving.
 - Ken will move out of this mailbox when the Section finance picks up and the Section will take the financial responsibility for it (\$99/ye)
 - Dr. Jeff Puschell suggested that we change all bank statements etc. to online only, which we did, and no more bank mails. No physical mail is expected.
 - Seth made some comments about the NSS local chapter mailbox. Ken indicated it's the same thing, but cheaper than the NSS local chapter got.
 - Section Storage Unit (+\$936 / year)
 - The rate will increase to \$78 / mo after July 31. It hiked from \$57, to \$62....

- The previous storage unit was \$150 / mo at end. Moved out 2019, saved ~\$100 / mo at that time. Have been doing the best to save.
- Will save $\$78 \times 12 = \936 for 1 year. Ken will move the essential items to his place, and the storage unit will be closed. Discussed with Lynn and Jeff. Jeff asked to clean up and throw unnecessary items. Several (10-14) boxes of archives from the previous storage place. Jeff and Ken will review and see if throw or keep.
- (Lynn) Higher CD Rates (+ ~\$5,300 in 2025 Feb.)
 - To mature in 2025 Feb.
 - Interests ~\$5,300 (till then) (not accessible in the meanwhile)
 - Occasional monitoring for the monthly interests.
- More efforts were made to get more economic nice meeting rooms/spaces. See the Events/Program report.
- AIAA ASCEND Section Table (ASCEND this year will be in Las Vegas, NV, Oct. 25-28)
 - The Section is provided by HQ with a free simple table for exhibition.
- AIAA LA-LV Annual Awards Dinner (May 11) and Awards
 - It's the showcase and miniature of what AIAA/LA-LV have been / should be doing, and the values / functions.
- Assistance for each of the Officer's functions
 - For example, Ken helped Arpie to coordinate K-12 STEAM Educators meetings. Ken happened to meet the former Mayor of the City of Hawthorne, hopefully to be able to connect to the K-12 schools in Hawthorne finally after some previous (in-vain) efforts.
- Discussion Groups

6:30 PM- Treasurer Updates (Lynn Jenson):

- No major event with large expenses. The income is higher than the expenses. We are doing well. Thanks for Ken and the approach to save and still do good activities.
- Total balance = \$88,187.61 (as of 7.10.2023) (compared to \$87,939.35 on 6.12.2023)
- CD matured July 10, moved to a new CD with higher interest rate, to mature in 2025 February, with interest approx. \$5,300 in 2025 February.
- The membership affects the CAT I fund.
- HQ Section Awards affect the CAT II fund.
- The new Region VI proposal Jeff mentioned is not fair to the Section. Ken mentioned we will keep track of it.
- Ken commented Lynn's charts are very professionally made. We can move back and forth and compare this month with the previous month.

6:39 PM- Discussion on the new mailbox

- Gary made a motion (Lynn seconded) to discuss this and propose the Section take responsibility (\$99/y) for the mailbox.
- Ken indicated previously the only mails were mostly bank statements. And this was discussed with Dr. Jeff Puschell and Lynn. The goal is 0 mail so no feeds to incur for picking

up. Right now, it's literally Ken's own mailbox but shared with the Section as the physical address (with no actual mail intended).

- Since there are only 3 voting members present, this issue is postponed for the next council meeting for discussion.
- Ken indicated the physical address would be useful if we need to file the CA business identity and then the CA non-profit status claim. There were some further discussions with Gary and Lynn. But it's not really the content of the subject and Ken has been checking with HQ, and HQ is reviewing this by the legal experts. We would need to follow HQ and can't act alone. All other sections didn't file it in CA, either.
- Ken will try to explain better to Gary off-line as well. Sometimes during the council meeting the time is limited and the other officers/chairs need to report. And the meeting room will be closed at 8 PM PDT.

6:57 PM- CSULB Student Branch Chair self-introduction (Pedro S. Rendon)

- Pedro S. Rendon is the new Branch Chair of the AIAA CSULB Student Branch
- Currently doing an internship in Terran Orbital.

7:00 PM- UCLA Student Branch Chair self-introduction (Kate Oberlander)

- Kate Oberlander is the new Branch Chair of the AIAA UCLA Student Branch

7:03 PM- Ambassador Updates (Dr. Seth Potter)

- NSS ISDC 2024 will be in LA in the Sheraton Gateway. The local chapter meeting will be postponed. Joining National NSS membership is separate from the local NSS chapter membership.
- A-MAN, Inc.: No new updates
- Aerospace Legacy Foundation Updates
 - Efforts to restore the Space Shuttle mockup Inspiration from the former Rockwell / Boeing site in Downey, CA are stepping up.
 - Science fiction convention in LA in autumn.

