

AIAA LA-LV Section Council Meeting Minutes
AIAA LA-LV Section Council Meeting
August 10, 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	A – dial in
4	Khushbu Patel, STEM K-12 Outreach Chair	A – dial in
5	Marty Waldman, Las Vegas Chapter Chair	A
6	Gary Moir, Technical Chair	X
7	Jordan Chilcott, Public Policy Chair	A
8	Marilyn McPoland, Treasurer	A
9	Aakash Nareshkumar, Young (Early Career) Professional	X
10	Aldo Martinez, Vice Chair	A
11	Dr. Dennis Wonica, Enterprise Chair	X

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

6:06 PM Call to Order & Dr. Jeff Puschell, Chair Updates:

(Dr. Puschell called to Order for the Meeting at 6:06 PM PDT.)

- Old Business: Formally approve the 2021-2022 budget. Thanks to Marilyn and Ken.
- New Business: Dan Dumbacher (AIAA Executive Director) and some HQ visitors will be visiting Pasadena, CA, in early October. Dr. Puschell asked people not to let him know if interested in a meeting with them. Marilyn, Ken, Khushbu, Arianna expressed interests. Aldo said he would be in Long Beach and needed to see if would be possible for him. He is working on a proposal with HQ for a plan.
- Dr. Puschell got a trophy for the first Region VI Service Award for Dr. Ken Lui. Also recognized the recent donations for Section events.
- ASCEND in November. No specific plan for the LA-LV Section in it. Dr. Puschell will keep checking with Mr. Waldman (Las Vegas) and the AIAA HQ.
- Council Meeting Minutes: In the past few months, we have not been approving the previous minutes. Dr. Ken Lui (as indicated by Dr. Puschell) showed the link/uploaded minutes from last year. No April or June one. Arianna said she had those and would provide so we could upload. We will need to work on all those and approve them in September.

6:26 PM Treasurer Updates: (by Marilyn McPoland)

- On the Treasure's Charts provided by Ms. McPoland: We got a couple of donations of \$100 each. Dr,

Chandrashekhkar Sonwane (former Section Chair) donated \$164 (Event and Student Scholarship for 50% each). In July: Event Income: \$468.96, Event Expenses: \$147.2s9. CAT III Rebate: \$600 (\$500 for AV equipment (for Events/Program), \$100 for Award), \$1,753.04 from 2020-2021 PayPal account. Section Bank Account balance was \$5,002.63 Checking, \$3939.30 Saving, \$68,283.63 CD, for \$77,225.39 Total, as of 7/30/2021.

▪Showing the 2021-2022 budget for review: it could be similar to last year at least or part of the year, as the COVID-19 situation might still be similar to last year for some part of the year. No objection. Dr. Puschell mentioned if someone in the Council needs more than the allocated budget, he or she would need to bring it up and get the review/approval. Arianna asked what kind of process it would be needed, and Dr. Puschell explained he expected something like a presentation for proposing a budget need. No deadline, anytime during the fiscal year. Dr. Puschell explained the limited fund we could get from the AIAA HQ. Our budget right now mostly came from the Adaptive Space Conference many years help by the LA Section at that time with Dr. James Wertz (Microcosm) as the Section Chair.

6:40 PM Ms. Khushbu Patel, K-12 STEM Outreach Chair Updates: (Also acting as the Education Chair for College/University Students)

▪Presented the plans for K-12 STEM Outreach and College students. Working on a draft email to send out to the local schools. She expressed the COVID-19 situation limited the possibility of outreach. For college, planning to meet the Student Branch Boards from each of the 3 AIAA University Student Branches here to understand their goals. Space Day Saturn Day, Monthly Book Club, Company Sponsorship, AIAA STEM Day etc. if the COVID-19 situation.

▪Dr. Puschell asked if Khushbu (Ms. Patel) knew any secondary school teacher and she said yes. Additional low-income area in Long Beach, CA has been growing, unfortunately, due to COVID-19. Dr. Puschell mentioned Ms. Monica Maynard, the President of the Satellite Education Association as a good source of the contact for outreach. Dr. Seth Potter mentioned the situation with the A-MAN STEM School as Drs. Walker will be back from S. Africa. Dr. Puschell mentioned it could be a good source for K-12 Outreach.

