

## VII-D-Publications-SciX 2017

### Items Discussed at Spring 2017 SAS Publications Committee Meeting

*The following should remain confidential (SAS Executive Committee, Applied Spectroscopy Editor, SAS Executive Director, etc)*

#### Meeting Location/Date:

**Pittcon 2017**

**Monday, March 6, 2017**

**Room 101B McCormick Place**

**Chicago, IL**

**Present:** David McCurdy (chair), John Wasylyk (past Chair), Laura Bush (Chair Elect), Rebecca Airmet, Don Pivonka, Mike Blades, Peter Griffiths, Anna Donnell, Shawn Chen, Bill Cunningham, Diane Parry, Greg Kluder, Mike Carrabba, Ellen Miseo, Bonnie Saylor.

#### **Summaries of the reports and discussion follow.**

Newsletter Editor's Report (Shawn Chen): Shawn discussed survey feedback that described the desire to have a more personal touch (member profiles and interviews) and to comment/report on STEM outreach ideas with newsletter articles. Additionally, he has enlisted the help of four other members on the Newsletter.

Web Editor's Report (Anna Donnell): Anna updated the committee on the progress on the new website design. Comments to her included the desire to have Tour speaker information, current events, and methods to distribute information to SAS members. Some discussion on an approach to provide input to officers and other SAS committees also occurred. A question was raised but not answered. This was, "How do we get members to submit more current content?"

Advertising Sales Report (Bill Cunningham): Digital membership is increasing. Revenues from the journal are generally flat, with increases tied to the digital side of the journal.

#### Journal Editor's Report (Mike Blades):

- 2016 was a transition year from Allen Press to Sage Publishing. Numerous changes in the manuscript and tracking systems, production processes, and journal hosting system were made resulting in challenges. Substantial strides were made in adjustment, due to the diligence and hard-work of the editor-in-chief, editor, associate editors and Sage. The new journal hosting system offers benefits in tracking article reads and downloads, offers better marketing tools, and provides a dedicated project management team for the site.

- Retirement of Peter Griffiths as Editor: The committee recognized Peter's for his outstanding and selfless contributions to the journal and society.
- Current Goals of the Editor-in-Chief include: 1) a move to increase the number of papers submitted to the journal, 2) Remove the current backlog of accepted papers, 3) Assess whether good paper submissions are reviewed well and in a timely fashion, 4) Ways to improve the impact factor of the journal (focused papers, applications, special editions of applications, teaching professional papers, and 5) the possibility of open access to full issues, applied issues or special issues. Discussion included topics in which special issues might cover.

#### Old Business (John Wasylyk)

- Last fall, a call to solicit applicants for an Editor position to replace Peter Griffiths was made. Three applications were received, with the Publications Committee members reviewing each applicant. A committee conference prior to Pittcon call resulted in unanimous agreement to forward the nomination of Professor Sergey Kasarian for the editor position.

A formal nomination of Professor Kasarian for editor was made at this meeting. Discussion occurred and a unanimous vote to offer the position to him occurred. John Wasylyk forwarded an offer letter on behalf of the committee on the same day and Professor Kasarian accepted that offer shortly after receipt of the letter.

Professor Kasarian is well qualified, familiar with the society and Applied Spectroscopy. He will be a strong addition to the Editorial team.

#### New Business (David McCurdy): Discussion of a number of New Items Occurred. They included:

- The investigation of a new SAS journal on LIBS is proceeding. Mike Blades and Sage will work to bring the investigation and negotiations forward.
- Tied to the consideration of the LIBS journal, Greg Kluder is discussing the possibility of creating an agreement with NASALIBS (North American Society of LIBS) to incorporate this organization into SAS membership or include joint Society activities.
- Bill Cunningham and Ellen Miseo are visiting with editors of trade magazines to build up more support of the focal point articles in Applied Spectroscopy as a mechanism to increasing the impact of journal papers.
- A discussion was made on mechanisms for passing Society and Journal news releases to help increase the impact of the journal, particularly through targeted email lists. Methods to increase the database of potential journal users are needed.

*Respectfully Submitted*

*August 21, 2017*

*David L. McCurdy*

*Chair, Publications Committee*