7:07 PM- Membership Updates (Sherry):

- Ken indicated and asked Kate and Pedro to seek guidance and help from Sherry for the Student membership.
- Ken mentioned Sherry's efforts paid off, and AIAA HQ had updated the website with more details about YP and Retiree rates: <https://www.aiaa.org/membership/join-or-renew-your-aiaa-membership/Membership-Dues>.
- Professional Membership numbers stayed the same in June in LA-LV Section. Los Angeles gained 1, Las Vegas lost 1. Students-University: LA gained 1. Students-High School: LA gained 5, LV lost 1. Total 1,013:
 - Professional membership: 724
 - Student: 221 (Combined)
 - Educators: 68

- We lost roughly 100 Educator members. AIAA HQ confirmed recently it was due their action in 2022 to ask Educators to respond or to be removed, citing some inactivity. From 2022, annual renewal is still required even for free membership. We will keep reminding them.
- HQ lost membership around 3.9% last year, LA-LV Section 3.3%. No anomaly. The drop was mostly due to the database cleanup mentioned above.
- Sherry has been launching campaigns and efforts to remind people for renewal with decent successes, and Ken assisted. Sherry really put a wonderful effort and analysis.
- Sherry showed the list of expired and to be expired (July 31) member names. She asked if any council members know any of those personally, please reach out and help remind them. Sherry indicated during the Election/Tellers Committee meeting,
- Sherry indicated it could be due to the Pandemic that members lost track of the mails and emails.
- Ken indicated the recent outreaches were very effective, as several high students and teachers signed up the membership after visits.
- Gary asked again the membership needed to be compared with the local aerospace employment. Ken mentioned he asked AIAA HQ about this when Gary mentioned this in one of the previous council meetings, but HQ didn't have this number. It's related to Career and Workforce Development. Ken will keep checking. Sherry indicated it would need to flow down from the top from the leadership. Gary suggested asking the Aviation Week for instance.
- Gary will help reminder his group of retirees (aero alumni).

7:21 PM- Technical Chair Updates (Gary Moir):

- Gary signed up for the July 15 talk. However, he will be out of town and will watch the recording. Ken indicated Gary could lead / moderate this meeting, but he would be out of town.
- Gary asked if there was any input for any technical topics/speakers for meetings.
- June Aero Alumni meeting discussed various topics, including the new AIAA book by Mike Chiminea. The July Aero Alumni meeting will be tomorrow, July 12. This time we will have a meeting room in the Willowbrooke Library.

7:24 PM- Las Vegas Chapter Updates (Marty Waldman (Absent), Ken Lui on behalf of Marty)

- Marty is again flying at the same time and could not join the meeting.
- Tomorrow morning, he will be in a Spaceport Meeting to make connections.
- Ken indicated again the Las Vegas Chapter is a foster chapter, to be independent eventually.
- Spaceport Las Vegas is a main effort Marty has been doing there in Las Vegas. It became idle since 2019, especially during Pandemic. It's getting back to life now.
- Another main effort there with Marty is the micro nuclear reactors.

7:25 PM- Public Policy Updates (by Daniel Robert Scalese (Absent), Ken Lui on behalf of Daniel)

- Daniel is traveling on the East Coast. Daniel is an aircraft safety specialist at USC. Ken has been discussing with Daniel about the recent plane crash in Jurupa, CA.
- He will wait for the contact from Regional VI Public Policy Director to hook up for planning for the CVD 2024.

7:26 PM- Young Professionals Updates (by Luis Cuevas (Absent), Ken Lui on behalf of Luis)

- Luis and Ken have been working on the Section tent on July 22 (Saturday) in the Aerospace Summer Games 2023. SpaceX is organizing it this year.
- He is trying to put some event to connect young professionals with experienced professionals.
- Ian will bring some students there as well.

7:27 PM- University / Collegiate Chair Updates (by Ian Clavio (Absent), Ken Lui on behalf of Ian):

- Ian is out of town. He reported in advance that he had been contacting CSULB and UCLA Student Branches. But USC and UNLV have been silent. He asked Luis for help in getting the contact in UNLV Student Branch. Ken is helping for the USC Student Branch.
- Ian will bring some students to the Aerospace Summer Games 2023 on July 22 as well.