▪Dr. Puschell mentioned the AIAA TC as a side note. He sent out an email to the Council about the AIAA TC membership. Dr. Seth Potter mentioned NSS hosted the ISDC with AIAA Space Colonization TC and Space Systems TC participation, and in 2024 there might be another chance for online participation. Dr. Puschell mentioned when he joined the Space Systems TC in the early 2000, the Chair of that TC was Ms. Gwynne Shotwell (now leading SpaceX). AIAA TC has more specific Technical focus, while the local professional sections focus on the local AIAA issues.

▪Ms. Khushbu Patel has to sign off due to work schedule and therefore not in the Council Meeting after this point.

6:54 PM Mr. Jordan Chilcott, Public Policy Chair Updates:

▪Jordan reviewed what he talked about in the last Council Meeting (with a pre-recorded audio). (More details and explanations were in the July Minute of the Council Meeting.)

▪Jordan talked about his new effort on AB-538 Review (request from a Council Member). AB-538 is California Aerospace Commission Review, which was draft by several CA Assembly Representatives. Other industries have been having their corresponding committees in the CA Assembly. He read the bill and explained what each section in the bill was talking about. Section 1 was about the Aerospace Reality, Section 2 is bulk of the Bill. Some keywords in Section 6.8 – 15337.1a-c like Trade shows, hearings etc.

▪Jordan's personal thought was that the Bill itself was more like to establish an AIAA-like structure

within the CA Assembly.

- Jordan mentioned the response to this new Bill from the CA State Chair of Appropriations (Anthony Portantino), who indicated an existing Bill AB-427 (by the same author and vetoed by the former Governor Brown) is very similar, and with the previous attempts, that this new Bill AB-538 is probably not going to pass.

- Dr. Puschell mentioned he also heard about this and the previous news the former CA Governor Brown's veto. It was a similar effort to recreate the California Space Authority years ago. Jordan also thought this AB-538 would not pass.

- Jordan described his discussions with the Section Chair (Dr. Jeff Puschell) about the goals of the Section about goals, strategies, suggested policies for the council, to help the council members focus their energy around the same goals. The main goal is that we should have more AIAA members in the Section than we have in the beginning of the Fiscal Year (FY). Also he described the discussion with the Section Chair about the strategies, who we are, and get Council Members to interact with the general members. And some "big" project to attract hands-on members. He also suggested possible policies for networking and project. Dr. Puschell commented that for the "big" project issue, it might be fun but there could be issues as the organizations (Boeing, Lockheed Martin etc.) where those participating members would associated might claim the ownership of the efforts/any results, leading to some bureaucracy issues and complicate the situation. Some corporate sponsorship might be needed.

7:13 PM Mr. Marty Waldman, Las Vegas Chapter Chair Updates:

- Jordan left the Council Meeting and would not be present for the rest of the Council Meeting.

- Marty joined late so Dr. Puschell re-stated the issue about ASCEND he mentioned in the beginning of the Council Meeting. Dr. Puschell has been trying to figure out what's going and if an award session for Dr. Ken Lui for the Region VI Service Award and if the ASCEND will be in-person. Marty mentioned the situation in the Clark County there, as some local leadership might be discouraging the in-person gathering, while Marty saw the airlines were full in flights. Dr. Ken Lui indicated he asked HQ (Ms. Emily Springer) about the free exhibition table for the Section in this ASCEND. (Marty's Zoom connection was lost but got back at this moment. Dr. Puschell indicated he also talked to the Region VI Director. Marty felt there could be some politics in the related issue.

- Marty mentioned about some local politics as he tried to get some venues for some activities there. It was opened up a little bit, but then the situation went in the worse direction (COVID-19) again after some time in June, when Dr. Jeff Puschell and Marty met in Las Vegas. Dr. Puschell mentioned it was a concern for the young persons.

(Dr. Dennis Wonica showed up briefly in the Council Meeting earlier, but left early and not being able to present his update. Dr. Puschell indicated there were budget

7:22 PM Mr. Aldo Martinez Martinez, Vice Chair,, temporarily for Membership Chair Updates:

- Dr. Puschell thanked Aldo for continuing what he had been doing when he was the Membership Chair to report on the Section Membership status issues, until a new membership chair could be found.

- Professional members: 791, Student Members: 228, Total: 1201. The numbers have been stable. Aldo mentioned the free e-membership could explain the surge in 2019 but left after 1-year free trial, as Marty asked. Marty commented it was amazing to just keep the numbers during the Pandemic. We are keeping the numbers afterwards, especially during the pandemic. Dr. Puschell commented that people with the e-membership would not continue the membership as shown in the curve.

