

**Executive Committee Meeting minutes**  
**Kalamazoo Section ACS**  
**Tuesday, March 17, 2020, 6:30 PM**  
**Location: Conference Call**

**Due to the State and Federal National Emergency Declarations the March 2020 Executive Council meeting of the Kalamazoo Section of the ACS will not meet in person. We will conduct the meeting via conference call or WebEx:**

Voice:

Conference dial-in number: 1-8007475150  
access code: 349 329 8

Computer link (for video):

1. Go to <https://themeetingson.webex.com/themeetingson/j.php?MTID=ma6df12d95f4f7f37e7090b516f0e0265>
2. Enter your name and email address.
3. Enter the meeting password: (This meeting does not require a password.)
4. Click "Join Now".
5. Follow the instructions that appear on your screen.

**#Start at 6:35**

**#Present:** Doug Williams (DW), Lydia Hines (LEMH), Ed Thomas (ET), James Redwine (JR), Hershel Jude (HJ), Bill Schinzer (BS), Andrew Simpkins (AS, WMU Chem Club), Mike Weslosky (MW) Brian Eklov (BE)

1. Secretary's Report (JR)
  - a. Review and approval of February 2020 minutes (**Attached at end**)
2. Treasurer's Report (BS)
  - a. Treasurer's Report (**Appendix 1**)
  - b. Summary of balance and transactions in restricted funds (ex. Project SEED donations, 2019 IPG)  
**Received ACS rebate of \$250 for Ed's early enrollment in ACS 2020 Leadership Institute**  
**About \$1,000 due to be pulled from account for the Latitude 42 event (from IPG funding)**

3. Communications Chair (MW)
  - a. Newsletter Report
    - a. We need our newsletter out monthly; how do we make this happen?
  - b. Website report – update on webservice transition

**#MW has skeleton of the website**

**Discussion points:**

- Use of e-Roster to populate a directory? Would allow for generation of traditional marketing-style e-mails (with opt out, etc.)
- e-commerce for handling tickets?
- Archiving?
  - Keep at least the current abilities
- Tabs for the major activity types of the section
- Blog/news portion of the website?
-

#### 4. Student Organizations

- a. WMU Chem Club (Andrew Simpkins, President)  
#Suspended activities due to COVID-19 campus restrictions
- b. WMU CGSA (Emile Van Meter, President)  
#no representation
- c. Kalamazoo College (Blake Tresca, adviser; Sarah Nixon [President], Amelia Grey [media]))  
#no representation

#### 5. Old Business

- a. Project Seed (DW)  
#Portal opens for applications on March 31<sup>st</sup>, will invite students to apply at that time, waiting for COVID-related HS issues to settle before addressing teachers
- b. Report from Latitude Event. (DW)  
#HJ: March 9<sup>th</sup> Food and beer pairing went really well and was well received. Approximately 20 attendees.  
#DW: couple donations since the event. Costs were a little over \$1000.
- c. High School Exam and Awards Program (DW/LEMH)
  - a. COVID 19, Closed Schools, ETC
  - b. KVCC Testing Center (**Appendix 2**)  
#DW/LEMH: most likely going to cancel the exam due to the timeline being scrambled by COVID-19, as well as no weekend being available at the KVCC testing room.  
#LEMH: KAMSC has testing areas available, limited computers.  
Unanimous agreement by EC not to hold the competitive exam this year.  
#High School teachers had been advised of the likelihood described and appreciated the continued offer to recognize nominated top chemistry students by mailing their awards to them. Typically 10 of the 35 schools will nominate a student; the award consists of a certificate and a \$25 Amazon Gift Card. It was agreed that an in-person award ceremony would not be held this year. Graduating College seniors will also be recognized (LEMH) and long-term ACS members of the KACS will receive their certificates (LEMH).
- d. Update on Survey and Letter to High School Chemistry Teachers (DW, **Appendix 3**)  
#Will reach out to teachers who requested more details regarding KACS/ACS offerings.
- e. Travel Grant application update (JR)
  - a. Two students applied and received awards, National ACS terminated, rewards rescinded  
#one candidate is graduating, the other plans to reapply for fall ACS meeting.
  - b. Need a process (committee) to award Travel Grant  
#One student will be attending in the fall.

#### 6. Upcoming Events

- a. Earth Day
  - i. Kalamazoo Farmer Market (Saturday, April 18, 12-5 pm; WS and LS)
  - ii. Portage City Hall (Sunday, April 19, 11-3 pm; WMU Chem Club)  
#LEMH: Recommendation to terminate due to pandemic response. Approved.  
Unsure whether we should still pay for sponsorship of Farmers' Market event; LEMH to inquire as to use of requested sponsorship funds.

#### 7. New Business

#Two 50-yr and one 60-yr member in the section.

#### 8. General Discussion

#Request for clarity of funding availability in earmarked funds (e.g., SEED, IPG) in monthly treasurer's report.

#Essentially, we have terminated events through April.

#Need to put together a tentative events calendar for the remainder of the year on the website.

9. Next Newsletter (MW)

#Two articles – IPG article and pictures (DW), WMU ChemClub outreach (AS), website construction statement.

Proposed a monthly schedule for publishing a monthly newsletter: Saturday, after EC meeting, 8am article deadline, Sunday/Monday publish deadline. It would be a good idea to try to use the upgraded website to easy Newsletter generation (?)

10. Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 Kalsec's Todd Building pending COVID-19 restrictions

#End 7:54. The availability of online attendance was appreciated. KACS may routinely offer remote attendance options for EC in the future

## Appendix 1: Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report for the KACS Executive Committee meeting on March 17, 2020

Current accounts summary:

PNC                      \$9072.84            There are currently no outstanding checks

Vanguard investments \$10895.79 in the VIPSX account  
                              \$16457.66 in the VWINX account  
                              \$27353.45 total account balance as of today

Comment on Vanguard investments: slight loss over the last month

Income since Feb 18: ACS return of \$250 for early enrollment at LI

Outgo since Feb 18: 305.92 Lydia travel expenses for this year's leadership training  
                              579.51 Ed Thomas travel expenses for this year's leadership training  
                              125.00 to Doug Williams for IPG event (Latitude 42 deposit)  
                              1010.43

Old outstanding checks: None

Total outstanding:        None

We have available:

PNC            \$ 9072.84

We have filed our 2019 annual report but have not received the annual allotment yet.

## **Appendix 2 – KVCC Testing Center**

Good afternoon.

I am pleased to inform you that KVCC will host the ACS scholarship testing. We would like students who attempt the test to provide a picture ID - a school picture ID is fine- and to inform our testing center staff they are to take the ACS scholarship exam.

We would like students to use our testing center after the completion of our semester. The wait times in the last two weeks can sometime exceed 90 minutes just to get in! Students are welcome to attempt the test anytime between April 30th and May 14th.

Our hours during those times are as follows:

Thursday April 30-Friday May 1st: 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM (students would have until 4:30 to finish testing).

Monday, May 4-Friday May 8th: 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM (students would have until 4:30 to finish testing).

Monday, May 11-Thursday May 14th: 8:30 AM to 7:00 PM (students would have until 8:00 PM to finish testing).

We look forward to working with you to help students! Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Warm regards,

Deborah

Deborah J. Coates, Ed.D

Dean of Instruction, Early/Middle College, Dual Enrollment, and WPE Kalamazoo Valley Community College

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### Appendix 3: KACS High School Teacher Survey Results

See Excel file for a better view

KACS High School Teacher Survey Results									
Name	School	How can we help?	ACS Resources		Helping KACS?	Scholarship Exam		Other advice	
			Aware?	Which?		Interest?	Participate? Computer?		Internet?
15-Mar-20 Diane Schear	KAMSC	One idea is to develop a list of speakers who would be willing to come to our schools to speak to students about their chemistry careers and why they chose them.			Somewhat		Yes	Yes	Long term sub at KAMSC. Will not continue in her role.
Mai Nieboer	Kalamazoo Christian		Yes	KACS Newsletter	Very	give advice	Yes	Yes	Please continue honoring the outstanding Chemistry student from each school, as nominated by each school's Chemistry teacher.
Theresa Schwartz	Plainwell	I think offering opportunities outside of the school day or in the summer. I would love to see some internship opportunities. I realize that is pretty tough because the students really don't have much content knowledge and they are just not very mature. Maybe if they could run some reactions (under supervision), be taught to prepare some solutions, do a chromatographic separation, see/use things like counter top mass spec/GC's, etc. This would really be a gift out by the chemist time wise. So maybe a week or something that could be carved out by the chemist to just do these things and kind of mentor the student. An application process would be necessary to make sure you are getting students that really really want to do something like that.	Yes	AACCT	Somewhat	give advice	Yes	Yes	We have Chromebooks - so exam would have to be compatible. Also I would have to have information to our tech department ahead of time because the students are very restricted on access to web sites and such. I am not sure that would really improve participation because if it takes teachers a long time to figure out how to use your lock-down browser we probably won't do it. The test is sort of problematic in its timing. We don't get through the curriculum in our regular classes in time for the students to score well. They could come back the next year - but they don't and they wouldn't remember enough anyway. So the test seems like it is for students that are in an honors chemistry or AP chemistry. It is also tough in a way for the smaller schools to complete against the bigger schools who offer the more advanced courses. I don't know how many students you have actually show up for the second part of the exam. Students in high school are actually super busy and going to VMU seems like it may be difficult for them. (However if they want the money that you are generously donating they need to show up....)
Amy Johnston	Hackett		No				Yes	Yes	
Michelle Mason	Portage Northern	Career related info night or classroom presentation.	Yes		Somewhat	develop or pilot programs	Yes	Yes	
Heather Reeves	Mattawan	Labs and demonstration ideas. It would be awesome if we knew who might be available to come talk with our students about opportunities in the area to see science in action and what you all do at your jobs. I'm always looking for guest speakers to talk about current climate of science in society, their jobs, or cutting edge information about where we are at in development of treatments, or technology.	No		Very	give advice develop or pilot programs	Yes	Yes	I appreciate the increase in communication and I will try and use as many resources as I can that you all can make available!
Bob Dick	Decatur	Chemists speak in chem classrooms? Practical laboratory e-experiments? Help in providing Chemmatters magazine. We don't have the resources to pay for it any more.	Yes	Online ACS	Somewhat		Yes	Yes	
Don Taylor	Portage Central	With the security at various businesses it is difficult to get students to see how what we are teaching is used in industry. If there was a way to have a contact list of people who would be willing to share their career experiences that would be very helpful.	Yes		Somewhat		Yes	Yes	I appreciate the scholarship exam as students who excel in Chemistry are able to compete for money but also validation that what they are doing is important and they are being successful.