

Minutes
Eastern States Section Combustion Institute
Executive Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, November 11, 2014

Time: 9:00 – 9:55 AM

Location: Teleconference

Agenda – Final

Incorporation of ESSCI and relationship to the Combustion Institute

Currently waiting for feedback on bylaws from CI

Future officers need to be aware of reporting and financial responsibilities – especially the Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary

Executive Board officers and membership

Officer succession (effective at Spring 2016 Eastern States Technical Meeting)

Dan Haworth – Past Chair; Arnaud Trouvé – Chair; Mike Renfro – Vice Chair

Nomination/election committee

Michael Mueller – Chair; Paul Papas – volunteer; one or two more volunteers?

Program Chair needed

Spring 2016 Eastern States Technical Meeting

Spring 2017 U.S. National Combustion Meeting

At-Large Board members

Current members: Let Michael M. know if you wish to take on a leadership role, continue to serve, rotate off, etc.

New members: Nomination/election committee responsible for identifying and contacting potential nominees, and for election process

Spring 2016 Eastern States Technical Meeting

Princeton University – Yiguang Ju

Timing?

Spring 2017 U.S. National Combustion Meeting

University of Maryland – Arnaud Trouvé

Timing?

Proposal needed by 17 May 2015 (at 9th U.S. National Combustion Meeting in Cincinnati, OH)

Summer 2020 International Symposium

New York area – Yiguang Ju

Need to identify core institutions and team members

Next meeting

Cincinnati, OH, 17-20 May 2015

Other business

Adjourn

Attendees (alphabetical by last name): Beth Bennett, Catalin Fotache, Graham Goldin, Dan Haworth, Yiguang Ju, Hameed Metghalchi, Michael Mueller, Paul Papas, Mike Renfro, Peter Sunderland, Jackie Sung, Arnaud Trouvé, Rich Yetter

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM, November 11, 2014, by Dan Haworth presiding as Chair of the ESSCI Executive Committee.

Incorporation of ESSCI and relationship to the Combustion Institute

Dan stated that the process of incorporation is proceeding. He is currently awaiting feedback from the CI lawyers regarding whether our bylaws are appropriately written.

Anyone who is thinking of volunteering to be an officer in the future (especially the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary) should be aware of new responsibilities that may be forthcoming as a result of the incorporation process.

Executive Board officers and membership

Dan asked Mike R. whether he would agree to move up to Vice Chair as of the Spring 2016 Eastern States Technical Meeting. Mike R. agreed to do so.

Dan asked for volunteers to join the Nominations/Elections committee. Jackie volunteered to do so.

There was some discussion about the desired composition of the Executive Board. It was agreed that we want a mix of people from academia and industry. We also want members to work at geographically diverse institutions. The committee should poll the Executive Board for suggestions and then approach those individuals to ask them to run for election. Elections will be held in the Fall of 2015.

The Executive Board will need a Program Chair (also known as “papers chair”) for the 2016 Eastern States Technical Meeting. This position is not to be confused with the position of Arrangements Chair (also known as “local host”). The Program Chair will work closely with the CI in Pittsburgh. For the UConn meeting, Dan was the Program Chair. For the Clemson meeting, Arnaud was the Programs Chair. After a brief discussion, Mike R. interjected that – due to the usual succession of leadership positions – he is “still on the hook” for being the Program Chair for the 2016 meeting. Therefore, the problem of finding a Program Chair for the 2016 meeting is solved. However, we will still need a new Program Chair (to go into effect at the end of the 2016 meeting), and that person will be responsible for the 2017 U.S. National Combustion Meeting (being hosted by ESSCI) and the 2018 Eastern States Technical Meeting.

Regarding other positions on the Executive Board, Beth indicated that she would be interested in continuing as Secretary. Yiguang doesn't want to continue as Treasurer.

For the 2017 U.S. National Combustion Meeting (and, presumably, the 2018 Eastern States Technical Meeting), Yiguang volunteered to be Program Chair. Dan pointed out that Yiguang can't be both the Arrangements Chair and the Program Chair, but Yiguang said that Mike M. could be the Arrangements Chair.

Finally, Yiguang offered his opinion that people shouldn't stay too long in one position.

Spring 2016 Eastern States Technical Meeting

Dan asked Executive Board members for suggestions on when to have the Spring 2016 Eastern States Technical Meeting. It was felt that having the meeting in May puts it too close to the Symposium, and Beth also mentioned that a May meeting is likely to conflict with graduation at several universities. For these reasons, a March 2016 meeting would be preferred. Yiguang stated that Spring Break at Princeton is around March 13 to March 20, so that week could be a good window in which to hold the Spring 2016 meeting.

Spring 2017 U.S. National Combustion Meeting

Dan stated that Arnaud, along with others at the University of Maryland, has volunteered to host the Spring 2017 U.S. National Meeting. Arnaud will be the main point of contact. He mentioned that there are 12 people involved in combustion research at Maryland, and that he is aware that they must develop a draft proposal by the U.S. National Meeting in Cincinnati.

Arnaud stated that there is significant construction occurring on and near campus right now. He will therefore work on two versions of the draft proposal: one that uses only the existing buildings, and one that uses existing and new facilities. He also stated that it is necessary to book the facilities one year in advance of the meeting.

There was some discussion about when to have the meeting. Because it will be in the spring of an odd-numbered year, the SIAM numerical combustion meeting will be around the same time; we will need to find out when it will be in order to avoid a conflict.

