1986 Executive Council Meeting

The AAAI Executive Council Meeting was held August 12, 1986 in Salon 10, Franklin Plaza Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from 6:30-10:00 p.m.


Financial Status of the Association
As of the end of July 31st, the AAAI had current assets of over $2.5M in the bank

Standing Committee Reports
Conference Committee [Marty Tenenbaum reporting]: Apparently the technical program split is working and this year's conference seems to be satisfactory to many people.

Publication Committee [Lee Erman reporting]: If the magazine gets its second class permit, then next year's magazine expenses will be reduced. Committee recommended that we find an associate editor for Bob Engelmore. They also recommended that we forge more cooperative relationships with IEEE and the ACM.

Because of the tremendous production pressure to create a fifth "conference" issue, it will be eliminated and replaced with an advertising supplement. It was recommended to replace the Book Editor.

Strategic Planning Committee [Raj Reddy reporting]: Expand the Special Interest Groups for the association. AI in Manufacturing will be the next special interest group. Ted Shortliffe will develop guidelines for the formation and conduct of these SIGs.

Review of Sunday Meeting's Recommendations
All agreed to conduct the conference survey and to hire a financial planner. Further discussion on the "AAAI Consultancy" concept ensued. Some comments included: "How do we retain people from leaving the university? Supplement their salaries during the summer?" [J Bobrow], "There is a strong trend that people are just not going into research at all. How do we counter this trend?" [E Charniak], "Let's look at the CIAR fellowships from Canada as a model" [Rosenstein]. "Give tax-free monies to university as a fellowship as a means of reducing the teaching load" [T Shortliffe]. "People need a break after they complete their Ph D and before they start teaching." [M Minsky].

Lenat is commissioned to look into this proposal and present his recommendations at the next Executive Council meeting.

Membership Chair
Since the duties of this chair have been assumed by the office staff, there is no need to have this position any more. It was voted to eliminate it.

New Topics
Council approved the partial payment of the invited speakers. It was approved to use the assets of the AAAI to indemnify the officers from lawsuits or to continue to get Directors and Officers' insurance. Nominating Committee should invite suggestions for officers and councilors each fall in the AI Magazine.

Informal Executive Council Meeting
This meeting was held Sunday, 10 August in Salon 8, Franklin Plaza Hotel Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.


Scholarships/Fellowships
Scholarship/Fellowship Committee should be appointed to expand this year's scholarship program. McCarthy has recommended to NSF to initiate fellowships in AI for post graduates. It was felt AAAI should try to initiate its own fellowship program. Lenat suggested that we have a "AAAI Consultancy" positions in which individuals may receive additional support over and above their current salary to pursue their research. Winston recommended that we investigate this particular recommendation.

Science/Engineering Division
Some felt the divisional name in this year's technical program should be changed; they did not like the strict dichotomy. Others thought it was too early to divide the world into two divisions. Recommendations were made to eliminate the dichotomy in the Call for Papers. Introduce broad interest papers in the middle of the week rather than have invited talks and panels.

General Conference Comments
All agreed to study why people attend the conference; we would hire an outside consultant to perform this survey. One recommendation suggested that AI keep in contact with the robotics community by sharing and exchanging each group's best conference paper. We need to introduce more intimacy into the conference: some suggested "Meet the Expert" roundtables, expand the attendance in the workshops.

Other Competition
Raj Reddy introduced the concept of Electronic Transactions in which the AAAI establishes a number of editorial boards to review submitted papers. Then, the AAAI keeps on-line those accepted papers for storage and
retrieval. Raj was commissioned to investigate this recommendation.

Other Recommendations
Hire a professional financial planner. Investigate a connection with AFIPS.

AAAI Financial Statement
December 31, 1986

Auditor’s Statement
We have examined the balance sheet of American Association for Artificial Intelligence as of December 31, 1986, and the related statements of income, fund balance and changes in financial position for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and, included such tests as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the aforementioned financial statements present fairly the financial position of American Association for Artificial Intelligence as of December 31, 1986, and the results of operations and changes in financial position for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a consistent basis.

—Goss & Marcussen

Liabilities and Fund Balance

Current Liabilities
Accounts and contract payable $215,368
Uncarved membership fees $168,050
Accrued expenses 400
Total Current Liabilities $383,818
Fund Balance 3,243,399

Statement of Income and Fund Balance

Gross Profit (Loss), By Activity:
AI Magazine $155,952
Conference —AAAI '86 475,298
Memberships 208,138
Tutorials 671,701
Exhibits 599,619
Proceedings 10,197
Workshops 220
AI Journal 6,125
Interest income 139,524
Grants & gifts expended (83,811)
Conference—IJCAI '85, paid in 1986 1,804
Gross Profit, Combined 2,184,767
Total Operating Expenses 392,359
Net Income 1,792,408
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year 1,562,319
Prior Period Adjustment 3 (111,328)
Fund Balance, End of Year 3,243,399

Notes to Financial Statements

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies
A. Method of Accounting:
The financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting
B. Inventory:
Magazine and tutorials inventory is valued at estimated cost per issue times the number of issues on hand at year-end
C. Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment:
Furniture, fixtures and equipment are stated at cost, less accumulated depreciation
Depreciation is computed on the straight-line method over estimated useful lives of five to ten years. Furniture, fixtures and equipment consist of the following at December 31, 1986:

- Cost $69,209
- Accumulated depreciation (25,946)
- Net $43,263

D. Income Taxes:
American Association for Artificial Intelligence is exempt from income taxes under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and Section 23701 (d) of the California Revenue and Taxation Code

Appendix B: Accounting Policies

Statement of Income and Fund Balance—Note 2

Gross Profit, Combined 2,184,767
Total Operating Expenses 392,359
Net Income 1,792,408
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year 1,562,319
Prior Period Adjustment 3 (111,328)
Fund Balance, End of Year 3,243,399

Note 3: Prior Period Adjustment
By agreement with IJCAI, Inc, AAAI is to share revenue earned by the IJCAI '85 conference with IJCAI, Inc. At December 31, 1985, information necessary to accrue an accurate amount due IJCAI, Inc was unavailable. Subsequent analysis using data supplied by IJCAI, Inc indicates that $186,328 is still due IJCAI, Inc at December 31, 1986. The prior period adjustment has the effect of decreasing AAAI's share of net revenue earned from the IJCAI '85 conference by $111,328.

Note 4: Memberships
Membership in the American Association for Artificial Intelligence is $25 for regular members, $15 for student members, and $50 for academic/corporate library subscriptions. Twenty-five percent of all membership fees received is allocated to AI Magazine. Revenues from membership fees are earned ratably over the respective twelve month membership period.

AI Magazine

Production Notes

This issue of the AI Magazine was edited on Digital Equipment Model 2060 computers using the EMACS word processing program. Completed files were downloaded to Macintosh Plus computers, and formatted in Microsoft's Word wordprocessing program. Illustrations were scanned and redrawn using Adobe's Illustrator program. Paste-up was done electronically with Quark Express. Final output was produced on Mergenthaler Linotronic 300 typesetting equipment.

Special thanks are owed to David Blatner for his able assistance in formatting this issue of the Magazine.