

Committee on Meetings and Conferences (COMC)

General Description

- Committee is standing
- Number of members is approx. twelve
- Term is three years

This is a standing committee of approximately 12 members. The *ex officio* members are the President of the AMS, the Secretary of the AMS and the Executive Director of the AMS (non-voting). There shall be one member from the Board of Trustees, appointed by the Chair of the Board. All other members shall be appointed by the President; these include three members chosen from among the Vice Presidents and Members at Large of the Council, and at least four at large members.

The Associate Secretaries shall be guests of COMC at all of its meetings.

The Chair is appointed by the President to a one-year term as Chair upon recommendation of the committee. This term can be extended if necessary. The Director of the Meetings and Conferences Department or a representative shall attend COMC meetings and provide administrative and staff support.

The COMC reports to the Council. It shall provide a written review of its activities annually to the Council; ordinarily a preliminary version of this report will be submitted to the ECBT at its November meeting.

Principal Activities

The Committee shall take a long range view of Society activities and structures in the area of Meetings and Conferences. COMC shall:

- Advise the Council and leadership of the Society and make recommendations concerning Society policy on meetings and conferences; COMC may recommend both modification of existing activities, as well as initiation of new activities and directions.

Because both the Secretariat and the Meetings and Conferences Department are charged with dealing with specific details of meetings and conferences, COMC shall concentrate its efforts on matters of general policy, with a long range view. COMC does not have the authority to direct specific actions.

- Carry out annual reviews, so that at least every six years it has conducted reviews and appraisals of the principal Society activities in its area of responsibility, such as:
 1. National Meetings: scientific program
 2. National Meetings: overall program

3. Sectional Meetings
4. Conferences and Institutes
5. Special Lecture Series

The results should be reported to the Executive Committee and to the Council.

- Receive reports pertaining to meetings and conferences policy from committees of the Society, and forward analysis and recommendations to the Council.
- report regularly to the membership; maintain an awareness of the views of the membership on issues concerning meetings and conferences; this may involve surveys, focus-group discussions, individual communications and committee correspondence.
- Fulfill the charges to all policy committees included in Council resolutions as they may pertain to the area of responsibility of COMC.

COMC will coordinate its activities with other policy committees in areas of mutual concern. COMC will foster coordination with other professional organizations and government agencies on cooperative and parallel activities.

Though COMC is charged with attention to policy issues and with taking a long-range view towards matters affecting meetings and conferences, it may be appropriate for COMC to communicate informal suggestions to the Secretariat or the Meetings and Conferences Department for their consideration. Likewise, it may be appropriate for the Secretariat or the Meetings and Conferences Department to seek the informal advice of COMC about ongoing activities.

Council motions concerning policy committee charges

The 11 January 1994 Council approved the following resolution:

The Council charges the committees on Education, Meetings and Conferences, Profession, Publication, and Science Policy to carry out at least every six years reviews and appraisals of Society activities in the areas of their charges and to report the results of these reviews to the Executive Committee and to the Council.

The 7 January 1997 Council approved the following as “policy” regarding co-sponsorship of meetings and conferences of other organizations:

When the Society receives a request for co-sponsorship, this request will be referred to the Secretariat. The Secretariat will then determine whether the proposed co-sponsorship has mathematical merit and is otherwise in the best interests of the Society. If the request is a simple one, then the Secretariat can approve the request without further input; in more complicated cases (e.g., those requesting funding from the AMS), the Secretariat will forward the request to the ECBT and Council with a recommendation.

The Society reserves the right to appoint one or more members to appropriate program and organizing committees. Under normal circumstances the Society reserves the right of first refusal to any conference proceedings. This right should be exercised judiciously in light of the importance of maintaining goodwill between the Society and the organization requesting co-sponsorship; in all cases, the determination as to whether the Society will exercise its right to publish any proceedings should be made in a timely manner.

The 7 January 1997 Council approved COMC's recommendation concerning procedural and policy items regarding international meetings:

- That the AMS continue to develop its written guidelines concerning the handling of financial arrangements and other organizational aspects of the meetings.
- The AMS continue to work towards coordination at international meetings, such as:
 - The involvement of people who already have contact with the country (e.g., who can speak the language and have substantial scientific contacts);
 - Coordination between any AMS program committees and counterpart committees in the country involved.

Miscellaneous Information

COMC can create such standing or ad hoc subcommittees as needed to do its work. These subcommittees may include non-COMC members. If the complexity of issues demands, COMC may recommend to the Council the creation of special task forces.

The business of the COMC can be done by US Mail, electronic mail, telephone, FAX or by meetings at or independent of national meetings, for which expense may be reimbursed by the Society. There shall be at least one face-to-face meeting annually for which expenses shall be reimbursed by the Society.

An explanation of travel expense reimbursement of volunteers for this committee is attached. This committee has been designated at **LEVEL B**.

