

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Kalamazoo Section ACS
Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 6:30 PM
Location: Kalsec's Todd Building

Present: Doug Williams (DW), Lydia Hines (LEMH), Andrew Simpkins (AS), Mike Weslosky (MW), Ed Thomas (ET), James Redwine (JR), Hershel Jude (HJ)

Welcome Ed Thomas (Chair Elect) and James Redwine (Secretary)

#Meeting start time: 6:39 pm

1. Secretary (JR)

- Approved minutes from December 2019 meeting as written

2. Treasurer's Report (BS)

- #BS absent, no action on Treasurer-involved items

3. Communications Chair (MW)

- a. Newsletter Report - #MW requested articles be sent for next newsletter. Jan 2020 newsletter linked on homepage (kalamazooacs.org)
- b. Website report – update on webservice transition

#MW will meet with Allison McKenna regularly to monitor and direct progress on the website project. Allison recommends meeting roughly every 2 weeks. There is a questionnaire for the EC to fill out to guide the direction of the new website. Allison's strategy to build the sitemap/infrastructure first, then develop the user interface/experience.

4. Student Organizations

- a. **WMU Chem Club (Andrew Simpkins, President)**

#AS present. Reported on a volunteer event that WMU Chem club will hold at a local Middle School.

5. Old Business

- a. Update on our IPG activities. (DW/HJ) (**Appendix 4**)

#One Well Brewing event netted \$50 for project SEED. Business cards have not yet netted any donations.

#Event to be scheduled at Latitude 42-Oshtemo

#\$700 of the \$3500 award has been spent

- b. Proposal to skip preliminary high school exam and run final competitive exam at KVCC test centers in April. ((**Appendix 2**, DW)

#Will proceed with plan to utilize KVCC testing resources. There is significant concern regarding security of the test. Since the most likely alternative is not holding the competition, majority consensus is to monitor the security and address for future years if necessary.

- c. Survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PFQWYRV>) and Letter to High School Chemistry Teachers (DW)

#DW working with LEMH to finalize and distribute.

6. New Business

- a. 2019 KACS Annual Report due February 15th, 2020
 - Administrative Section – Lydia Hines
#Completed
 - Financial Section – Bill Schinzer

#Still needs completion

- 2019 Chair's Report – Luke Chadwick

#Completed

- 2020 Chair's Goals – Hershel Jude

#Pending: draft completed as of Feb 4, 2020

- 2020 Chair Elect's Goals – Ed Thomas

#Pending: draft completed as of Feb 4, 2020

- b. Proposed application form for new KACS student travel grants. (**Appendix 3**, KT/LH/DW)

#Moving to online submission (and available pdf form), secretary JR will be the contact for submission. Discussion on how to better publicize/promote the grants. Student membership rates in ACS are low, even among the chem clubs.

- c. Upcoming Events

#Program in a Box 2/25 on Food, DW and HJ will reach out to potential sites to host an event.

#Latitude 42 event for project SEED fundraising is tentatively scheduled for month of March.

#CCEW (Earth week) April 19-25. Theme is "Protecting our planet through Chemistry;" Community Event is to organize clean-up groups; this was suggested as an activity to the WMU ChemClub representative; WMU ChemClub also has tentatively offered to work the Celery Flats Event in Portage and the Earth Day event at the Farmers' Market (previously at Bronson Park)

#LEMH and ET will attend the ACS Leadership Institute and report for Feb 2020 EC meeting.

7. General Discussion

#Suggestion to include ACS memberships as awards at the Bells Recycle a Poster event. This may improve student ACS membership rates.

8. Next Meeting: February 18th, 2020 Kalsec's Todd Building

#End time 8:22 pm

Appendix 1: Treasurer's Report

#Not Submitted

Appendix 2: Proposal for an Electronic KACS Competitive Scholarship Exam Program

American Chemical Society
Kalamazoo Section
www.kalamazooACS.org



To: KACS Executive Committee

From: Doug Williams and Kim Lewis

Date: 15 October 2019 (updated 08 January 2020)

Re: Proposal for an Electronic KACS Competitive Scholarship Exam Program

Our objective is to develop a secure digital test program for the KACS competitive scholarship exam that requires less labor to deliver and improves accessibility. The desired outcome is greater participation of chemists, teachers and students in the exam program.

Preliminary exam. Historically, KACS sends a preliminary, qualifying exam to all high schools in our local section. This step “recruits” teachers and students into the test program and qualifies a manageable number of candidates for the final auditorium exam. If we agree to move to a more flexible, electronic final exam, we would no longer need to limit the number of finalists in this way but would like to maintain the preliminary exam as a way for students to learn of their chemistry abilities and to inspire additional study for those who feel successful.

We have considered some options for giving a remote preliminary exam through the internet. Some security can be added by using a dedicated (“lock down”) browser tool such as Respondus, which may be available to us through KVCC license. Additional KVCC remote testing tools may be available but will require discussion with KVCC staff for access to high school students.

Decision 1: In Executive Committee discussions, we have determined that we are not prepared to offer an electronic preliminary exam in 2020 but, in place of this, will conduct a survey of high school chemistry teachers for the readiness of their schools to administer a proctored, online test within their campus for interested chemistry students. Meanwhile, we may consider an option (below) to conduct a single final exam without qualification through KVCC tests centers.

Final exam. Prof. Kimberly Lewis (KVCC – Chemistry) has offered to coordinate use of the computer-equipped testing centers at KVCC for the KACS final competitive exam. Each test center has over 20 computers available and operates on first-come, first served basis. Open hours are shown in the table below for weeks when classes are in session. Students must begin their test within the listed times. Test centers remain open for one hour after the posted closing time. Tests would be made available for a period of 4 weeks.