Spring 2020 International Symposium

Dan stated that the Combustion Institute has suggested two possibilities for the location of the Spring 2020 International Symposium: the NY/NJ area and Washington, D.C. Considerable discussion followed about developing a proposal for the NY/NJ area.

Yiguang began by saying that Mike M. has identified several large hotels in NYC that can accommodate a big group. For a social outing, there could be a NY-area cruise or a barbecue on the beach in Sandy Hook, NJ.

Arnaud asked for clarification about the location. Mike M. replied that if the Symposium is to be held at a hotel, then it has to be in midtown Manhattan, because that is where there are hotels that can accommodate 1500-2000 people. The price of the hotel rooms is comparable to the hotel rooms that were available for the recent Symposium in San Francisco. The alternative is to have the Symposium at a convention center, several of which exist on the NY and NJ sides of the Hudson River.

Catalin suggested the possibility of having the Symposium at a casino, such as at Foxwoods (in CT) or in Atlantic City. Hameed commented that international attendees would likely prefer NY. Mike R. agreed that NYC would be better than remote casinos in CT, and Beth pointed out that everyone would have to rent cars to get to the casinos, which would be a disadvantage. The consensus was that NYC would be preferable.

Mike M. continued on to say that transportation would be easy for a Manhattan meeting. Attendees could fly into the NY-area airports and then take public transportation to their hotels. He also emphasized the need to negotiate so that the hotel rates are not exorbitant.

Dan stated that the next step is to think about putting together a coalition of institutions and people. We need to have senior people involved and engaged in the proposal; they need to do more than just put their names on a list and then delegate to their overworked junior colleagues. The following institutions/companies were suggested by Board members: Princeton, UConn, Penn State, Yale, UTRC, FM Global, ExxonMobil, GE Research Center, Rutgers, Columbia, Northeastern, Boston University, MIT, Harvard, and Cornell.

Dan said that we will discuss this topic further at the Executive Board meeting in Cincinnati in May, so that a formal proposal can be submitted at the next Symposium (summer of 2016). Yiguang responded that Jim Driscoll is already asking for a proposal. Dan then said that he will contact Barb Waronek for clarification on what is needed and when. Yiguang will also talk with previous meeting organizers to ask what timeline they followed.

Next meeting

Dan reminded everyone that the next Executive Board meeting will be held in Cincinnati at the U.S. National Combustion Meeting in May 2015. He asked whether everyone will be there. Beth stated that because graduation at Yale is on Monday, May 18, she will have to fly to Cincinnati on Monday evening; she will thus miss the Executive Board meeting (which will occur on Sunday afternoon) but could participate via phone. Dan will check to see if a phone link will be available for the conference room. Everyone else plans to be in Cincinnati for the Executive Board meeting, except for Graham, who will be traveling elsewhere.

Other business

Hameed stated that he is the editor of the ASME Journal of Energy Resources Technology, which publishes combustion papers, among other things. The journal's impact factor is 1.7, which is the fourth highest of the 27 ASME journals. The journal has a quick turnaround, so Hameed asks everyone to keep it in mind when submitting papers. Dan thanked Hameed for bringing this information to everyone's attention.

Arnaud asked Peter whether the ESSCI would do Congressional visits again. Peter said that he had asked JoAnn Lighty (Chair of the U.S. Sections Executive Board) whether the CI intends to pursue the visits. There are two reasons to expand the effort beyond the ESSCI. First, it is too labor-intensive for a single section to continue to pursue. Second, ESSCI members mostly have access to East Coast Congresspeople, who are mainly Democrats who already support funding for research.

Yiguang stated that he wants to circulate the four-page report written by Peter's group. He would like to give it to Program Managers at the DOE's Basic Energy Sciences Office to let them know that combustion is an important research area for energy efficiency. Yiguang said that Japan is spending \$40 million on its Strategic Innovation Promotion (SIP) Program, which includes a focus on engine combustion research. According to Yiguang, this program came about because the Vice President of Toyota was on an advisory committee for the Japanese cabinet. Meanwhile, in China, the government is spending \$20 million on turbulent combustion research.

Catalin said that UTRC has done a study on the comparative status of investments in aerospace-related research by the U.S. and the European Union. He says that the U.S. has abdicated leadership in this area (aerospace). He also mentioned that the DOE's Vehicle Technologies Office has funded \$500 million in research this year, but obviously not all of that money has gone into combustion.

Dan summarized the situation as “depressing.” He also reminded everyone that now that the ESSCI has been incorporated as a non-profit organization, the activities that we formerly would have referred to as “lobbying” must now be referred to as “advocacy” and “outreach.”

Dan, Arnaud, and Peter are members of the U.S. Sections Executive Board. Arnaud stated that there was some discussion between the CI and the American Institute of Physics. The AIP invited the CI to become an affiliate member of the AIP. The CI said no, which in Arnaud's opinion was probably because the AIP has “American” in its title, whereas the CI is an international organization. The question remains, however, whether the U.S. Sections of the CI want to partner with AIP.

Dan commented that it would be a good idea to partner with a group that knows how to approach Washington. He raised the question of whether ASME, or perhaps AIAA, would be a more natural partner, given the greater overlap in research areas (i.e., between the CI and ASME, and between the CI and AIAA, as opposed to between the CI and the AIP). Someone also pointed out that because JoAnn Lighty is now the Division Director of ENG/CBET at the NSF, she might have a conflict of interest because of being employed by the government.

Given that we were approaching the end time of the meeting, Dan wrapped up the discussion, which will be continued at the Executive Board meeting at the U.S. National meeting in Cincinnati.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Anne V. Bennett, Secretary
Eastern States Section