

Montana Section ACS Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Sunday, October 8, 2017 Fairmont Hot Springs Resort

Present: John Hartman (Chair), Tyler Smith (Chair-Elect), Janice Alexander (Councilor), Nick Natale (Alt Counselor). Present via teleconference: Julie McGettrick (Secretary). Absent: Robert Szilagyi (Treasurer), David Hitt (Webmaster).

1. Since there was no spring meeting, there were no minutes to approve and the Secretary has nothing to report.

2. Councilor's report from Janice Alexander: see attached report

Summary: ResearchGate is distributing copyrighted journal articles without permission or license, which is a serious issue for ACS as a large part of the budget comes from journal revenue. Attempts to negotiate have failed, and the only recourse for publishers and societies is to submit Take Down Notices or pursue litigation. More information can be found at www.responsiblesharing.org. Proposals to amend Bylaw IX Section 4 and to create a Division of Space Chemistry failed, and a petition to annex unassigned territory in New Jersey was approved. The Society's 2017 Probable 1 Projection calls for a Net from Operations of \$25.3 million. This is \$2.1 million favorable to the Approved Budget and \$1.6 million higher than 2016. Funding was approved for laboratory safety and new faculty workshops.

3. Treasurer's report by Robert Szilagyi: see attached report

The report states that during the reported period the section received \$7427 in allotment, membership fees, and reimbursements and \$680 from the registration fees from the Fall 2016 meeting. \$1586 is listed as reimbursement for Janice to participate at the national meeting, but 80% of this is reimbursed by the National ACS which is not clearly reflected in the report. Other expenses include \$900 cash prizes for the winners of the ChemOlympiad and a \$250 deposit to Chico for the Fall 2018 meeting. The current balances are \$13K in checking and \$37 in savings.

Discussion items: Dropbox is convenient for cloud storage and sharing, as long as no access information is listed. \$20K of savings has been approved for investment in CD's, but this is not something we can do at First Interstate Bank. A distinguished speaker program was suggested to help establish international collaborations, but IPG funding would barely buy a plane ticket for an international speaker.

4. John will contact Carol Pleninger to see if she is still willing to coordinate the Chemistry Olympiad, and if she will need anything from us at the MEA-MFT Educator's Conference on October 19-20 in Missoula.
5. The membership needs to approve the updated local section bylaws, and it would be easier for everyone if the bylaws could be sent out to the membership at the same time as the slate of candidates for election. The deadline to send National ACS the results is November 29th so they can be included in the Spring Meeting in New Orleans. If ballots go out by October 30th and a response is required by November 28th that would give members nearly a month to vote. Last year we used FedEx to print, package, and mail the election materials for \$385. John and Tyler will coordinate the mailings since it would look odd for Montana section election materials to be mailed to and from Pennsylvania, where Julie now lives. Julie will request the Election Only roster from ACS and write a letter explaining the ballots.
6. Nominations for 2018 Section Officers: Chair: Tyler Smith, current Chair Elect; Secretary: Casey Massena, and Treasurer: Robert Szilagy. No one has volunteered to run for Chair Elect. The board will approach recently tenured faculty members and find a nominee by October 20th. It would be nice to get some representation from Billings.
7. Send John nominations for Local Section Outreach Volunteers of the Year.
8. The Spring 2018 Meeting will be held on April 7th. If affordable housing can be found, there could be an overnight meeting on April 6-7. If the meeting was held in Bozeman MSU Student Affiliates Chapter could get involved; however it will be difficult to find affordable housing in Bozeman. Other potential locations are Livingston or Butte. Holding meetings in Butte encourages Montana Tech's participation.
9. The Fall 2018 Meeting will be held at Chico Hot Springs on October 12-14th. Robert Szilagy will take charge of planning the meeting with help from Tyler Smith and John Hartman.
10. To encourage high school teachers to join AACT, we will buy sponsorship cards (like gift cards that apply to dues) and distribute them to interested teachers across the state. We will spend \$500 on 10 cards for \$50 each.

11. John is working on an IPG grant from ACS to encourage middle and high schools to participate in Chemists Celebrate Earth Day. We will commit \$2500 and request \$3000 from the IPG to purchase outreach materials and offer financial awards to participants. John is now the official CCED representative.
12. With looming state budget cuts, institutions will likely cut back on travel funding. Could the section offer travel awards to national or regional meetings? In April 2016 \$2000 was approved for the chair to attend a national meeting. National meetings are expensive, so that money will likely only cover one meeting.
13. Nick Natale attended the NORM board meeting. The next two years are being planned in Richland, then Portland. Montana hosts every 11 years or so and alternates between Missoula and Bozeman, it will be Bozeman's turn next. It is never too early to start thinking about it!
14. Janice Alexander motioned to adjourn the meeting, Tyler Smith seconded it.

