

**Executive Committee Meeting  
Kalamazoo Section ACS  
Tuesday, March 12, 2013**

Hunan Gardens on West Main Street, 6:35 pm

Members Present: John Engelmann (JE), Lydia Hines (LH), James Kiddle (JK), Noah Masika (NM), John Miller (JM), Carolyn Pugh (CP), Elke Schoffers (ES), Doug Williams (DW)

**1. Secretary's Report**

- a. Review of "February minutes" (DW) – Minutes were approved by Executive Committee.

**2. Treasurer's Report (JM)**

- a. **Treasurers Report**- JM reported low activity during the month of February. The President's Challenge to recruit new members generated \$60. ES recruited 4 new members and LH recruited 2 new members. Expenses for reimbursement include JE for the Leadership Conference and ES from "Boost Your Career" event.
- b. **Investment Fund / Checking Account update** – JM reported low activity and informed the EC that it is not known when the Local Section allotment funds from ACS are expected to be distributed. Upcoming expenses include Project SEED, LH travel expenses to National ACS Meeting and a Nature Center table rental for Earth Day.

**3. Communications Chair (DW)**

- a. **Web site report** – DW distributed a report from David Bolliet (DB). Website activity has been low and the newsletter only generated 11 visits. DW reported that DB is receiving error messages from email communications due to member contact information not being current. ES asked DB to generate a list of members that have emails bouncing back and members will be contacted via another method to update or remove contact information.
- b. **Facebook page** – Generating approximately 15 visits per day. DB posts events and related information to the page and notifications are sent to people who have "liked" the page.

**4. Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo College Chemistry Student Organizations**

- a. **Kalamazoo College (TS)** – Student organization helped organize the Science Café in February.
- b. **WMU Chem Club (MZ)** – Brianna Hyder informed ES that the Chem Club was participating in a demo event today.
- c. **WMU Chemistry Grad Student Association (AH)** – No report.
- d. **NOBCCChE (NM)** – NM representing NOBCCChE reported that two professional development programs will take place for undergraduate and graduate students. A speaker will present on graduate school application process and industry opportunities after graduation for undergraduates. A speaker for the graduate students will present on post-doc opportunities. KACS will announce this public event, which will take place within the next two weeks. Clara Adams is currently seeking a speaker and NM will communicate details to ES.

**5. Old Business**

- a. **Special meeting to discuss bylaws and mission statement (JE)** – JE will call everyone during spring to schedule a meeting.
- b. **Review of February Science Café at K-College on Wednesday, Feb 20, (ES)** – ES reported the event went well. Attendance was 23 people and ES thanked JE for a great presentation.
- c. **Preview of March Presenter Al Hazari on Tue, Mar 26, 5-7 pm (LH)** – Al Hazari is presenting "Chemistry in Comics" at WMU. LH distributed information

to K-12 teachers in the area and Brad Portis (Gull Lake High School) has recommended it to his students. She also sent information to MLive/Kalamazoo Gazette. Pizza will be provided and ES is going to make a flyer for distribution. Area science educators can potentially visit with Al during his visit to Kalamazoo.

**d. Do-Dah Parade (JC)** – postpone to April meeting.

**e. 2015 Great Lakes & Central Joint Regional meeting (LH)** – LH reported that she has not received feedback from the co-hosting West Michigan Local Section (Central Region). She will contact that Section's councilor(s), Mark Thomson, at the national meeting. To date two KACS members have volunteered to be Program Co-Chair and Exhibits Co-Chair. In order for the meeting to take place, the major details (i.e. location, dates) will need to be determined by the end of 2013.

## **6. New Business**

### **a. Education Committee Update**

- 1. Identification of outstanding HS teachers (JK)** – There are currently 37 HS chemistry teachers in the area. JK reported that the current process for identifying teachers is not straightforward. Teachers are nominated by their principal and fill out paperwork to be considered for the award. Nominations from principals are not an issue and the same teachers are re-nominated every year. The combined paperwork takes up 5 pages for the instructions and questionnaire and appears to be a major stumbling block. The form was created years ago by the Education Committee and needs to be updated and streamlined. ES will draft a one-page application form and teachers can potentially nominate themselves and submit a letter of recommendation from the principal with their application. ES will contact Don Schreiber for copies of the current nomination materials and process.
- 2. Awards Reception and Project SEED update (JK, LH, ES)** – The Science Symposium will take place on Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at WMU. Awards reception will take place on Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at WMU.
- 3.** ES received project SEED and chemistry Olympiad information; both should be forwarded to the Education Committee

**b. Climate Change Grant Application titled “KACS / WMU Climate Science Collaboration for the Training of Community Leaders” (ES)** – ACS President Shakhashiri created a grant program regarding climate science. ES distributed a proposal that was submitted and drafted by members of the EC and members of the “WMU Interdisciplinary Climate Change Study Group”. JM summarized that the proposal will provide information to people involved with outreach in various communities. Faith communities, Boy and Girl Scouts and high school and middle school teachers are targeted. Half-day workshops will take place for each group and a tool kit will be provided as well as demonstrations on how to use the

materials in the kit. A meeting 6 months after the initial meeting will take place to assess the process. The budget is approximately \$3000.

**c. Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (MZ)** – no report

**d. F.O.R.M.S. Annual Report, Event Reports, Comment Forms (ES)** – ES and LH submitted the Annual Report in time.

**e. Manuscript to “Nachrichten aus der Chemie” (ES)** – Authored by ES and submitted with an April publishing date. The dance event combining chemistry and culture was the topic of the paper.

**f. Next PR Email** – timing and content of newsletter or email announcement TBD, combined with Facebook and website updates (all) – Announce Al Hazari’s talk, Science Symposium date, Earth Day, reports from past events and an update on the Climate Change grant proposal.

**g. Next EC meeting:** Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **7. Additions**

Currently, there is a Mini Science Café grant (\$300) available through ACS and its application is due on Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> with a description of how funds would be spent. Possible topics include astrochemistry with the Kalamazoo’s astronomical society, a chemistry and cooking event in conjunction with Kalsec, or horticultural chemistry and the chemistry of the color of flowers and flower breeding at a local garden store.

LH reported that a new formula is currently under consideration for allocating Local Section funds. With 458 members KACS is classified as a medium-small section.

An Earth Day Concert is scheduled for April 20, Saturday, at the Oshtemo Branch of the Kalamazoo Public Library. LH has offered to display CCED materials at that venue. We wait for a response from the Library staff.