▪Dr. Puschell mentioned he had suggested and had it implemented for the event ticket prices, to give more incentives to the AIAA members with 20 and more years of membership and the AIAA Lifetime members.

▪Aldo mentioned his hosting a Membership Table in the AIAA RLC online recently, and heard the other sections had difficulties during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Some losses of the membership were due to competition and in-activity, felt through out other sections. The next Membership Chair might need to look more into some possible resources.

▪Dr. Puschell mentioned his discussion with Dr. Ken Lui, the Events/Program Chair, that the vibrant activities of the LA-LV Section really were the keys to attract people even from other neighboring sections. Dr. Ken Lui further confirmed that as some recent new members (experienced professionals) were very happy with our events and joined the membership with our Section instead of a nearby section, and some donated. There were just some examples. And the Section's Monthly newsletters also provided an important and accessible way for people to get engaged with AIAA and the Los Angeles – Las Vegas Section, as they could speak in our events and / or provide newsletter articles with us. We got more people joining and staying with us, even write poetry, suggesting speakers / topics etc. They have been very happy. We got even much more people joining AIAA membership from outside the LA-LV Section areas and even internationally (France, Canada, Australia, Africa, EU etc). It's just unfortunate those outside new membership would not be counted into our LA-LV Section membership. Dr. Ken Lui mentioned the amazing historiography photos by Dr. Robert Fugate (von Karman Lecturer in AIAA Space 2015), who Dr. Puschell knew very well, in the recent Section newsletters. Dr. Fugate has been considering rejoining the AIAA membership. We also had Art Gallery events and Website/Newsletter space, blogs, etc. to encourage participation/engagement and for them to express. AIAA Membership advancement (Associate Fellow, Fellow, Honorary Fellow) is the meat, and the gift/recognition for the long years of membership is good (but HQ might have stopped those gifts). AIAA is very good in networking into opportunities. Dr. Ken Lui explained it came very naturally that the Section newsletter is actually a very good channel for keeping / attracting members as well.

▪Aldo will continue to explore some possible things like brochures etc. Dr. Puschell mentioned the Art event in downtown LA (in-person) a few years ago, as it bumped the membership at that time. The path to the membership is to provide the incentive for people to join. Dr. Ken Lui's efforts in Events/Program has been keeping the membership, and we can build on that and try to increase the number of membership.

(▪Aldo mentioned about a possible Office. Dr. Ken Lui commented afterwards that he actually tried to propose the Office Hour a few months ago with the new online setting for the existing online e-Happy Hours with very nice Office-life setting for virtual Office Hour. However, he didn't even mention it, despite it was tempting in the past few months, as he realized the council members would not even have time to attend the Section Meetings to interact or listen to the general attendees/members. And the Section Meeting used to have the same function to meet and listen to the general members and attendees. It's extra time and demands for the council members. It might be better to utilize the existing Council Meeting and participate, and benefit from its original idea and functions (make full use of it and its potential by design), instead of demanding more extra / separate time from the council members. Our Section Meetings have been our Office Hours!)

(▪Aldo mentioned about the reasons for joining the AIAA membership and said he would work with Jordan. Dr. Ken Lui mentioned we have been showing the benefits and reasons why joining AIAA membership for several years in each and every LA-LV Section Meeting to our attendees. We have been presenting those each month or week. Recently Ms. Sherry Stukes (JPL) also updated it based on what we have been showing, and added more interesting contents. We also got some inputs from Mr. Bob Welge. It has been there and constantly updated, It will be shown in later part of the Events/Program Charts in this Council Meeting.)

(Mr. Aakash Nareshkumar and Mr. Gary Moir are not present during the meeting today.)

