



# MINUTES

## Professional Divisions Committee

October 31, 2017

Vince Gilbert (OPD Chair, PDC Interim Chair), Members at Large: Robert Hayes, Thomas Snow, Thomas Sutton; Division Reps: Reginald Ronningen (AAD), Jeffrey King (ANSTD), Greg Downing (BMD), James Byrne (DESD), Jef Lucchini (FCWMD), Arnold Lumsdaine and Keith Rule (FED), Igor Jovanovic (IRD), Rachel Slaybaugh (MCD), Deborah Hill (NCSD), Matthew Denman (NISD), Zachary Jankovsky, (NISD), Stephen Hancock, and Brycen Wendt (OPD), Valerie Vasilievas (Liaison)

**Present:**

**Next meeting:** [Tuesday, June 19, 2018, Marriott Philadelphia Downtown, PA]

### I. Preliminaries

1.1 Roll Call: Gilbert called the meeting to order at 4:07pm.

1.2 Welcome and Introductions: Gilbert welcomed the meeting participants and introductions were made by all.

### II. Discussion

2.1 President's Meeting with Chairs Debrief: Gilbert gave a debriefing of the Sunday President's meeting with all chairs. Included are the following:  
The focus is that we need to change. We cannot keep continuing down the same path. Without change to our organization, we are on a path of becoming irrelevant and insolvent. We need a stronger organizational foundation to grow forward, which includes clarity and commitment to our mission, priorities and roles alignment among the Board, volunteers and staff, a focus on value provided to stakeholders, and a forward looking perspective. To do this, we need to develop a plan and work aggressively to make as much progress as quickly as possible. Though this will not be completed in a year, the target is to get a lot accomplished in an 18-month period. Coward is working with his Special Committee on Society Value to formulate a plan to develop, own and lead a multi-year project plan and ultimately a change management plan. He said this plan will begin to lay the foundation for the improvements of the Society. His role will be to take a 'step back' and let the leaders in this group as well as the full special committee do their work and he will stay involved as a sponsor and 'emergency manager'. The special committee's role will work in parallel to identify the specific changes to increase value. The first will be to fix the organizational part, which may include committee and division consolidation and/or re-alignment. The Board's role will be to provide oversight of the plan.

2.2 PDC Workshop: Gilbert gave an overview of the NPC presentation Chair Chip Martin gave (see presentation for details).

2.3 Collaborate: Gilbert noted that headquarters recently created a beta test group made up of leaders to discuss functionality issues, current tools the system has plus new proposed tools. He encouraged division members to use. He also mentioned that OPD has their own set of instructions and will send to the other divisions to provide assistance with usage of the system.

2.4 Knowledge Transfer: Gilbert noted that Gougar put together an activity calendar with embedded links to ANS resources that should provide usefulness to the divisions. This newly created 'roadmap' is a good tool and encourages all divisions to take this calendar and tailor it to their specific division. The calendar is available on the PDC page (under the Administrative section) of the ANS website. He also explained that OPD has a training manual that is sent to their new officers and executive committee members every May and it's been extremely helpful in providing guidance to the new members.

2.5 Proposed Rule Change: Snow presented the proposed Rule change to the PDC description in the Society Rules - R7.1.4 (i). The reason for the revisions is to make the language of the PDC responsibilities more clear and to provide a summary of what the committee is doing currently. The revisions are outlined below.

Current Rule 7.1.4(i)

The Professional Divisions Committee shall be responsible for the proper conduct of the Professional Divisions and Technical Groups. The committee shall cooperate with individuals and groups interested in the formation of Divisions and Technical Groups, assisting them in the preparation of statements and a petition, and in other organizational and operating procedures (see also R18.1, R18.3, R18.6, R18.7.2).

This committee shall be composed of not fewer than six (6) and not more than twelve (12) Fellows, Members, Student, Emeritus, or Honorary Life Members, each appointed to a three (3) year term, with the terms of approximately one-third (1/3) of the members expiring at the close of each Annual Meeting. In addition, the chair and vice-chair of each Professional Division (each Division, however, shall have only one vote), and the chair and vice-chair of each Technical Group (similarly, each Group shall have only one vote) shall be ex officio members. At least one appointed member of the committee shall be on the Board of Directors. The chair of the committee shall become an ex officio member of the Executive Committee of each Division and Group. The chair of the Program Committee, or a representative designated by the chair, shall serve as an ex officio member.