Councilor Report Montana Local Section October 2017

1. Backed by significant venture capital and operating from Berlin, Germany; ResearchGate amasses, modifies and openly distributes millions of copyrighted journal articles without permission or license... Attempts by ACS and other publishers to agree with ResearchGate on an approach that would facilitate the sharing of published articles on its site in ways that respect the publishing agreements between journals and authors have failed. ResearchGate has now insisted that the only recourse for publishers is to submit Take Down Notices (TDNs) for content being illicitly shared from its site.

Accordingly, ACS is joining with a coalition of scientific and scholarly publishers to take necessary steps to force ResearchGate to cease its damaging practices. An informational website has been created by the current participants in this coalition to provide more detail about the copyright enforcement action being taken. As part of this action, members of this coalition will soon commence sending TDNs for ResearchGate to remove infringing content found on its site. Litigation is also being pursued by ACS and Elsevier to ask German courts to clarify ResearchGate's responsibilities to respect the intellectual property of rightsholders under copyright. We encourage you to read the Coalition statement and FAQs on informational website, www.responsiblesharing.org, to learn more.

2. Amendments to the ACS Bylaws

- A recommendation by the Committee on Membership Affairs that Council approve the Petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters narrowly failed to achieve the two-thirds majority required to amend the Bylaws. The proposal would have amended Bylaw IX, Section 4, to permit financial support for International Chemical Sciences Chapters and to remove language from the Bylaws prohibiting Chapters from having representation on Council.

- Probationary Division of Space Chemistry

The Council defeated a proposal from the Committee on Divisional Activities that it establish a probationary Division of Space Chemistry, effective January 1, 2018.

- Change in Local Section Territory

On the recommendation of the Committee on Local Section Activities, the Council approved a petition from the South Jersey Local Section to annex the unassigned and adjacent territory of Ocean County, New Jersey.

3. Voting on Process for ACS President and Board of Directors

4. The Society's 2017 Probable 1 Projection calls for a Net from Operations of \$25.3 million. This is \$2.1 million favorable to the Approved Budget and \$1.6 million higher than 2016. The Committee considered several program funding requests for 2018, and on its recommendations, the Board subsequently approved funding for the *ACS Online Course in Laboratory Safety* and the *New Faculty Workshop Series* for inclusion in the 2018 Proposed Budget and the 2019-2020 Forecast.
5. New petitions to amend the Constitution or Bylaws must be received by the Executive Director no later than November 29 to be included in the Council agenda for consideration at the spring 2018 meeting in New Orleans.

Excerpts from documents provided by ACS Office of Secretary and General Counsel with permission to distribute freely.

MT ACS Local Section - Treasurer's Report April-October 2017

The treasurer position was transferred early April from the previous treasurer Jesse Stine by passing on a sizable package with all current and previous years' documentation dating back to 2003. Contact information, signing rights at the bank were transferred. Currently, Jesse, John, and Robert have authorization at First Interstate Bank. E-bank login and passwords were defined and electronic access to the bank accounts was established. A folder was created in the Dropbox cloud to store, archive, and disseminate any documents, forms, reports, and bank balance. Access is available upon request.

During the reported period, the Local Section has received allotment, membership fees, reimbursements from ACS of \$7,427 and registration fees from participants of the Fall 2016 meeting, which was \$680. Conference reimbursement for participation at the National ACS Meeting was \$1,586. Reservations were made for the Fall 2018 Chico meeting in the order of \$250 (for conference facilities and a separate room on Checking account balance the second day of the event). The winners at the ChemOlympiad were awarded with a cash prize of \$900.

The current balances of checking and savings are \$13k and \$37k after rounding, in total of \$50k.

The 2016 tax report was prepared and filed by Jesse, the previous treasurer for taking advantage of continuity.

Suggestions for discussions:

- those who have accessed it - any feedback about cloud storage of financial data, but no access information*
- more and larger awards to increase and encourage participation, named/special awards if someone gives an out of this place student presentation*
- establishing a state-wide "Keginar" series where postdoctoral research associates give scientific talks over a keg of beer + potluck*
- a considerable amount of Savings (\$20k) has been already approved by the board for investments. First Interstate cannot/does not offer anything applicable.*

- *taking a \$10k and using for a \$100k fundraising - if this is legal from ACS point of view. Does anybody know about other local sections doing similar activities. Need to work with one of the universities alumni organization for fundraising or if better perhaps an outside organization.*
- *large savings may allow for an endowment and payouts to be used to support student science projects; creative ideas from teachers at high schools, tribal colleges, 2-ye/4-ye college; materials and supplies; matching funds for larger federal grants.*
- *establishment of a distinguished (named and sponsored) seminar speaker program where a celebrity in chemistry from abroad would visit MT higher education institutes for a week and have discussions with faculty, meet with students, give seminars and establish collaborations.*