

[Note from Mike Boteler] At the present time the bylaws of our Topical Group authorize the creation of five committees. This year some problems/issues have developed regarding the composition of the nomination committee and the awards committee, the duration of member terms, and the specific start/end dates of service. Most of the confusion arises due to Topical Group bylaw wording, which combines the duties of Fellow selection and Shock Compression Science Award selection. Ken Cole at APS informed me that we are the only Topical Group that does this. All others form two committees. A Selection Committee for prizes/awards (appointed by APS) and a Fellowship Committee (appointed by the Topical Group Chair). I believe this approach is to our benefit in that we maintain control over the latter committee. In addition, the respective Committee duties are clearer and we may be specific about terms of tenure. I welcome discussion on the proposed changes to Article VIII of the Topical Group bylaws to address these issues. The proposed changes are in red font. Let me know what you think, also read the end remark with suggestions from Ken Cole.

ARTICLE VIII -- APPOINTED COMMITTEES

1. **Nominating Committee.** The Nominating Committee shall consist of at least three, and no more than five, members appointed by the Chair to staggered two-year terms, at least one of which should be a member of the Executive Committee. **In addition, one member shall be appointed by the President of the Society for a one year term coinciding with the Chair tenure***. Every attempt shall be made to ensure that the Nominating Committee is constituted from academia, industry and government laboratories. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a slate of candidates for the positions of Vice-Chair, Secretary-Treasurer, and Members-at-Large of the Executive Committee according to Article VII.3 of these Bylaws. The Nominating Committee shall advise the Chair on suitable candidates for Society committees, including relevant Society Prize and Award committees, and on candidates for Society offices. The recommendations shall be made at least 90 days prior to the Business and Executive Committee Meeting at which election results are reported. The Nominating Committee should strive to nominate slates of candidates that will provide a distribution of Officers and Steering Committee members among government laboratories, government-affiliated laboratories, industry and universities.

***Note that this an APS requirement.**

2. **Topical Group Meeting Committee.** The Chair of the Topical Group shall appoint a member of the Topical Group to serve as Chair of the biennial Topical Group Meeting on Shock Compression of Condensed Matter. The Chair of the Topical Group Meeting shall appoint a technical program committee to assist in the organization of the meeting. The Meetings Committee, in consultation with the Secretary-Treasurer, shall have the responsibility for setting the dates of the meeting, establishing a tentative budget and submitting a proposal to the Chair of the Topical Group. Approval of the proposal by the Executive Committee shall be given at the Business and Executive Committee Meeting of the Topical Group, held two years before the Topical Group meeting is to be held.
3. **Technical Publications Committee.** The Chair of the Topical Group Meeting Committee, in conjunction with the Chair, shall appoint a Chair of the Publications

Committee who will serve as Editor for publishing the proceedings of the Topical Group Meeting on Shock Compression of Condensed Matter. The tenure of this position shall not be fixed, since the publication activity requires a long-term commitment. The Publications Chair shall be responsible for obtaining APS signatures on contracts relating to publication of meeting proceedings.

4. **Award Selection Committee.** - The Selection Committee to choose the recipient(s) of the biennial Shock Compression Science Award shall be appointed by the President of the Society after consulting the Topical Group and receiving their recommendations*. The past Award winner automatically serves on this committee.

*This is required under APS bylaws Article IV

5. **Fellowship Committee.** The Fellowship Committee shall consist of three members of the Topical Group who are Fellows. They will be appointed by the Executive Committee, upon recommendation of the Chair, to two-year terms commencing on January 01 of the year in which the Chair assumes office and end on December 31 of the following year. The Chair shall appoint the Chair of the Fellowship Committee. The Fellowship Committee shall promote the nomination of candidates for Fellowship, shall review the qualifications of such candidates, and shall report its recommendations to the Executive Committee for approval before submission is made to the Executive Secretary of the Society.
6. **Terms of Office of Appointed Committee Members.** Except for the Chair of the Technical Publications Committee, the terms of committee members appointed or recommended by an incoming Chair shall commence on **January 01** of the year in which the Chair assumes office and end on **December 31 of the following year.**
7. **Ad Hoc Committees.** The Chair shall appoint other ad hoc committees as necessary, which shall serve only during his or her term as Chair

Also, Ken Cole @ APS goes on to say " If you want to run a copy of revised unit bylaws by me when you are ready, I would be happy to look them over and then pass them on to the APS Constitution & Bylaws committee before going to the Council in November for final approval. In the meantime, I think your chair could appoint an ad hoc committee (or go with a hybrid committee with as many members of the award selection committee as you can to keep in the spirit of the current bylaws) to handle the fellowship nominations for this year."