

ABLE @ University of Delaware

Hosts: Profs. Bob Hodson, Linda Dion, and Bob Ketcham

The University of Delaware, Newark, will host the 2009 annual meeting Tuesday June 9 through Saturday June 13. We have delayed it one week into June to avoid conflict with Nascar races at Dover Downs. A tentative agenda is attached.

The University has an Office of Conferences. It provides a whole range of services for a set fee of \$25 per attendee. This includes designing the conference website and forms for registration and housing, collecting fees, arranging room rentals and transportation, and the like. It accepts payment only by credit card and will collect membership dues. One nice feature on the workshop choice form will be a way of indicating when workshops are full so there will be instant feedback on availability.

Newark is near I-95 between Philadelphia and Baltimore. It is closer to Philadelphia and air travelers would be better served by using the Philadelphia International Airport (PHL). Ground shuttles are available and may be reserved in advance; the one-way fare with drop off at housing has been about \$35 but that may change under pressure from the rising cost of fuel.

Housing in a new air-conditioned dormitory, a dining hall for breakfasts, and a conference center where the Board meeting and Tuesday evening reception will be held are situated in a tight cluster. Also nearby is the Courtyard by Marriott hotel where 15 rooms have been reserved and meals may be obtained. Within a 10-minute walk is Main Street offering numerous restaurants and pubs.

Workshops will be held in McKinly Laboratory occupied by part of the Departments of Biological Sciences and Psychology and the entire department of Physical Therapy. The building is a 15 to 20-minute conversation-pace walk from housing (some shuttles will be provided). Twelve teaching laboratories, all on the same floor (lower level), can accommodate approximately 240 attendees in groups of 20. Some have computers (Mac and PC) and video projectors. There is also a nearby computer lab with 25 workstations, 2 multimedia rooms with white boards and projectors, and places for conference registration and vendors. Extensive lighted hallways have more than 50 permanently attached poster boards. One workshop may be held in the main library which is about 5 minutes away. An attached building, Wolf Hall, has an auditorium seating 300.

The traditional Wednesday night mixer, sponsored by Hayden-McNeil Publishing, will be held in the Trabant Student Center which is situated roughly between the workshop and housing locations.

Thursday noon and evening are reserved for dining in area establishments.

The Friday evening banquet will be held at Longwood Gardens. This is a fabulous venue with extensive indoor and outdoor horticultural displays which need exploring for at least two hours. Therefore we plan to end afternoon mini workshops by about 3:30pm, arrive at Longwood about 4:45, have dinner at 7:00, and stay long enough for the lighted outdoor fountain display at 9-9:30pm.

Several potential Tuesday afternoon and all day Saturday outings have been assembled. The list will need to be culled to stay within our budget. Therefore the possibilities will be described at the General Meeting and a survey of interest conducted either in paper form or later electronically. Potential outings include the following.

Tuesday

- **Campus tour** – Physical Therapy research area (participation in stress tests), Morris Library Student Multimedia Design Center (location of possible major workshop on creating a video podcast), Agricultural campus (research on native versus alien plants and possible stop at heated outdoor pool), and Delaware Biotechnology Institute (3D macromolecule and human organ image projection room).
- **Stroud Water Research Center** – Site of pioneering research on rivers and streams and a possible major workshop.
- **Hagley Museum** – Where DuPont Company started with manufacture of gunpowder.
- **Winterthur** – Famous museum of early American architecture and extensive horticultural surroundings.
- **Mt. Cuba Center** – Many acres “dedicated to the study, conservation, and appreciation of plants native to the Appalachian Piedmont Region.”

Saturday

- **Lewes, DE** – This tour could include visits to the Bombay Hook Wildlife Refuge for birding and the UD Marine Station for viewing some research projects, a possible cruise on Delaware’s tall ship the Kalmar Nyckel, exploration of historic Lewes, beach combing, sightseeing at the WWII defense installation with large gun and observation tower, a nature walk, and dining on local seafood. If the Kalmar Nyckel is not in port then a cruise into Delaware Bay on a fishing boat may be substituted. Round trip would take about 3 hours.
- **Baltimore Inner Harbor** – The harbor has been extensively upgraded for tourists with the National Aquarium and the Science Center, a sailing ship and submarine, lots of restaurants, water taxis, and more. Round trip would take about 3 hours. If this is not enough for a whole day’s visit, or instead, we might attempt reaching Washington DC but a round trip would be about 5 hours.