7:28 PM- K-12 STEAM Outreach Updates (Arpie Ovsepyan (Absent), Dr. Ken Lui on behalf of Arpie):

- Arpie got a new position and is trying to settle in and figure out her schedules.
- Arpie has been responding and discussing with Ken.
- The next Educators (K-12 STEAM Outreach) meeting will be on July 29 in the Leland R. Weaver Library in South Gate, CA.

7:29 PM- Career and Workforce Development Updates (Jeremy Robins (Absent), Ken Lui on behalf of Jeremy)

- Jeremy could be a little bit busy recently. He works with the FAA and Tuesday is not a good day for him for meetings. We will try to find a good schedule with him. He tried to help but it's just the schedules haven't worked out.

7:30 PM- Events and Program Chair Updates (Dr. Ken Lui, Acting):

- Events/Program functions in bylaws and distinctions were shown again to clarify. (Coordination and logistics)
- Some of the events were reported as summary but also for some of the officers/chairs absent today. Chess-board categorization chart for bylaw-defined activities in 2022-2023, as an attempt to follow the bylaws and avoid conflicts, to ensure smooth, positive, and happy experiences and operations with successes and efficiencies.
- (June 24) Planetary Defense mini-Conference with 30th Anniversary for Discovery of Comet Shoemaker-Levy 9
 - <https://www.aiaa-lalv.org/blogs/2023-blogs/2023-june/2023-june-24>
 - It's a mixture of different categories, not mostly Technical, with Public Policy, K-12 STEAM Education, Aerospace Art, etc.
 - Dr. Levy was the only co-discoverer remaining.
 - It was a fun and interesting event.
 - A Boeing retiree was brought in to speak by the lead/moderator. Ken tried to see if that retiree could be reached and participate in the Aero Alumni. Ken always tried to

get people connected, engaged, and possibly recruited, with the Section / AIAA for various groups or categories.

- More efforts since last council meeting on June 13 were spent on getting more economic venues, and we did find more, like the Willowbrooke Library for tomorrow's Aero Alumni Meeting (July 12), Leland R. Weaver Library, Hawthorne Library (renovated), El Camino Real, City Terrace, Culver City Julian Dixon Library, A C Bilbrew Library, Lynwood, Topanga, Malibu, etc.
- Upcoming events:
 - (July 15) Spacecraft Environment Effects and Mitigation Methods, #1, with Dr. Henry B. Garrett
 - RSVP and Information: <https://conta.cc/43NbHid>
 - Gary will be out of town that day. He asked for the recording afterwards.
 - (July 22) (Outreach/Exhibition/Networking) Aerospace Summer Games 2023
 - A 3rd – Party / non-AIAA event. Just outreach / exhibition / networking
 - Luis will be there leading the tent.
 - Ian will join and bring some students.
 - Checking the logistics.
 - This year it's organized by SpaceX,
 - (July 29) AIAA LA-LV Educators Meeting (K-12 STEAM)
 - RSVP and Information: <https://conta.cc/3NYVEs9>
 - (August 5) Geoengineering to Mitigate Climate Change – Is there a Role for Aerospace?
 - RSVP and Information: <https://conta.cc/44mE7A9>
 - Interesting combination with both aeronautics and astronautics
 - (August 9) AIAA LA-LV Aero Alumni Monthly Meeting 8/9
 - Led by Gary (see Technical Chair report section above).
 - (August 12) The X-15 Rocket Plane, Flying the First Wings into Space
 - RSVP and Information: <https://conta.cc/3MtxzJu>
 - (August 19) AIAA LA-LV Movie Saturday "X-15"
 - RSVP and Information: <https://conta.cc/3oqK5jp>
- Pandemic- COVID-19 case numbers are still fluctuating locally and nationally but seem to be getting better. Will keep doing hybrid activities but increasing the in-person meetings and gradually reduce the online meetings.
- Keep everyone happy and stay with AIAA for the rest of their life.

Wrapped up 7:43pm because must depart Lawndale Library by 8:00pm

7:40 PM- Additional Discussions:

- Gary wanted to hear more from Pedro about some questions. But Pedro indicated he had no additional comments/questions.

7:43 PM- Meeting adjourned:

Gary Moir moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ken Lui

Great meeting! (comment from Gary, Kate, and Pedro)