The primary advantage of using the test center is to provide students with more opportunities to take the exam. Secondly, this will eliminate some of the volunteer effort that was necessary to schedule, deliver and score a written lecture hall exam.

Texas Township Campus

Room 2210 | 269.488.4460

	Open	Close
Sunday	Closed	
Monday	8:30am	8:00pm
Tuesday	8:30am	8:00pm
Wednesday	8:30am	8:00pm
Thursday	8:30am	8:00pm
Friday	8:30am	3:30pm
Saturday	9:00am	1:00pm

Arcadia Commons Campus

Room 211 | 269.373.7836

	Open	Close
Sunday	Closed	
Monday	8:30am	6:00pm
Tuesday	8:30am	6:00pm
Wednesday	8:30am	6:00pm
Thursday	8:30am	6:00pm
Friday	8:30am	3:30pm
Saturday	Closed	

The KVCC test centers have secure, test-dedicated computers with time-limit capability and video monitors in place to deter cheating. Cell phones are not permitted in the test room. Any other materials or tools such as scrap paper or calculators are allowed only as permitted by the test sponsor. Test center proctors are expected to challenge and report violations or suspicious behavior.

Decision 2: We propose to conduct the final exam in 2020 through the KVCC test centers without a qualifying preliminary exam. This configuration will give us an opportunity to assess and refine the format accordingly for future years.

Roles/Expectations*Expectations of KACS*

- KACS test director will set dates for exams
- KACS test director will prepare content for exams (prelim and final), assess/organize results and draft (send?) announcements (invitation, results, etc.) to high schools
- KACS will provide scholarship funds

KVCC offers to

- Provide platform or support electronic delivery and scoring of exams. This includes compiling exam content into platform and coordinating access for students, teachers and KACS test director to the test systems.

Next Steps

If KACS would like to pursue partnership with KVCC for use of their testing services, we are asked to send a letter of request to Peter Linden (Provost) and Deborah Coates (Dean of Instruction). Ms. Coates has already expressed her verbal support for this proposal. Once there is agreement to proceed, KACS will begin preparations as outlined above.

Appendix 3: Draft - ACS Kalamazoo Section Student Travel Award

DRAFT



***Kalamazoo Section
American Chemical Society***

ACS Kalamazoo Section Student Travel Award

Please send the following by email to the KACS section secretary (email):

1. a completed application
 2. a letter of support from your research advisor
- Requests for up to \$500 will be considered for travel expenses to an American Chemical Society meeting.
 - The deadline for receipt of applications is four weeks prior to the meeting for which funding is requested.
 - You may receive this award only once during your pursued degree.

APPLICATION FORM

Name	
Degree being pursued	
Expected graduation date	
Current institution	
Email address	
Name and location of ACS meeting that you plan to attend	
Amount requested (\$)	
Is this your first time presenting at an ACS meeting?	(Select one) YES NO
Please list any previous scientific presentations, including name of meeting, location and date	
If you are selected for an award, are you willing to present your work at our KACS annual local poster event in November?	(Select one) YES NO

EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable.)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY

Please write a personal statement of 300 words or less. Briefly describe your current position, research goals, key accomplishments/contributions and relevant honors received. Explain how attendance at the proposed meeting will impact your work and goals.

Appendix 4: Update on our IPG activities



American Chemical Society
Kalamazoo Section
www.kalamazooACS.org



Planning team: Hershel Jude, Mike Weslosky, Doug Williams

Date: 3 Jan 2020

Re: Planning for IYPT event and Project SEED fundraiser

Status

Proposal funded at \$3500. About \$700 spent through Dec 2019. Still planning events through April 2020

Remaining plans for 2020

- Distribute wallet Periodic Tables to high schools with information and survey invitation.
- Latitude 42 events room – Talks on brewing (M. Babb) and Project SEED (impact, funding, etc.), raffle items, brewery tour?
- Kalamazoo Stillhouse – Needs activity and Project SEED fundraising ideas.
- Brew Bus – requires coordinator and 2-3 locations (possibilities: Final Gravity, Olde Peninsula, HopCat, Tibb's, Shakespeares, Bell's, Saugatuck). Needs activity and Project SEED fundraising ideas.

Completed

- Commemorative glasses and Project SEED business cards made (Oct 2019). Did not make coasters and tap handles.
- IYPT Events web page created Oct 3.
- Dine to Donate event held at One Well Brewing (Oct 21) ~30 participants. Gave Periodic Table quiz. Raised \$50. Conducted participant survey.
- Project SEED posters, one Project SEED intern at Bell's Poster Event (Nov 12). Distributed more glasses and business cards.

Idled or abandoned efforts

- Arcadia Brewing, Boatyard Brewing and Ruperts out of brewing business. Gonzo's Bigg Dogg Brewery sold to Saugatuck.
- HopCat charity tap discontinued in August 2019.
- Bell's, Brite Eyes and Saugatuck Brewing unresponsive to charity tap queries.

Contact information / costs

- Price, services and schedule for private bus shuttle.
 - <http://www.kalamazoobrewbus.com/about-beer.html> (8/16). Tony (Owner). \$100 per hour flat rate (no additional taxes, hidden fees, etc). Bus holds 14, 2nd bus is possible if needed.
 - <https://westmichiganbeertours.com/private-tours/> (Quoted, too expensive)

Budget table (\$)

Item	Proposed	Committed	Spent	Comments
Glasses (312)	1500	0	375	From Beer City Glass
Wallet tables (2250)	350	0	283	Send 1750 to area high schools
Tap handles (10)	400	0	0	No brewers interested
Posters (10)	100	0	0	To advertise at breweries
Business cards (250)	150	0	25	From Office Depot
Brew bus (day)	750	0	0	\$100 per hour quoted
Snacks	250	0	0	
Sum	3500	0	683	