Votes on motions or recommendations taken by mail (US or e-) shall be considered binding provided that:

A time for closing the vote is specified, which is at least seven working days following the dissemination of the statement of the motion or recommendation in its final form and unless item three or more members request that the motion or recommendation be placed on the agenda of the next face-to-face meeting of COMC.

Note to the Chair

Committee chairs should be informed, at the beginning of each fiscal period, the budget of their committees and cautioned to remain within the budget. Such items as travel reimbursement to, accommodations for, and meals for guests of any kind fall within these budgets.

Work done by committees on recurring problems may have value as precedent or work done may have historical interest. Because of this, the Council has requested that a central file system be maintained for the Society by the Secretary. Committees are reminded that a copy of every sheet of paper should be deposited (say once a year) in this central file. Confidential material should be noted, so that it can be handled in a confidential manner.

Authorization

Created by Council 930111

Written by committee 1/94; updated 8/24/94; updated 5/04/95; updated 9/08/97

Past Members

Year Members

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| 1993 | Bettye Anne Case, Robert M Fossum, Ronald L Graham, William H Jaco, Linda Keen, Peter W K Li, M Susan Montgomery, Hugo Rossi, David R Scott, Nancy K Stanton, D L Sulsky, William Velez, Ruth J Williams |
| 1994 | Bettye Anne Case, Robert M Fossum, Ronald L Graham, William H Jaco, Linda Keen, D J Lewis, Peter W K Li, Frank Morgan, Hugo Rossi, David R Scott, Nancy K Stanton, D L Sulsky, William Velez, Sylvia Wiegand, Ruth J Williams |
| 1995 | Roy L Adler, Bettye Anne Case, Robert M Fossum, William H Jaco, Peter W K Li, Jerrold E Marsden, Cathleen S Morawetz, Frank Morgan, David R Scott, Alice Silverberg, D L Sulsky, Sylvia Wiegand, Ruth J Williams |
| 1996 | Roy L Adler, Bettye Anne Case, John H Ewing, Robert M Fossum, Isom Herron, Evan Houston, James Hyman, Jerrold E Marsden, Cathleen S Morawetz, Frank Morgan, D L Sulsky, Sylvia Wiegand, Ruth J Williams |
| 1997 | Roy L. Adler, Bettye Anne Case, John H Ewing, Robert M Fossum, Isom Herron, Evan Houston, James Hyman, Arthur Jaffe, Jerrold E Marsden, Joel H. Spencer, Karen Vogtmann, Sylvia Wiegand |
| 1998 | Roy L. Alder, James G Arthur, Felix E Browder, Karen L Collins, Evan G Houston, Arthur M Jaffe, Donald E McClure, Rick Miranda, Karen H Parshall, Joel H Spencer, Michael Starbird, Karen Vogtmann, Sylvia M Wiegand |
| 1999 | James G Arthur, Felix E Browder, Robert J Daverman, John H Ewing, Donald E McClure, Karen H Parshall, Joel H Spencer, Michael Starbird, Karen Vogtmann, Sylvia Margaret Wiegand |
| 2000 | James G Arthur, Hyman Bass, Dominic Clemence, Karen Collins, John Conway, Robert J Daverman, John H Ewing, Irene Fonseca, Rick Miranda, Karen H Parshall, Richard Randall, Hema Srinivasan, Karen Vogtmann |
| 2001 | James G Arthur, Hyman Bass, Dominic Clemence, Karen Collins, John Conway, Robert J Daverman, John H Ewing, Irene Fonseca, Rick Miranda, Richard Randall, Hema Srinivasan, Karen Vogtmann |
| 2002 | Colin C. Adams, Edward J. Barbeau, Hyman Bass, Dominic Clemence, Robert J |

- Daverman, John H Ewing, Irene Fonseca, Tepper L. Gill, Craig L. Huneke, Richard Randell, Hema Srinivasan, Karen Vogtmann, Carol S. Wood
- 2003 Colin C. Adams, Edward J. Barbeau, Robert J Daverman, David Eisenbud, John H Ewing, Irene Fonseca, Tepper L. Gill, Craig L. Huneke, Irene Peeva, Richard Randell, Hema Srinivasan, Jean Taylor, Paul Zorn
- 2004 Colin C. Adams, Edward J. Barbeau, Robert J Daverman, David Eisenbud, John H Ewing, Tepper L. Gill, Craig L. Huneke, Irene Peeva, Richard Randell, Gregory Smith, Jean Taylor, Paul Zorn
- 2005 James G. Arthur, Robert J Daverman, John H Ewing, Joel Hass, John McCammond, Irene Peeva, Richard Randell, Gail D. L. Ratcliff, Gregory Smith, Jean Taylor, Catherine Huafei Yan, Paul Zorn