

Activities of the University Fusion Association

D.P. Brennan
Princeton University

Presented at the Fusion Power Associates meeting
Washington, DC
December 11, 2013

UFA is a registered non-profit organization interested solely in the advocacy of university fusion research and education. Historically a force of direct communication with Washington, organization of planning workshops (Snowmass 99,02), and community leadership.

The UFA membership and governance is strong and active

President: Dylan Brennan (Princeton University)

Vice President: Uri Shumlak (University of Washington)

Executive Committee

Troy Carter (University of California Los Angeles)

Brett Chapman (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Richard Ellis (University of Maryland)

William Heidbrink (University of California Irvine)

David Maurer (Auburn University)

Tobin Munsat (University of Colorado)

Francois Waelbroeck (University of Texas)

Andrew Ware (University of Montana)

Harold Weitzner (New York University)

Dennis Whyte (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Secretary/Treasurer: Brian Nelson (University of Washington)

Past President: David Anderson (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Rotating off at the end of 2013: Whyte, Ware, Munsat

Newly Elected Members for 2014:

Paul Bellan (Caltech)

Michael Brown (Swarthmore)

Martin Greenwald (M.I.T.)

Michael Mauel (Columbia)

Current membership approximately 200, up ~10% in 2013

Almost entirely faculty and researchers at over 40 universities

Annual activities of the UFA are numerous and diverse in advocacy of university fusion programs

Activities primarily include hosted meetings and events, representation by the president at outside events, white papers, and community communications. Coordinated by frequent ExComm communication

Annual Meeting at the APS-DPP

- E. Synakowski (DOE) "Update on the Fusion Energy Sciences Program"
- D. Meade (Fusion Innovation Research and Energy): "Framework for a Roadmap to Magnetic Fusion Energy: Status Report"
- M. Mael: "Building a Consensus in the Formation of Science Strategy"

Meeting Participation and Outreach

- Fusion Day – one pager
- Magnetic Fusion Program Leadership
 - Several meetings; Visits to Congress, OMB, DOE
 - White paper: "What Can a Strong Magnetic Fusion Program Accomplish in 10 Years?"
- Fusion Power Associates

Survey on three year trends in FTEs and workforce moral.

- Work in progress on trend over recent year: significant impact

New website! www.universityfusion.org

STABILITY is extremely important in university funding

Our university programs in fusion science provide critical contributions to the mission

- education
- high quality research
- leadership
- innovation
- advocacy

The size of university programs change on long timescales, especially in the incremental direction. Instantiation of any new university faculty position or program is difficult at best.

The stability of funding for fusion research is Key to the sustainment of a robust university community

- research programs are large, long term investments by university, private or state
- tenure track positions are difficult to establish and invaluable to this community
- partnership based on trust
- recent abrupt cuts are having a devastating effect at universities
 - number of smaller research programs have been shuttered
- UFA is concerned about the long term future of our university fusion education
 - enduring impact on workforce provision / university footprint

Universities are an essential part of the US fusion program, need STABLE support!