

**Minutes**  
**Eastern States Section Combustion Institute**  
**General Business Meeting**

**Date: Tuesday, October 15, 2013**

**Time: 5:20 – 5:50 PM**

**Location: Auditorium, Madren Center, Clemson University**

**Agenda – Final**

Budget details  
Clemson meeting projections  
Update on Award Presentations  
Report by Peter's committee on enhancing communications regarding importance of combustion  
Metrics to determine success of Special Seminar  
Discussion on the next ESSCI Technical Meeting  
Potential hosts for the 10<sup>th</sup> National Meeting in 2017  
New business  
Adjourn

Attendees: There were approximately 25 attendees.

**Call to order:** Meeting called to order at 5:22 PM, October 15, 2013, by Bill Roberts presiding as Chair of the ESSCI Executive Committee. Bill began by reviewing the main items covered at the Executive Committee Meeting on Sunday, October 13, as follows.

**Budget details (i.e., Treasurer's report)**

Bill described the finances of the ESS as reported by Yiguang Ju (Treasurer).

The May balance in the bank accounts (Janus and Bank of America) was \$82K.

Utah Meeting in May: There were 39 student applications for travel support to the National Meeting. The amount of support per student will be \$250, which came to a total slightly less than \$10K. The ESSCI portion of the income from the National Meeting in Utah was \$23K. Thus the Utah Meeting gave us a net gain of \$13K.

Balance just prior to Clemson meeting: \$95,369.84.

One upcoming expense is the loss for the Clemson meeting, which was originally projected to be \$10K for 110 attendees. In fact, there are 92 attendees, and the loss will be around \$5K (see "Clemson meeting projections" below for details).

Another upcoming expense will be student travel support to the 35<sup>th</sup> Symposium in San Francisco: \$800 per student x 25 students = \$20K. (Student must give presentation to be eligible for support.)

Near-future balance *including 35<sup>th</sup> Symposium student travel support*:

\$75,369.84 – Clemson meeting loss + 35<sup>th</sup> Symposium income (or loss, if Symposium loses money).

**Clemson meeting projections (attendance and budget)**

Bill covered the following information, as provided by Rich Miller, one of the local hosts for the Clemson meeting.

There are 92 registrants for the Clemson meeting, 48 of whom are students. Total registration fees collected amounted to \$18.8K. Expenditures were as follows: plaques (\$170), van rental (\$170 for 2 days), copying/binding (\$850), conference facility (\$4225), food (approx. \$12K), student travel (approx.

\$5.5K) and invited speaker (\$700, including travel reimbursement). The net for the conference will be a loss of approximately \$4.5K. This is not bad at all, considering that the original projections were for a loss of approximately \$10K if 110 people had attended. [Two weeks after the meeting, Yiguang noted that 31 students signed up for travel support (\$150 per student), for a total of \$4650.]

### **Update on Award Presentations**

Bill briefly mentioned that the Best Student Presentation Award and the Best Paper Award (both from the UConn meeting) were presented this morning (Tuesday) at the start of the day, but that the awardees were not present to receive their plaques. The plaques will be mailed. Tomorrow Tanvir Farouk will receive the Young Investigator Award.

The new 3-person awards committee will consist of Mike Renfro (he also chaired the previous awards committee), Jackie Sung, and Rich Yetter. They will determine the Best Paper and Best Student Presentation Awards for the Clemson meeting and the Young Investigator Award for the next ESSCI meeting.

### **Enhancing communications regarding importance of combustion**

Bill briefly described the work of a three-person committee being led by Peter Sunderland (other members are Med Colket and Nick Cernansky). The charge to the committee was to identify ways to improve funding and visibility of combustion research in the U.S. The committee looked at ways to reach out to Congress and the executive branch.

The committee recommended that the following three activities be pursued now.

1. Invite key executive branch personnel (e.g., Program Managers [PMs]) to speak at technical meetings.
2. Arrange DC congressional visits by teaming with setcvd.org.
3. Identify and/or prepare materials summarizing the beneficial impacts of combustion research.

The committee recommended that the following three activities be pursued later.

4. Organize letter writing and in-state congressional office visits.
5. Arrange high-level meetings with the executive branch (e.g., DOE, DOD).
6. Improve public relations and media coverage.

### **Metrics to determine success of the Special Seminar**

Bill stated that after the ESS meeting ends, student attendees will receive an e-mail asking for their opinion and comments about the Special Seminar. Students will also be asked to volunteer to serve on a committee that will choose the next Special Seminar speaker. Michael Mueller, one of the At-Large members of the Executive Committee, will be the Student Liaison and will work with the students.

### **Discussion on the next ESSCI technical meeting**

Bill opened the discussion by stating that the next Fall Technical Meeting of the ESS would typically be 2 years from now, in the Fall of 2015. However, due to the low attendance at the current meeting (at Clemson), the Executive Committee has proposed that the next meeting be held 2½ years from now, in March of 2016.

Beth Bennett elaborated on the possible reasons for low attendance at the Clemson meeting – in particular, the proximity (time-wise) of several other meetings. The National Meeting was in May, and the Symposium deadline is in December. In addition, the SIAM numerical combustion meeting was in April. (Rich Miller pointed out that there is an ACS meeting in November, too.) By moving the ESS meeting to the spring of even-numbered years, it could become a dry run for Symposium presentations.

Bill asked for volunteers to host the next ESS meeting in the Spring of 2016, but no one volunteered.

**Future US Sectional meetings**

Western States Meeting: At Cal Tech in Pasadena, CA, on March 23-25, 2014

Central States Meeting: In Tulsa, OK, on March 16-18

9<sup>th</sup> National Meeting: At University of Cincinnati (Cincinnati, OH) on May 17-20, 2015

10<sup>th</sup> National Meeting will be hosted by the ESS in Spring of 2017: Tentative location is Princeton

**New business**

There was no new business.

**Closing comments**

Bill stated that after the end of the Clemson meeting, Dan Haworth will become the new Chair. Other officers will be as follows. Arnaud Trouve will become the Vice Chair / Chair-Elect, and Mike Renfro will become the Program Chair. Beth Bennett and Yiguang Ju will maintain their current positions of Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

Peter Sunderland commended Bill for his excellent work as Chair, and everyone applauded.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:47 PM.

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