- **Pine Barrens of New Jersey** – The Wharton Forest has several streams available to kayaking and the water level in June is usually adequate for negotiating them. There are several companies in the area renting canoes and kayaks. There is also a pigmy pine/oak forest which is quite interesting, several bogs with carnivorous plants, and a glassworks in historic Batsto Village.

TENTATIVE AGENDA for ABLE@UD
June 9-13, 2009

Monday 6/8

Time	Event	Location	Provisions
Board of Directors arrives and checks directly into housing. Meals in area restaurants on Main Street or Courtyard by Marriott lobby. Registration materials and Board reports available at check-in desk and at Board meeting.			

Tuesday 6/9

Time	Event	Location	Provisions
10 am – 5 pm	Registration	McKinly Laboratory	
8-9 am	Board breakfast (no charge)	Clayton Hall meeting room	Catered
9-12 am	Board meeting	Same location	Coffee, juice, etc.
12-1:30	Lunch (attendee expense)	Area restaurants or Pencader dining hall	
1:30-5:30 pm	Excursions (no charge?)		Transportation Tickets Bottled water
7-9pm	Reception (no charge)	Clayton Hall	Catered Bar (cash?) Entertainment

Wednesday 6/10

Time	Event	Location	Provisions
7-8:15 am	Breakfast (attendee expense)	Pencader Dining Hall or Courtyard hotel lobby	
7-8:15 am	New member bkfst (no charge)	Pencader Dining Hall	
9 am-5 pm	Registration	McKinly	
10 am-4 pm	Vendors	McKinly	
8:30-11:30 am	Major workshops	McKinly	Coffee, juice, etc.
11:30-12:30 pm	Box lunch (no charge)	McKinly and outdoors (Wolf Hall auditorium in case of rain)	Catered
12:30-1:30 pm	General meeting	100 Wolf Hall auditorium	
2-5 pm	Major workshops	McKinly	Coffee, juice, etc.
5-7 pm	Personal time		
7-9 pm	Mixer (sponsored by Hayden-McNeil)	Trabant Student Center	Heavy hors d'oeuvres Bar (cash?) Entertainment

Thursday 6/11

Time	Event	Location	Provisions
10 am-4 pm	Vendors	McKinly	
7-8:15 am	Breakfast (attendee expense)	Pencader Dining Hall or Courtyard hotel lobby	
8:30 – 11:30 am	Major workshops	McKinly	Coffee, juice, etc.
11:30 – 1:30 pm	Lunch (attendee expense) Exercise Talk?	Area restaurants Pool, area roads and trails Wolf Hall auditorium	
2-5 pm	Major workshops	McKinly	Coffee, juice, etc.
Evening	Unplanned	Area restaurants and pubs Volunteer transport to distant restaurants?	

Friday 6/12

Time	Event	Location	Provisions
10-12 am	Vendors?	McKinly	
7-8:15 am	Breakfast (attendee expense)	Pencader Dining Hall or Courtyard lobby	
8:30-9:30 am	Mini session 1	McKinly labs	Coffee, juice, etc.
9:30-10:30 am	Mini session 2	McKinly	Coffee, juice, etc.
10:30-11:30 am	Poster session	McKinly	Coffee, juice, etc.
11:30-12:30 pm	Box lunch (no charge)	McKinly and outdoors (100 Wolf in case of rain)	Catered
1-2 pm	Mini session 3	McKinly	
2-3 pm	Mini session 4	McKinly	
4-10:30 pm	Banquet 4--4:45 travel 5-7 wander 7-9 dinner/wander 9-9:30 fountain/light show 9:45-10:30 travel	Longwood Gardens	

Saturday 6/13

Time	Event	Location	Provisions
7-8:30 am	Breakfast (attendee expense)	Pencader Dining Hall or Courtyard lobby	
9am-evening	Excursions (attendee expense)		