

## **Minutes of a meeting of physics students**

4 July 2006, University of the Western Cape, 11:40

### **1. Opening and welcome**

Mr. Attie Combrink opened the meeting and welcomed all the attendees.

### **2. Attendance**

An attendance register was circulated.

### **3. Matters for Discussion under “General”**

One item was added to the agenda, as indicated below.

### **4. Minutes Of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting was accepted without change.

### **5. Matters Arising From Minutes**

#### **5.a. Web-forum**

The attendees were encouraged to make use of the physics student web forum set up by UKZN.

#### **5.b. Posting of job and study opportunities**

The attendees were reminded that one of the benefits of SAIP Student Membership is the regular postings of job and study opportunities for physics students.

#### **5.c. Duration of funding**

Following the requests of students at the previous meeting, the matter of

funding duration for physics bursaries was mentioned to the SAIP Council.

**5.d. Informal / social activities exclusive to SAIP students**

The attendees were informed that, starting from the 2006 Annual Conference, there will be social / informal activities exclusive to the students, e.g. a finger lunch and interaction with the plenary speakers.

**5.e. Visits to National Facilities**

Visits to the National Facilities in the vicinity of the Annual Conference venue cannot be arranged by the student committee, as this carries big logistical responsibilities.

**5.f. Election of Student Committee**

Attendees are encouraged to attend their respective specialist group meetings to nominate and elect student representatives. The student representatives from the different specialist groups would form the new student committee.

**5.g. Student activities other than annual conference**

At the previous meeting, a request was made that events other than the annual conference should be organised for students. It was mentioned that attempts would be made to organise a student workshop during January 2007 in Gauteng, should sponsorship be forthcoming.

**6. Approval of “Terms of Reference” for SAIP Student Committee**

The ToR document was approved without amendment.

**7. Discussion: Community involvement of Physics Students**

Mr Kevin Govender led a discussion about community involvement. Students were invited to provide suggestions about how to better interact with the

community and Mr Govender invited students to participate in some of the events he organised. One of the concerns raised was that these events usually focussed only on Gauteng, kwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape, while the less populated provinces were neglected.

## **8. General**

### **8.a. SAIP Office**

Attendees were informed that a permanent SAIP office would be established in the near future. This would significantly increase the benefits of SAIP membership.

## **9. Closure**

The chairperson closed the meeting. No date has been set for the next meeting.