

AIAA LA-LV Section Council Meeting Minutes
AIAA LA-LV Section Council Meeting
May 11, 2021 6:00 PM PDT – Virtually Conducted
Meeting Location: Zoom

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

	Council Member, Council Position	Attendance
1	Jeff Puschell, Section Chair	A
2	Ken Lui, Events and Program Chair	A
3	Arianna Sanchez, Secretary	X
4	Khushbu Patel, STEM K-12 Outreach Chair	X
5	Marty Waldman, Las Vegas Chapter Chair	A
6	Gary Moir, Technical Chair	A
7	Jordan Chilcott, Public Policy Chair	A
8	Marilyn McPoland, Treasurer	X
9	Aakash Naresh, Young Professionals Chair / Early Career Professional	X
10	Aldo Martinez, Membership Chair + Honor & Awards Chair	A

(Note: Dr. Seth Potter (President of OASIS (LA Chapter of National Space Society (NSS) attended the meeting as ex-officio (non-voting) Ambassador)

6:10 PM Call In and Introductions.

▪Dr. Lui, on behalf of the Secretary, Ms. Sanchez, who is absent today, introduced the Section Chair, Dr. Jeff Puschell.

▪Dr. Puschell mentioned the Annual Awards sheets, and Ms. McPoland might be busy for the Treasure's sheet, and Dr. Lui will fill the Events/Program sheet. It's important as the AIAA HQ will provide the fund only if the report/sheet is submitted.

▪Dr. Puschell mentioned about the positive balance in the bank account was largely due to the Re-inventing Space Conference conducted by the LA Chapter many years ago with Microcosm. It's important to put up some money in the bank account in order to conduct such kind of events. No other section did and AIAA HQ was not particularly happy we had our own conference at that time. If he could continue be as the Section Chair, he will help and get the fund/sponsorship for it.

6:15 PM Call to Order & Jeff Puschell, Chair Updates:

(Dr. Puschell Called in Order for the Meeting at 6:15 PM PDT.)

▪Dr. Puschell briefly talked about the Teller's Committee for the upcoming Council Election, which includes Mr. Chilcott, Ms. McPoland, and Mr. Moir.

6:17 PM Jordan Chilcott, Public Policy Chair Updates:

(Originally Mr. Chilcott said he would be absent so the Charts were presented and described by the Section Chair, Dr. Jeff Puschell.)

▪Dr. Puschell explained the Road-map shown by the Public Policy Chair last month (first Chart this month), as it's a government organizational chart to facilitate the public policy process.

▪Dr. Puschell explained the election chart provided by Mr. Chilcott, indicating that by May 15 the slate will be determined, and afterwards it will be sent to the Secretary, Ms. Sanchez, to start the voting process. Dr. Puschell and Ms. Sanchez are not in the Teller's Committee per by-laws' requirements. Dr. Puschell mentioned the AIAA HQ indicated it would be up to us, in this case, the Teller's Committee, to decide if those people who are current in suspension, could be candidates for this election.

6:20 PM Marilyn McPoland, Treasurer Updates:

(Ms. McPoland is absent so the Treasurer's Charts were presented and described by the Section Chair Dr. Jeff Puschell)

▪On the Treasure's Charts provided by Ms. McPoland: In April: Income: \$360.77, Expenses: \$861.97.

▪Dr. Puschell mentioned the donation to the CSULB Student Branch for the Region VI Student Paper Conference.

▪Dr. Puschell mentioned it's very good Dr. Lui has been recognizing event participants. Dr. Lui mentioned the mailing / postage is not cheap, but it's the only way during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

6:23 PM Aldo Martinez Martinez, Membership Chair + Honors&Awards Chair Updates:

▪Membership remains steady. Loss 13 members from last month but we have been ramping down the e-membership (no more new trial e-membership). Professionals members: 794, Student members 238, Educator Members: 161, Total: 1193.

▪Student Member percentage went up, which is good. 64 students will transition into workforce. Mr. Martinez has some ideas to keep them for transition into Professional Members.

(There are Student-to-Professional transitional discounts:

Student-Professional Transition Rates

1st year you pay 25% of dues = \$31.25

2nd year you pay 50% of dues = \$62.50

3rd year you pay 75% of dues = \$93.75

4th year full member dues = \$125.00

<https://www.aiaa.org/membership/types-of-membership/student-membership/student-to-professional-membership-transition>)

▪Mr. Martinez mentioned in the summer time after graduation, students might not renew their membership, which is also the case for other organizations. He would check with the new Young Professional Chair after the former YP Chair, Mr. Brett Cornick, Mr. Aakash Naresh(kumar). Mr. Martinez has some idea for a sheet for the benefits for AIAA membership. Mr. Martinez pointed out AIAA Young Professionals are "Early Career" Professionals, as they are actually also AIAA Professional Members, not Students.

