

Minutes of the 2006 Biennial General Meeting of the Physics Education Group (PEG) of the Australian Institute of Physics

Held on Wednesday, 6 December, 2006 at 12:20 pm in Room P5, Brisbane Convention Centre, Brisbane during the 17th Biennial Congress of the AIP

Present

Pal Fekete (Chair), Atit Bhargave, Elizabeth Chelkowska, Stephen Collis, John Daicopolous, Cathy Foley, Katherine Legge, Michelle Livett, Alex Merchant, Derek Muller, Judith Pollard, Anton Rayner, Manjula Sharma, Choksin Tanahuong, Margaret Wegener, Sura Wuttiprom, Shelley Yeo, Mario Zadnik.

1. Welcome

In the absence of the PEG Convenor (Geoff Swan), Pal Fekete chaired the meeting and welcomed members.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting (2nd February 2005)

The Minutes were accepted. (Moved: Margaret Wegener, Seconded: Michelle Livett.)

3. Review of role of PEG

There was general discussion of the purpose of PEG and the role of the convenor.

The main purposes of PEG were identified as:

- to provide a network for those interested in physics education;
- to liaise with a wider network in relation to the project funded by the Carrick Institute;
- to encourage physicists to be involved in secondary education.

The meeting confirmed that membership is open to physics educators at both secondary and tertiary level.

4. Election of Committee

The following nominations were received:

Convenor: Alex Merchant

Deputy Convenor: Katherine Legge

State Representatives: David Low (ACT), Manjula Sharma (NSW), Margaret Wegener (Qld), Judith Pollard (SA), Elizabeth Chelkowska (Tas), Michelle Livett (Vic), Mario Zadnik (WA).

In the absence of any further nominations, the above were elected.

It was suggested that State representatives should also be members of the AIP Branch Committee or its Education Committee.

5. Physics Education Group Conference 2008

It was agreed that there should be a Physics Education presence at the 2008 AIP Congress. Judith Pollard agreed to be the PEG representative on the organising committee.

6. Education medal

No nominations were received for this medal in 2006. The incoming committee was urged to raise the profile of this award.

7. Other business

MS expressed thanks and congratulations on behalf of all PEG members to Margaret Wegener for her work in organising the PEG conference, and especially for arranging Prof Eric Mazur as plenary speaker.

The meeting closed at 12:55pm.