Proposed Rule 7.1.4(i) (only the first paragraph is changed)

*The Professional Divisions Committee shall be responsible for coordinating and promoting activities among Professional Divisions to resolve common issues and pursue common objectives. The Committee shall advise the Board of Directors on policies affecting, or affected, by the professional and technical pursuits of its members. The Committee shall monitor and promote the health of Divisions in serving their members and the Society as a whole. The committee shall provide advice to individuals and groups interested in the formation of Divisions and Technical Groups, assisting them in*

*the preparation of statements and a petitions, resolving conflicts in technical scope between divisions, and in implementing organizational and operating procedures.*

This committee shall be composed of not fewer than ~~6~~ six (6) and not more than twelve (12) Fellows, Members, Student, Emeritus, or Honorary Life Members, each appointed to a three (3) year term, with the terms of approximately one-third (1/3) of the members expiring at the close of each Annual Meeting. In addition, the chair and vice-chair of each Professional Division (each Division, however, shall have only one vote), and the chair and vice-chair of each Technical Group (similarly, each Group shall have only one vote) shall be ex officio members. At least one appointed member of the committee shall be on the Board of Directors. The chair of the committee shall become an ex officio member of the Executive Committee of each Division and Group. The chair of the Program Committee, or a representative designated by the chair, shall serve as an ex officio member.

After discussion, Gilbert asked for a motion to approve with the above amendments as listed above in red text.

To approve the revisions to R7.1.4 (i) with the amendments as noted above.

Motion: Arnold Lumsdaine  
Second: Rachel Slaybaugh  
Vote: Unanimous Approval

## 2.6 Honors and Awards Restructuring

Honors and Awards Committee Chair Tom Sutton gave an overview of a proposal the committee has been working on in which the goal is to have it completed and vote upon on or by June 2018 so the awards can be rolled out in June. Sutton then went on to explain that with the assistance of Jim Behrens and Gale Hauck on the proposal language is the creation of a two-tiered award structure. The top tier would house the three awards at the level of the Seaborg Medal and the second tier would house all of the other awards. In addition, the committee is working on considering eliminating approximately 5-10 awards that have not been given out in the past decade.

Sutton explained the reason for this is that the current awards structure is essentially flat with little to no distinction made between the division and society awards. Some awards have a very narrow scope while others are much broader.

After discussion on pros and cons, the PDC is in agreeance with this proposal and encourages the Honors and Awards Committee to proceed forward.

Sutton also noted that there have been issues with the awards being presented at the Opening Plenary and President's Special Session and that ongoing work is continuing to improve these presentations.

2.7 Young Professionals Congress: Gilbert gave a debrief on the Young Professionals Congress (YPC) that took place on Saturday. He said it was a successful meeting with approximately 120 in attendance. PD members also provided good feedback. Gilbert recommends that for future YPCs to send out announcements earlier in advance. This may draw larger participation.

### **III. Roundtable**

3.1 Bylaws and Rules: Snow stated the committee is in the process of going through a backlog of reviews and should have the majority of them done by year-end.

3.2 Membership: Wendt noted that there is a challenge with getting non-ANS members that attend the annual Utility Working Conference (UWC) to join ANS. He suggested an idea of generating a report of non-members who attend the UWC, talk to the conference organizers and push to get these non-members to join the Society. Brief discussion took place. Slaybaugh pointed out that we need to ensure we have a compelling reason for them to join ANS. Gilbert said the OPD Executive Committee will work with the UWC organizers and the Society's Membership Committee to conduct some research on this and will work to engage the utilities more into the Society.

### **IV. Adjourn**

There being no further business to conduct, Gilbert asked for a motion to adjourn.

To adjourn the October 31, 2017 Professional Divisions Committee meeting.

Motion: Keith Rule

Second: Robert Hayes

Vote: Unanimous Approval

The meeting adjourned at 5:07pm.