▪Mr. Waldman mentioned there has been a huge shift due to Pandemic, nobody is in the office except for manufacturing. 15% buildings/offices in Manhattan, New York City were empty. His company saw the most profitable year in during Pandemic. He felt this is the New Normal as things didn't move from inefficient to efficient. A whole new generation might come out and get used to this new Norm. AIAA has been doing the conventional ways of gatherings, but maybe this is new way and people would only know this way soon. AIAA used to carry the traditional ways of in-person networking. Dr. Puschell indicated Dr. Lui might have solved some of the problems as the Zoom events attracted way more people than possible for in-person events. Dr. Puschell suggested we need to make the events and

membership more affordable, maybe some discounts for the event tickets. Dr. Martinez mentioned maybe some members-only events could bring some incentives. Dr. Puschell indicated some hybrid events, with some members-only events and they should be affordable, so people can see the benefits for joining the membership. Mr. Waldman mentioned the AIAA Daily Launch email every day and it's very valuable and could change life or business, and Dr. Puschell said he looked forward to those Daily Launch email every morning. Dr. Martinez said some members might have taken it for granted.

- Dr. Lui indicated that was why we are trying new ways of online events, such as the May 20 event etc. And the AIAA Engage / Open Forum are also good incentive for new members.

- Mr. Martinez showed a graph of total membership fluctuation. And then he showed the Member Anniversaries names (25, 40, 60, 70 years of membership). Dr. Puschell recalled several years ago there was a member 100 years old and had more than 70 years. That member retired from Boeing, and Dr. Puschell got Mr. Robert Friend (a former LA-LV Section Chair) to represent Boeing for the Recognition for this long-term member's Membership Anniversary. Dr. Puschell suggested making the announcement on May 27 evening event on the Mars 2020 / Perseverance Rover (Mr. Allen Chen) and Dr. Lui mentioned it would be arranged. Mr. Martinez said he would make it on May 27.

6:41 PM Gary Moir, Technical Chair Updates: (Also leading Aero Alumni meetings)

- Continuing the Aero Alumni meeting. In April's Aero Alumni Meeting online on Zoom, the retiree attendees discussed the Ingenuity Mars Helicopter.

- Mr. Moir met Mr. Mike Ciminera (Northrop Grumman – Retired, AIAA Member and Associate Fellow) on his way to San Francisco, and got some information from him. Mr. Ciminera just published his second book with AIAA. The Aero Alumni meeting might go back to this Museum after one more session on Zoom. Mr. Moir mentioned briefly about Mr. Ciminera's career, and he might give a technical talk.

- Ms. Marsha Weiskopt helped before for getting Aerospace Corp. Meeting rooms, but some other possibilities might exist for meeting rooms in the aerospace companies, but need authorization due to the security issues.

- Mr. Moir mentioned Mr. Phil Barnes but not sure if he has retired. Dr. Puschell and Dr. Lui confirmed Mr. Barnes indeed had retired recently.

- Will check with Mr. Chilcott and Ms. McPoland for this Saturday's Election Teller's Committee Meeting.

- Will check with the Western Museum of Flight for possible return for the in-person Aero Alumni Meetings.

6:52 PM Jordan Chilcott, Public Policy Chair Updates:

(Mr. Chilcott joined later in the meeting despite a prior notice he would be absent. His charts were presented in the beginning of the meeting by Dr. Puschell. Here he added some more points.)

- The government organization map Dr. Puschell showed on Mr. Alcott's behalf was straightforward, not difficult, just time-consuming, as Chilcott pointed out.

- Timing for the election: Working with Mr. McPoland and Mr. Moir to outline the election process, how to distribute the ballots etc. Checking with the people involved in the previous investigation. Dr. Puschell indicated the AIAA HQ had made it clear it was up to the Section Council to decide whether those suspended persons could run for the election, and thus this Teller's Committee would make the determination. Dr. Puschell also indicated he and the Secretary Ms. Sanchez can not be in the Teller's

Committee due to the by-law restrictions, so it will be Mr. Chilcott, Ms. McPoland, and Mr. Moir, to finalize the candidate. It's 3 so it would have the decision as there would be no tie in the process. This is incredibly important. Mr. Chilcott there might be a couple different ways of handling the nomination and candidates. Dr. Puschell will be on a trip from Thursday, May 13, till May 22, but he will do the best to respond.