7:43 PM Dr. Ken Lui, Events and Programs Chair Updates:

▪Review of the recent events:

-July 17: Wonderful event celebrating the Apollo 11 Moon Landing and Vikings Mars landing! The first speaker, Dr. Jennifer Ross-Nazzal (JSC), talking about the life of Michael Collins, who past away 2-3 months ago. She concluded her talk with the book "Carrying the Fire" by Astronaut Michael Collins. And the 2nd speaker, Prof. Paul Ronney of USC, an Astronaut Alternate for several Space Shuttle Missions, also expressed that he felt the great heritage and responsibility of carrying the fire and continue the great efforts from those legendary astronauts like Michael, Neil, and Buzz. (Dr. Ken Lui mentioned about a recent newsletter article saying FAA didn't grant the recent space tourists the astronaut title, as the latter would need to be involved in navigation and some other issues in the space flight.) The 3rd speaker from Belgium/United Nations Nuclear Safety Committee Belgium Delegate, Prof. Sarah Baatout, talked about the space medicine and her studies with ISS on the issues and protection for the astronauts for the radiation (and micro-gravity) in the space flight to the Moon and Mars (and back) etc. The last speaker, Dr. Jeng Yen (JPL), talked about the fun and behind-the-scene stories how to plan and drive the Perseverance on Mars from Earth. He also mentioned a little bit about the Ingenuity Helicopter deployment along the way of driving the Perseverance Rover on Mars. Overall, it was very meaningful and fun, and memorial for Michael Collins. Dr. Puschell mentioned our speaker on May 27 on the Perseverance EDL, Mr. Allen Chen, was recently interviewed nationally on national TV (60 Minutes). Our Section truly had the good speakers for this topic.

-July 20: e-Happy Hour with the Moon's Clavis Crater theme. This was also the setting Dr. Ken Lui mentioned he was trying to propose for the Section e-Office Hour, but didn't mention it due to the time commitment issue and the existing potentials and functions, and he could explain what the attendees needed and what they were saying. He has been recommending the Council Members for attending/joining the Section (Town Hall) Meetings for a while. It's our Office Hour/Time, as it was the case a few years ago and what it was designed for, to meet with the general public/members. Attendees in this July 20 e-Happy Hour enjoyed the fun virtual settings, combining Sci-Fi (Space Odyssey 2001, Space 1999) and the Space Missions (SOFIA, Artemis etc.), to give the attendees great experiences with AIAA / LA-LV. A middle school student attendee designed the Star Trek: Enterprise settings, and will be adopted for the next e-Happy Hour (also an e-Office Hour like the Section's (e-)Section/Town Hall Meeting. People chatted on several interesting topics from the recent Virgin Galactic and the Blue Origin flights, to Space Tourism, Artemis, and the rising China Space power and military space development etc.

-July 24: An AIAA LA-LV Exhibition in the Satellite and Education Conference XXXIV (Dr. Puschell is the Vice President of that organization. And Dr. Ken Lui had been attending it many years ago even before he joined the Section Council. Since his predecessor was too busy and asked Dr. Ken Lui to help organize the exhibition a few years ago, the latter had been supporting and holding the exhibition with Ms. Sherry Stukes (JPL/AIAA Member) and the former Section K-12 STEM Outreach Chairs.) Dr. Puschell indicated Ms. Sherry Stukes and Dr. Ken Lui did a great job presenting in this exhibition. Ms. Sherry Stukes has been supporting/volunteering for this Section exhibition / table for a few years. She combined the membership benefits/attractions slides and added several she prepared and made it a very interesting and impressive exhibitor presentation for introducing AIAA, the LA-LV Section, Events/Program, and membership benefits etc.

-July 31: Prof. Rajkumar Pant from India gave a fun and informative talk about his efforts in and an introduction for Light-Thin-Air / How to make a balloon float / fly. Many exciting applications, including higher altitude balloons, space tourism, aerial reconnaissance, in complimentary to the existing functions of satellites and drones. And even balloons for exploring Venus and Mars etc. He also showed some very fun and educational activities he did for college and high school students in India, US, Brazil, and Singapore. Several K-12 Educator attendees were very impressed and interested as well.

▪August 7: Echoing what Dr. Puschell mentioned about AIAA Technical Committee, we have been

trying to do the best to showcase the AIAA Technical Committees, which are another main benefits / attraction for joining AIAA membership, through events and newsletter articles. The first speaker, Mr. Al Globus, is from the AIAA Space Colonization Technical Committee, and he talked about the points and reasons to counter the opposition against space settlement, explaining why Human should and can go to space and the important of Space for the human being. He also showed the O'Neill Space Colony, Bernal Sphere etc. The 2nd speaker, Dr. Matthäus Kiel (JPL), talked about the exciting urban CO₂ monitoring, using the Orbiting Carbon Observatory 2 (satellite) and 3 (on ISS). It was really interesting and it got also some attention from the Los Angeles City as well for that work/capability. He showed some exciting clips / animation of the Los Angeles CO₂ Observation in comparison/collocation with the ground station. Some attendees joined us and it was good to see people are coming back.

