

Committee on Membership, Report for 2006

The 2006 Committee on Membership was made up by Robert Young; Chair, Virginia Brown, Michael Flatte, Judy Franz, Koblar Jackson, Zheng-Tian Lu, Donald Morelli, David Reid, Cha-Mei Tang, and Lindley Winslow; Student Representative.

The Committee met twice in 2006. A list of issues addressed this year is included below.

Membership Statistics:

APS member counts continued to increase slightly for 2006. The official 2006 APS Membership count, taken in January, was 45,519, an increase of just over 2,000 from 2005. Most of the growth is based in the student member category.

Membership Benefits & Programs:

- An Industrial Member Survey was sent to approximately 2,800 members employed in the industrial sector to gather feedback for the APS Industrial Task Force. Results were compiled and forwarded to the Task Force to be used in their final report. The final report was reviewed by CoMem at their September meeting where the following motions were passed in support of Task Force recommendations.

- 1) Motion to support recommendation for APS to establish and maintain a searchable, online network, similar to ‘myspace.com’.**
- 2) ...the enhancement of the on-line search engine for BAPS.**
- 3) ...for APS to greatly improve APS recognition and awards for industrial physicists.**
- 4) ...for APS to sponsor a prize for industrial applications of physics in the biannual years that the AIP Prize for the Industrial Applications of Physics is not offered.**
- 5) ...the expansion of APS journal packs to include all APS journal articles, not just for the last 3 years.**
- 6) ...for staff to investigate the different journal article possibilities and incorporate into a new member class proposal.**

- The updated APS website was launched and the Membership page now includes a Benefit Highlight section to help promote member services.

- The Committee discussed a “Best Practices” resource for Junior Members. Best practices were solicited from Physics departments and Junior members were notified of the resource - <http://www.aps.org/careers/guidance/postdoc-best-practices.cfm>.

CoMem will continue to monitor the growth of the Society membership and investigate ways to provide the appropriate benefits and services to all APS members.