

Committee on Membership (CoMem), Report for 2007

The 2007 Committee on Membership was made up by Donald Morelli; Chair, Bruce Barrett, Michael Flatte, Judy Franz, Koblar Jackson, Zheng-Tian Lu, David Reid, Sudha Srinivas and Minesh Bacrania; Student Representative.

The Committee met twice in 2007. Issues addressed during the year are included below.

Membership Statistics:

- The official APS member count taken in January 2007 was 46,293, up by more than 800 from the previous year. Recruitment remained strong with over 6,300 new and reinstated members processed throughout 2007. Retention efforts by APS staff continue to be a main focus of the Membership Department so that growth from recruitment efforts will be recognized in future years.

Member Surveys:

- CoMem worked closely with the Committee on International Scientific Affairs (CISA) in 2007 to complete a survey on members' awareness of APS International Programs. The online survey was sent to a random sampling of approximately 6,000 U.S. resident members and also assessed the level of experience among U.S. resident members with colleagues in other countries as well as the extent to which U.S. resident members have either worked or earned academic degrees abroad. CISA will be using the results of the survey for future review and discussion of APS International Programs.

Friends of APS:

- The Friends of APS program, started in 2000, increased to 148 participants. Friends are APS members who are identified at universities and institutions where they can communicate with current and potential members. Friends are sent information regarding membership, programs, and benefits throughout the year that is intended to be shared with colleagues and students.

Membership Benefits & Programs:

- In an effort to continue to improve customer service for members, students joining APS through the Free Trial Student Membership offer can now join directly online. Up until 2007, this was a manual entry process for staff. With only a review procedure now in place to complete an application, processing time has improved by 2 weeks in some cases.

- In addition, paying student members can now keep up to two unit memberships at no cost for as long as they are a student. Current student members are being notified prior to their renewal so they may select the unit memberships they would like to keep, making their membership renewal more affordable.

- The Committee also oversaw the addition of a new member benefit option in 2007. Added to the list of subscriptions available to members at a reduced cost is an APS & AIP Joint Article Pack. The Joint Article Pack is a more flexible option compared to the APS Article pack added a year ago. The new offering allows members to access articles across applicable APS and AIP

journals under one subscription. The APS/AIP Pack comes with either a 15 or 30 article option costing \$53 or \$105 respectively.

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

Donald Morelli, Chair, CoMem 2007

Trish Lettieri, APS Director of Membership