6:57 PM Khushbu Patel, STEM K-12 Outreach Chair Updates:

(Ms. Patel indicated she would be support an engine test and might not be able to attend the meeting, But she will call in if she could make it to update. Eventually she didn't make it and she didn't send in any notes.)

6:58 PM Aakash Naresh, Young Professional Chair Updates:

(Mr. Naresh(Kumar) is absent, but he provided some updates before the meeting. It's posted in the Chat Box on Zoom during the meeting)

"I am working on putting a networking event around the New Space Age.

I have short listed some folks who could come speak on some of the disruptions happening, but if the council knows or if anyone likes to volunteer to have a segment, please reach out to me."

6:59 PM Ken Lui, Events and Programs Chair Updates:

▪Review of the recent events:

-April 15: Practical Quantum Computing with D-Wave event was fun and Quantum computer has getting more and more attention and use in aerospace, further Quantum Computer events are being prepared and will continue this program. The speaker made some demo inducing the airline routing optimization. Dr. Lui mentioned the interesting historical link between D-Wave and aerospace through TRW many years ago.

-April 17: Dr. Dan Raymer and his volunteers presenting the paper they published in Sci-Tech this year on the Raymer Mars Manned plane (RMMP). Ms. Tracy Drain (JPL) talked about the exciting Juno and proposed Europa Clipper Missions. Mr. Stephen Eisele, VP of Virgin Orbit, talked about the goals, methods and recent Jan. 17 successful Orbital Mission of LauncherOne, and the story he mentioned about the late Mrs. Eve Brandon, which passed away due to COVID-19 a few days before the successful mission. No top secret or technical details, but fun. They can launch satellites from anywhere in the world. Those, plus the other talks (Astrobotic, Masten etc.) in this AIAA LA-LV New Space mini-Conference, were to showcase the importance and excitement for New Space and Commercial Space, and attracted more members/attendees to AIAA/LA-LV Section, though some of them may or may not have technical details. Those events may not have technical details like in technical conferences that only few experts attended or understood. They were more for inspiring, informing, engaging the members and the public, and for networking and social. We will keep trying to invite the Virgin Orbit speakers as we have been trying.

-April 24: Earth Day Celebration. There were talks from experienced professionals on their patent(s) for thermoreactor for green airplane that could be launched from people's Garden with noise reduction. And a young professional and a student talked about the efficient aircraft design and other ways for green aviation, such as biofuels, hydrogen etc., and why we need to move forward with green / sustainable aviation. Dr. Joao Teixeira talked about using the fleet of NASA/JPL's Earth Science Satellites to measure the climate change effects like Greenland ice coverage and the Global Sea Level etc, and the concept / physical models of Climate Change. We had an AIAA LA-LV Sustainable Aviation event on Feb. 27, and this is not specifically for that purpose, but to show how AIAA LA-LV aerospace can help for saving/protecting Earth.

-May 1: Dr. Puschell gave very positive remarks for this event. It has attendance from all over the world, and it was timely, and we recognize people. The leaders for the Ingenuity Mars Helicopter (Ms. MiMi Aung) and the Mars 2020 Perseverance Rover (EDL Team Mr. Allen Chen and Mr. Aaron

Stehura) were awarded with the AIAA LA-LV Excellence Award from Dr. Jeff Puschell. Prof. Madhu Thangavelu could not show up to receive the Best Event Award (Space Architecture Gatherings) due to prior engagement. Dr. Puschell also commented positively for the Ingenuity Mars Helicopter talk by Dr. Jeff Delaune. And the exciting Wright Brothers' Field on Mars and the remarks by Dan Dumbacher, the AIAA Executive Director, for the first light of the Ingenuity Mars Helicopter, really touched the heart of AIAA and the aerospace community. AIAA came from the merger in 1962-1963 from two distinguished professional organizations, one on the aviation, established by the Wright Brothers in the 1920s, and the other one on rocketry/propulsion, established by Robert Goddard, also in 1920s.

- Upcoming events: The May 20th e-Happy Hour event will test a new way of online gathering for safety and also for more realistic / semi-realistic networking. Wish people can join and will keep doing it. Dr. Lui will arrange for Mr. Martinez's and Dr. Puschell's brief announcement in the May 27th Section event (Perseverance) for this year's Membership Anniversary for members reaching 25, 40, 60, and 70 years of membership, before the main presentation starts.

