

Minutes for March 2002 Meeting of Tri-State OSA

- Meeting Date and Time: March 26, 2002, 6:30 p.m.
- Meeting Place: Hunan Springs restaurant, Wescosville, PA
- Attendees: Dao Phan, Jihua Du, Don Havas, Ernie Bergmann, Keith Wolfe, Bettina Nechay, Ken Ghiron, and Margaret Ghiron.

Officer Activities:

Ken Ghiron reported that he disbursed funds of \$400 to cover the science fair prizes awarded at the Lehigh Valley Science and Engineering Fair and the Berks County Science Fair. The \$400 funded 6 separate prizes (\$50 / prize for 4 prizes at Lehigh Valley, and \$100 / prize for 2 prizes at Berks County). After writing the checks for the total of \$400, \$550 remains in the Tri-State OSA account.

Dao Phan confirmed that the first speaker for a Tri-State OSA talk will be Dave Coult of Agere Systems. To avoid the expenses associated with renting a room (in the absence of a faculty sponsor) at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, the talk will be held at Lafayette College in Easton.

Science Fairs and Awards:

Ernie Bergmann reported on his experience judging the PJAS Science Fair and the Lehigh Valley Science and Engineering Fair. Student participation in these events is quite considerable: about 500 students contributed to the Lehigh Valley Science Fair (3-15 – 3-16-02), and about 700 presented at PJAS Science Fair (2-23-02).

Prizes were not awarded at PJAS because it was not possible to set this up in time for the event. Ernie has sent an inquiry to PJAS concerning awards for optics-related projects, and is still awaiting a response. The presentations at the Lehigh Valley Science Fair that were lumped into the “optics” category were something of a mixed bag. A couple of projects were excellent, while others had rather tenuous relations to optics or optics-related technology. For this reason, it is advisable to advertise an “optics” award prior to the events so that students can focus their projects in this area at an earlier date.

The Berks County Science Fair coincided with the March Tri-State OSA meeting, so Bill Heffner will report on this at the April meeting.

Future talks:

The first talk, entitled “Thin Film Coatings in DWDM” will be given by Dave Coult (of Agere Systems) at Lafayette College in Easton on May 7, 2002. Bill Heffner and Dao Phan will finalize the arrangements for the talk. Ken Ghiron will generate a flyer for the talk that will include the title, date and location, and an abstract if one is available. The

logistics and other planning for the talk will be discussed in more detail at the April meeting.

Next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on the third Tuesday of April (April 26), in the conference room at SAI Optics at 860 Broad Street in Emmaus, PA. Pizza and drinks will be ordered and delivered to this location.