7:45 PM Mr. Gary Moir, Technical Chair Updates: (Also leading Aero Alumni meetings)

- Gary asked if the Zoom link for the July 21 Aero-Alumni meeting was provided and Dr. Lui said yes. (Gary found it the next day as his email system outlook had some changes that he didn't see it right away initially.)

- Gary expressed the nominating committee for the election didn't complete the job, as the suitable candidates were not found for certain positions. He suggested the council members to contact some possible names and see if they would be joining the council for those vacant positions. The election site is still open, too. Dr. Puschell mentioned Elliot from Raytheon, who was also a judge with us in the CSULB Region VI Student Paper Conference, could be interested, possibly in the Technical area.

- Will check with the Western Museum of Flight for possible return for the in-person Aero Alumni Meetings, if they are open for this meeting. They are partially open for activities but not fully open.

- COVID-19 Pandemic and the possible in-person event: We're in a surge of the cases/deaths due to the delta variants. Israel / Ireland started the 3rd shot/booster shot. Several libraries/venues reopened but mentioned it could change anytime, and they have the mask mandates. We might not be able to do the food inside as people would take off the masks to eat, which defeats the purpose of wearing the mask indoors. Some other places, including the Manhattan Beach / Lawndale Library etc. are not yet ready for re-opening. The vaccination would not stop the transmission, and the delta variant is more transmissible. We are actually giving the culture bed for development more variants, some of which could be worse and have even higher breakthrough. We will continue to monitor the status. (Note: On August 25, FDA had given full approval for the Pfizer vaccine and will move ahead for the 3rd shot/booster shot.) The peak of this surge was even higher than the 1st and 3rd one. And it was similar to the situation last year, as some experts/news talked about the yet higher peak that will follow this one.

- Dr. Ken Lui gives a demo to show we are ready for the hybrid event (Zoom + in-person) by using a borrowed camera the same model he proposed for the section for the possible hybrid events. It shows it works, and it can zoom-in to focus on the projected slides, and zoom-out for the projection/speaker view, etc. It's proven working on Zoom and we are all set and ready to go for the hybrid events. We will keep watching / monitor the Pandemic situations.

- Dr. Ken Lui showed the slides Ms. Sherry Stukes and he put together for the July 24 exhibition, with the information we have been using for years in events/exhibition, in response to what Aldo and Jordan mentioned for reasons to join membership. We have been doing those and constantly updating.

- Dr. Ken Lui also mentioned we could use, during the Pandemic, the setting of the e-Happy Hour for the Happy Hour Aldo mentioned (as explained in the previous paragraphs) if needed, but we might want to benefit and utilize the function and full potential of the existing Section Meeting (Town Hall.)

8:05 PM Dr. Seth Potter, A-MAN OASIS ALF Ambassador Updates:

- NSS Annual ISDC Conference (June 24-27) online was mentioned. The next one will be in National

Landing, VA, near Washington DC., in 2022, Dallas, TX in 2023, and back in Los Angeles, CA in 2024. They are considering to go back in person. Space Settlement Summit, used to be in the Los Angeles area, it could be hybrid or virtual, depending on the situation. NSS will start the cemetery activity with the remains of Gene Roddenberry and some others, with radiation shielding. Cubesat competition with XISP-inc. On the NASA CubeQuest Challenge.

- ALF is trying to restore the Space Shuttle mock-up.

- A-MAN / Cape Town Space Society: Dr. Hal and Bettye Walker continue to stay in South Africa, and have NSS / CTSS / A-MAN activities there.

- Dr. Potter is trying to avoid the conflict of interests with the NSS Cubesat project, but he is trying to pick up some Ham Radio activities for possible preparation for that.

- Dr. Potter felt the surge might come down soon based on what the cases in UK, and California might be doing better and the whole country. (Dr. Ken Lui noted that the UK cases hiked after the Euro Cup and plummet a little, but it still remained high 25K-30K+ per day new cases. Even few people dying, but the transmission will spread more and faster, and also provide more fertile culture bed for more possible deadly/transmissible for breakthrough infections.)

8:12 PM Call for Meeting Adjourn:

- Dr. Puschell thanked everyone for joining this council meeting. Next month it will be around the same time in September.