- Event incomes/donation: We got \$120 donation in April, but we didn't charge for the tickets due to the surplus from January-March (\$803), and the prior feedback that some members misunderstood we were making profits. As Dr. Puschell said, we donated \$500 to CSULB Student Branch for the Region VI Student Paper Conference. And the Excellence / Best Event Awards plaque (plus mailing) were using those incomes. We have resumed charging tickets for the May 15th event, and have been using some membership discount for students and will extend that to AIAA members.

- AIAA LA-LV Podcast: Dr. Lui thanked the support and we have quite a lot of listening and download in the first few weeks, and will continue to develop it and get more audience.

- COVID-19 Impacts on Events/Program: AIAA HQ has moved the August Aviation Forum and Propulsion & Energy Forum into online only. The effects of the vaccination/herd immunity, new variants, and the outbreak/spread in India, could factors to watch. Some local venues (public libraries) reopened only for limited access with required body temperature checking or COVID-19 screen, and still no re-opening schedules for the public meeting/gathering access. Some asked us to check back in Fall with indefinite date of closure. The Proud Bird is still closed as well. We still have \$1,000 deposit with them from last year due to Pandemic, and we were told they could be applied to the future events there. However, they have been closed and we could not inquire the status and get the reconfirmation for those \$1,000. Dr. Lui will keep in touch with the Proud Bird for this.

- For possible hybrid events after Pandemic, Dr. Lui has proposed inexpensive low-budget camera and microphone for the economy and easy solution. We can do it without expensive external contractor or the concerns about not being able to get the video from them or being misused/posted randomly. No need to rely on others. Also Dr. Lui proposed again the new projector as the exiting one was acquired in 2012. There have been some concerns and compatibility issues. Dr. Lui had been proposing those for 3 years (camera, microphone, projector, with accessories). There is no immediate purchase needed and those proposals are for 2021-2021 fiscal year budget consideration in Events/Program. We don't necessarily have to purchase them but it's important to allocate the budget just in case. If Region VI has any support that will be great as well. Dr. Lui mentioned no recording would be allowed in S-Cafe of Northrop Grumman, and Mr. Moir mentioned it was not allowed either if in Aerospace Corp. Dr. Puschell also mentioned similar things for some other aerospace companies.

- We got quite some feedback that attendees were/are joining/rejoining the AIAA Membership. Some are locals but also quite some outside LA-LV Section area or even internationals. So the increase might not show up in Mr. Martinez's Membership Charts. But we are picking up members as we were told from the feedback.

- Also the members/graduating students might benefit from the Corporate Membership if their companies are AIAA Corporate Members. It might be good to check with / remind them.

7:25 PM Marty Waldman, Las Vegas Chapter Chair Updates:

- Las Vegas District is open 100%, a good news. But local venues are still closed, AFWerx, too.
- Still gathering information about STEM information (a few possibilities) with Ms. Andrea Diamond, who had a trip back to the LA area. Some individual/group is doing Space Mining, possibility on Mars as well, and will be approached for possible future events.
- Dr. Puschell asked about the nuclear reactor efforts there. Mr. Waldman mentioned some meeting with local politicians but government moved slowly, and he has been trying to brief them and urge them to move forward. There maybe some crisis, bureaucracies, lack of connections, but will keep working on advancing (pushing) it. Dr. Puschell indicated it would be good to hang it there and keep the efforts.

7:34 PM Seth Potter, A-MAN OASIS ALF Ambassador Updates:

- Dr. Potter explained his concept of the ambassador's role. He is the President of the NSS Local Chapter OASIS. He has been trying to see what the other organizations outside NSS have been doing. He mentioned some other organizations' events also in virtual, like the NSS ISDC, Alpha CubeSat (ACS) Team etc. Locally his NSS has been supporting the Aerospace Legacy Foundation events and will continue to partner with in the future.

David Stuart of NSS National Office (Membership VP) is also on AIAA LA-LV Section mailing list and have letting his friends in Seattle know about Section's events.

Dr. Potter mentioned NSS/OASIS achieved the diversity (board members includes quite several minorities) not by deliberately pushing for specific ethnic groups, but by teaming up with other organizations.

