GENERAL BODY MEETING 2004

Friday, 10 Dec, 2004

Goals

1. To establish a direct face to face interface of the KSS with its Members and within the Members.

2. To make possible an active and long-term academic linkage not only with the existing chapters where the KSS is currently active but also seeking new institutes where the KSS can function and serve their respective student bodies.

3. To establish a relationship with the industry and professional research organizations that provides opportunities for the Members of the KSS to gain a flavor of the industry apart from providing sponsorship of cost-extensive events of society.

Agenda of the Meeting

1. In order to achieve the first goal of the society, it is suggested to call an "Open House" with the members. In this “open house”, members can provide suggestions for the betterment of the KSS: such as nature and frequency of its activities, advertisement and announcement issues, financial and membership matters; present their complaints and look for ways and means in which the KSS can enhance its set of functions beyond mere seminars and workshops.

2. The meeting will also provide a chance for Members to receive their Membership cards (if not already issued) and non-Members may apply for Membership on spot.

3. The KSS has already proved itself worthy in arranging seminars, workshops, educational trips, etc.; and now we need to move further in the realization of our objectives. Various options can be discussed in this regard, the goal being transforming KSS from a lecture-oriented Society to an intellectually motivated movement. Several ways forward in this direction may include:

- Panel discussions
- Scientific Monographs writings
- Active contribution of members to newspapers via KSS
- TAKVEEN: our online magazine receives considerable contributions, but only from a few contributors. We need to enhance the reach of Takveen and appoint a group of individuals who can look after its maintenance, selection and publication of articles.
- Society Newsletter: The KSS online News Section is one right step in the direction of a quarterly KSS Newsletter. We need to think of ways to regularize this into the form of an in-print four page newsletter and discuss matters related to its editorial board, editing and production.
- More field visits to sites of archeological and astronomical interest

Also see Appendix A which is the text of a message received from Bilal Zafar, University of Southern California, US. This message outlines, but does not limit the nature of the discussions we expect in our meeting.

4. KSS Members belong to a vast range of backgrounds and qualifications. This diversity can be viewed as a potential resource. Can we tap this resource through more effective inter-Member dialogue and communication? What means are possible to establish this channel: online Member posts, emails, bulletin boards?

5. We may also discuss promotion of local industry for their launch of products and services. In this regard, we are thinking of devoting 5-10 minutes of our lecture sessions for representatives of the industry to introduce themselves. This can also serve as a means to acquiring sponsorships.

6. The inter-member networking and use of common interests and professional fields should be promoted. Information about member's profile would be collected at the spot, as well introduction of new sections on the web-site dedicated for such tasks. It has been suggested to float a new email on the mailing list whenever some new member joins in KSS.

7. It has also been suggested to offer some of the responsibilities of the KSS Administrative committees to Members present at the spot. This includes volunteers from existing KSS Chapters as well as Members from new prospective Chapters.

8. The agenda may also include any other issues that the participants view to be important and beneficial.

9. Lastly, in the meeting Members of the KSS will elect a nominated panel of Office Bearers including the President, Vice President, General Secretary, Joint Secretary and Executive Committee by simple majority. Members will be allowed to vote.