Dr. Potter felt he could DE-conflict event schedules if the Section works with other organizations so he could help DE-conflict event schedules with other organizations. He mentioned an example of the ISDC 2 or 3 years ago he asked the speakers not to speak in the AIAA LA-LV event so there would be no conflict with the ISDC in LA during ISDC.

- For NSS (which is different from AIAA), they welcome also non-engineers / non-professionals, to advocate for Space. He mentioned the A-MAN STEM activities reached out to the minorities and South Africa, and started a NSS Chapter in South Africa. He doesn't have an official position but he was recognized him for the Ambassadorship. Cape Town NSS 1-year Anniversary event was canceled due to COVID-19.

- Dr. Puschell mentioned the Section / Council is also very diverse and have been in the right direction with more improvement after the situation last year and early this year. He mentioned a previously the LA Chapter of AIAA had volunteers from different places and they were welcome, whether or not they would called ambassadors or not.

7:49 PM Further Discussions and Updates from the Section Chair:

- Dr. Puschell mentioned he would be on a trip and would be back on the 22nd of May. During this time, he would have limited access to emails but he would respond whenever possible.

- Dr. Puschell commented on Dr. Lui's posting in the Chat Box echoing what Mr. Martinez mentioned the Young Professional as the "Early Career" Professional, and Dr. Potter suggested maybe using the term "New" could be a good way for Young professionals and "Classic" could be for the experienced professionals above 35 years old. Dr. Puschell indicated a "Classic" (not "Old") Professionals could be a good way. Dr. Lui indicated for AIAA, Young Professionals are still Professional Members of AIAA,

not students. By AIAA definition/by-law, it's under 35 years old and beyond college/university. And for AIAA, the Education Chair/Office is tasked for the university/college students, and the K-12 students (before college) is to be outreached by the STEM K-12 Outreach Chair/Office into the school systems and classrooms. Some other organizations used Young Professional for a very broad way to include young students and it's not the same as way as AIAA's approach, task force, and definition.

- Dr. Puschell mentioned the election issues were brought earlier by him and also by Mr. Chilcott. He showed there are four listed ex-officio officers, Ms. Marsha Weiskopf (Advisor), Mr. David Ramirez (Professional Society Liaison), Mr. Robert Friend (Advisor), and Dr. Seth Potter (Professional Society Liaison). He indicated the former Section Chairs (like Mr. Robert Friend, whom Dr. Puschell had been trying to get him engaged with AIAA) used to stay as the Section Advisor for at least a year. He asked who Mr. David Ramirez was and Dr. Lui mentioned he was a student officer in the CSULB Student Branch and really didn't show up much or do anything. Dr. Lui also mentioned there were a long list from an email sent by Dr. Sonwane and Dr. Kaspin-Powell last year in the transition but many on the list we didn't know who they were or what they did, and most of them seldom or really showed up / did anything that we knew of. And Dr. Lui mentioned what Ms. Weiskopf indicated last year not wanting to be on the list unless there would be meaningful engagement, and Dr. Puschell mentioned he also remembered the email/remark from her last.

- Dr. Potter mentioned his idea for more ambassadors and at-large members for voting members like the other organizations. And the voting from ambassadors can be clearly stated and recording as "non-binding votes". Mr. Moir asked Dr. Potter to provide a write-up for this possibility. Mr. Moir cited the Enterprise Chair set up by Dr. Wonica. (Noted by Dr. Lui: According to Dr. Wonica himself, the Enterprise Chair position was created by his predecessor, Mr. Guido Frassinelli, and was actually spin-off from the Career and Workforce Development Chair (a voting council position) function specifically for helping experienced (Classic) professionals for the small business career track) Dr. Puschell mentioned those might require changing the by-law, and also a Professional Society Council might need to be more decisive and the quorum is important, but welcome for those suggestions. This Saturday's (May 15) Election Teller's Committee meeting can discuss about this. Also Dr. Potter mentioned the involvement rate has been around 1% of the AIAA LA-LV Section. Dr. Puschell mentioned his former experience as the Region VI Director and AIAA LA-LV Section Chair that the by-law process and the fact we are one of the largest sections in AIAA, and some smaller sections different issues for filling the council positions.

8:08 PM Call for Meeting Adjourn:

- Dr. Puschell indicated typically it should be a motion to adjourn the council meeting as it was the case when he was the Section Chair a few years ago. Mr. Moir made the motion, and the people remaining in the meeting voted for "Yes". Dr. Potter, not a voting council member, suggested a "non-binding vote" for adjourn, but not a binding vote, as he suggested. (Not yet an official process, just a suggestion.)